The three universities' cooperated management studies in the specialist training in medicine and dentistry

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Specialist training in medicine and dentistry in Finland includes a compulsory ten-credit course in management. National teaching modules are human resource management, communication, structure, organization, legislation, and financing of social and health care services.

In 2024, three universities (UEF, Oulu, and Tampere) entitled to provide specialist training organized a pilot during which each university provided a one-day webinar common to all participants. Each university is responsible for hosting one of the three webinars.

The aim of the research

The research aims to get information about the experiences of doctors and dentists in specialist training from the joint webinars at three universities. The purpose is to develop management training to meet the changing needs of the healthcare service system.

Methodology in-brief

In this research, information is collected using a structured questionnaire from specializing doctors and dentists in connection with three pilot sessions, which will be carried out from February 2024 to December 2024. Participation in the study is voluntary. There were 172/296 participants aged from under 30 to 65 who answered the first questionnaire. The structured questionnaire contained multiple-choice questions and open questions. The open questions have been analyzed using the Affinity diagram method.

Preliminary findings

The preliminary research results showed issues related to accessibility occurred during the webinar day. Despite the accessibility issues, 86% of the participants considered the lecture implemented as a webinar to be the best arrangement, and only 10% on-site teaching and 3% independent study online. Of the respondents, 52% reported problems with sound quality and audibility, and 19% with network connections. The open-ended answers to the cause of why students report webinars as the best lecture option, analyzed with an affinity diagram, revealed five clusters: no need to commute, flexibility, interaction between participants, work and family life balance, and ability to concentrate. The research revealed that 77% of participants considered the engaging and most educative part of the webinar to be the discussion with other participants who were geographically located in different parts of Finland.

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