

Objective: VLE is based on MOODLE that provides an online social networking platform for communicating and sharing information among students and also used as an educational assistance tool by pharmacy educators in Ardabil School of Pharmacy. Despite its previous usage, there is very little research to demonstrate how to use VLE effectively to enhance pedagogy in a specific course. We used VLE in mentioned campus to create an electronic learning space to teach drug information and pharmacotherapeutic subjects more effectively than lecture-based teaching and less labor-intensive. This study is aimed to determine pharmacy student's perceptions toward case-based learning method in VLE space.

Method: We created a course on VLE, to explore the possibilities of using EBC to promote and motivate student learning. Using it, the students would be able to work through 51 designed cases which encapsulate the entirety of a patient presentation. 45 cases were focused on drug information and 6 of them were based on pharmacotherapeutic principles. Students who had completed basic science and pharmacology courses were qualified to enroll. Individual students were expected to participate in at least one case of each type. A post course survey was administered anonymously to students. The questionnaires were designed to measure participant's satisfaction and their opinion about the effectiveness of the course.

Results: A total of 61 signed up in the online course. Of these, only 35 participants (57%) were both eligible and fully participated. All participants completed the survey. 97% of participants agreed with the creativity in drug information education using case-based learning and 94% of them agreed with the improvement in the retention of drug information using spaced education and case-based learning method. However, they had the least agreement with the statements "the scenarios were easy to follow" and "improvement in the retention of pharmacotherapeutic tips using case-based learning".

Conclusion: EBC appears to be well-accepted learning method to participants in this study. Their opinion was influenced by the creativity and high efficiency of case-based learning in VLE space.

Key words: Pharmacy education, Electronic learning, Active learning strategy, Case-based learning, Pharmacotherapeutics, Drug information