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Assessment of the Application of m-Learning Technology by Nurses, Midwives and Students in Tanzania

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The use of mobile phones to access health learning materials (m-Learning platform) was implemented in Tanzania to provide nurses and midwives with current information on sexual and reproductive health and legal health rights of youth aged 15-24 years. We evaluated the use of the "Jibu" m-Learning platform after one year of implementation. The study was conducted in 2015, using mixed methods evaluation approach including 428 randomly selected participants (comprising nurses, midwives and students) from 1468 people trained on the use of the "Jibu" m- Learning platform to assess the use of the platform a year after training. We used questionnaires and semi-structured interview guides to measure the number of people who had not used or had stopped using "Jibu" m-Learning the platform. Out of 428 participants, 320 (74.8%) were dormant users and 108 (25.2%) were active users. Participants came from 16 health facilities and 9 nursing schools. Following their initial training, 91% of dormant users had not used and 9% had stopped using the "Jibu" m-Learning platform. The reasons given for dormant use included lack of mobile phones, inability to pay for internet bandwidth and inadequate technical support. The uptake of m-learning technology by nurses and midwives in Tanzania is low because of inadequate technical support and not owning mobile phones that support the technology. There are design and implementation challenges that need to be considered when introducing new technology like m-Learning.

Biography

Henry A. Mollel has completed his PhD from the University of Groningen and postdoctoral studies from Ifakara Health Institute in collaboration with Trinity College, University of Dublin- Ireland and Eduardo Mondlane University-Mozambique-Post Doctoral (Health Monitoring and Evaluation). He is the Acting Principal of Mbeya Campus Collage, Mzumbe University. He has published more than 20 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as a Chief Editor of the East Aftica Journal of Applied Health Monitoring and Evaluation.

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