

REFLECTIONS

- The COVID-19 Pandemic and the Implications for Health Education

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Effects of the COVID Pandemic on the Delivery of Health Education

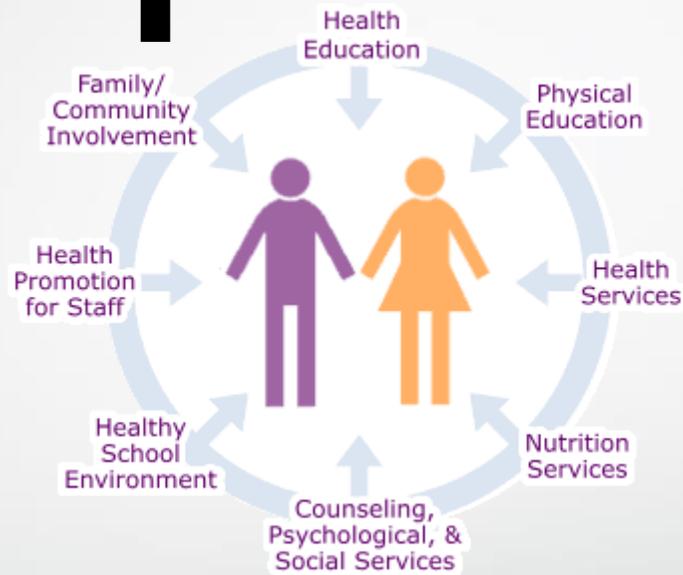
- Face-to-Face classes ended
- Quick transition to fully online delivery
 - Need for hardware and software
 - Access to supporting Internet/bandwidth
- Limited access to clinical areas in hospitals
- Adjustment of assessment methods
- Psychological impact on staff and students – increased levels of stress

Effects of the COVID Pandemic on the Delivery of Health Education, continued

- Aggravated social inequalities and disparities, for example
 - Uneven access to technology – the “digital divide”
- Affected the level of student engagement
- Increased the need for innovation to stimulate ongoing interest and commitment by students
- Technology fatigue
 - Limited number of hours for delivery and learning
- Increased the need for self-directed learning



Impact



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COVID-19 intubation UPDATED

USE	AVOID
Upgrade to N95 mask	Avoid high-flow O2 (BiPAP, Hebs, high flow nasal >6L/min)
Wear fluid-resistant gown, standard gloves, & face shield	Don't allow non-critical staff in room
Use negative-pressure isolation room	Avoid bagging (when critical, 2-hand seal & viral filter)
Use Rapid Sequence Intubation (full dose paralytic)	Avoid prolonged intubation attempt (use most qualified & quickest technique)
Use video laryngoscopy (Limit your proximity)	Avoid open circuit (viral filter or clamp on ETT if disconnected)
	Don't bring used PPE outside the room

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Impact - Regulation



Public Health
Laws and
Regulations



Education Act and
Regulatory
Guidelines



Policy and Roles
of Regulatory
Boards and
Councils



Policy Creation and Amendments: Factors to consider

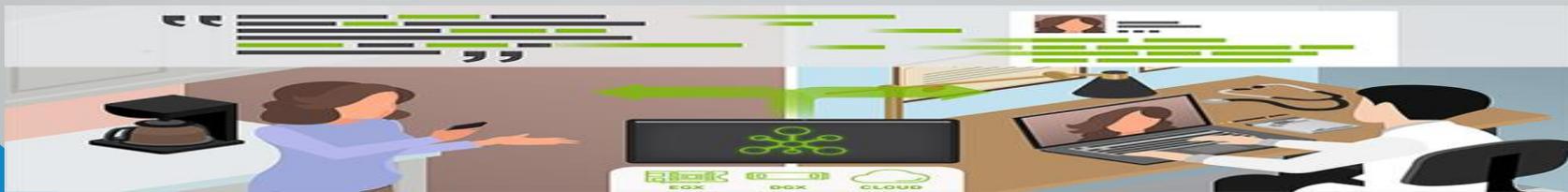
- IPC
 - Sanitisation
 - PPE
- Health and safety protocols in the education institutions for staff and students
- Policy on remote learning and delivery facilities
- Policy and guidelines on student assessment
- Requirements for face-to-face interaction for education and training
- International and regional student mobility to access education and training
 - Impact on income of tertiary health education institutions

Education and Training Delivery – Factors for Consideration

- Impact on curricula development
- Teacher preparedness
- Increased use of technology and online modalities
- Inequity in student access to technology
- When and how to resume face-to-face sessions
- Effect on interaction for inter-professional training
- Tailoring of assessment methods
- Support required for staff, students and management of education institutions
- Access to clinical areas by students
 - Increased use of virtual labs/simulation

Impact of COVID-19 on Academic Research - Challenges

- Immediate curtailment of research efforts due to measures taken to mitigate COVID-19
- Availability of Institutional resources (research offices, libraries)
- Changes in research priorities
- Administrative support to research
 - Dani Guzman of Ex Libris highlights that while 62% of researchers in a 2020 study indicated that they were satisfied with the level of support they received, it was a 17% decrease from the 2019 study (exlibris group.com)
- Limitations on face to face interactions, such as focus groups, observations, laboratory tests and the like
- Need to streamline remote work arrangements
- Apparent disproportionate impact of COVID on women vs. men
 - “the pandemic seems also to have accentuated existing gender inequalities within the field of research [9]. Indeed, early analyses suggest that female academics are publishing less and starting fewer research projects than their male peers. This might be an effect of the lockdown and the fact that more women than are men are juggling caring for families and children despite both “working” from home” (**The impact of COVID-19 on research. L. Harper et al. July 9, 2020. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles**)



Impact of COVID-19 on Academic Research – Some Silver Linings

- COVID-19 served to highlight the need for stable, ongoing research
 - “Scientific and technological knowledge and resources have never been greater and have been leveraged globally to perform COVID-19 research at warp speed. The number of studies related to COVID-19 increases daily, the scope and magnitude of engagement is stunning, and the extent of global collaboration unprecedented.” (COVID-19 impact on research, lessons learned from COVID-19 research, implications for pediatric research. Debra L. Weiner et al, June 2020)
- Research funders have developed strategies to continue funding research, even during the pandemic and have provided guidance from proposal development to access to funds
- Long term lessons can improve future research efforts, e.g.
 - Improvement in research design
 - Greater collaboration/sharing of data and information
 - Development of “crisis standards” to guide research efforts during disasters that impact the research for the preservation of scientific research quality

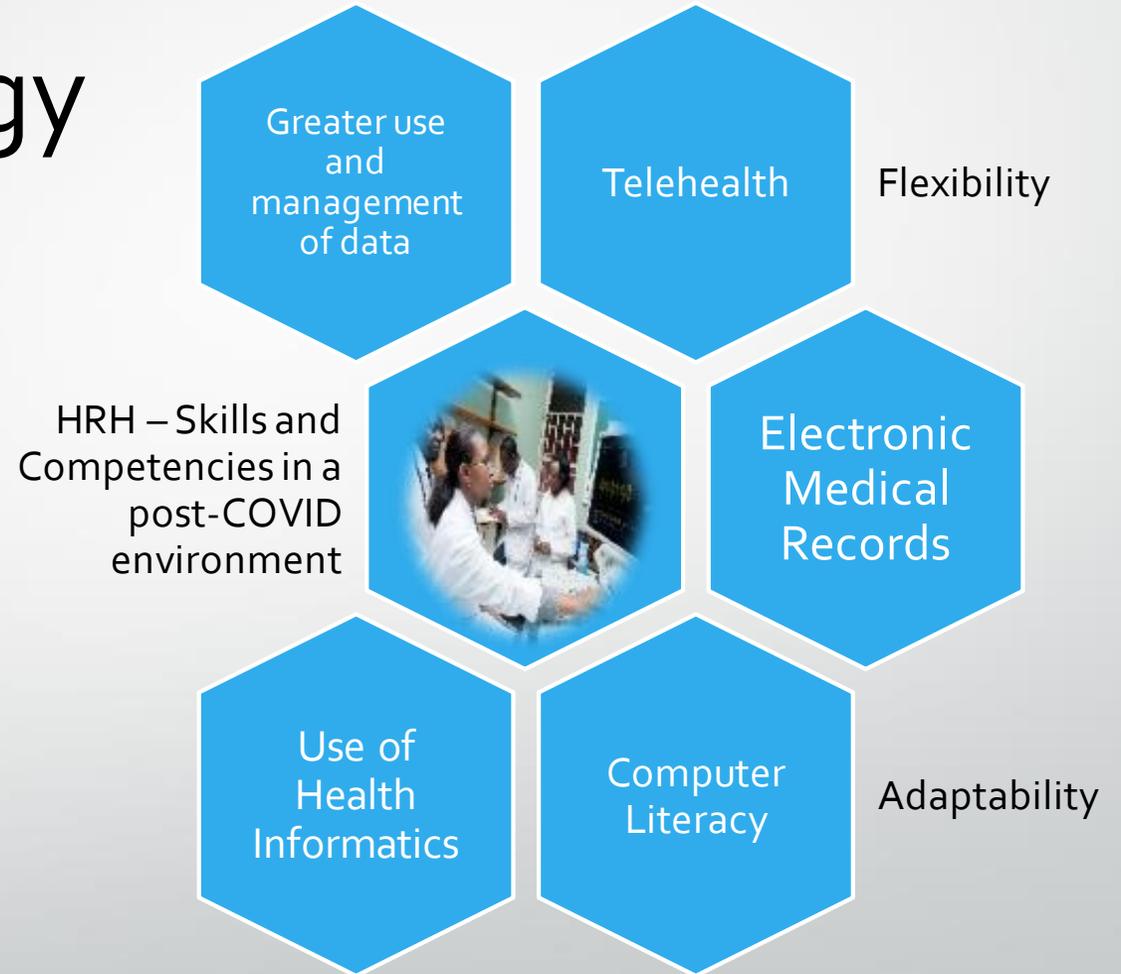


Impact on Student Interaction in the Communities - PHC Services and NCDs Care

- Changes to how services are delivered in community facilities
 - Increased use of telehealth
 - Increase in health education and health promotion– relationship between uncontrolled NCDs and COVID
 - Greater focus on improving the prevention of NCDs and compliance in patients with NCDs
 - Greater availability of Rehab Services at the community level – respiratory therapy
 - The importance of preventive approaches, including the proper nutrition
 - Educating the public on the importance of personal hygiene and sanitisation

Skills Mix and Competencies – Need for Greater “Comfort” in the Use of Technology

Aside from the clinical or technical skills and competencies, HRH will also need to become increasingly comfortable with technology in all spheres, sooner rather than later.



“The COVID-19 pandemic has propelled the research and higher education sectors to the forefront of public attention. Laboratory capacity has been crucial for diagnostic testing; experts in infectious diseases, epidemiology, public health, mathematical modelling, and economics are central to national policy making and media coverage; clinical research has been vital to improving COVID-19 management; and our collective global future relies heavily on the development of an effective vaccine against severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2. Meanwhile, the pandemic is undermining the ability of researchers to do their jobs and of universities to provide a high-quality and safe educational experience for students. As the northern hemisphere looks forward to the beginning of a new academic year, the troubling effects of the pandemic on research and higher education are coming into sharp focus. Immediate challenges such as campus safety, university admissions processes, and online learning arrangements are dominating the discussion. But the pandemic will have complex, unexpected, and long-term implications for research that must be anticipated NOW.” (Research and higher education in the time of COVID-19. The Lancet. August 29, 2020. www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article)

Summation