



E-LEARNING IN ANAESTHESIOLOGY

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D2.1 TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED LEARNING AND TEACHING IN ACUTE MEDICINE

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Definition of e-learning is rather vague. The simplest one is that e-learning is the use of telecommunication technology to deliver information for education (and in some definition also for training). Problems of developing high-quality educational material are described on our own experience. Low-cost e-learning means usually PowerPoint presentation only. Including a variety of multimedia elements, and interactive questions is both time- and money-consuming. This is why these interactive courses are usually not freely accessible. We decided to use middle way: to gain a grant to pay for professional help with multimedia, to resign for interaction and to enable free access.

The project consisted from many steps: write a project and ask for money, write a text of the manual, find relevant images, obtain consent for material protected with copyright, obtain consent of ethic committee and patients participating in videos, develop instructive videos with the use of professional firm, put all parts together on the web-sites of our faculty, announce the accessibility of educational materials to other medical and similar faculties and wait for feedback.

Using this approach we produced several multimedia e-learning projects: Basic life support (in Czech and in English), Advanced life support (in Czech and in English), First aid (in Czech) and Textbook of anaesthesia (in Czech). These materials are permanently accessible at websites of the Third Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague and we try to innovate the content if a new substantial knowledge appears. We obtained several positive reactions from colleagues from other faculties, we found even some our videos presented at YouTube and we noticed an increased knowledge of our students during examination. The difference between knowledge of Czech and English-speaking students is apparent in first aid, where materials are in Czech only. Next year, we plan to translate First aid to English with help of some students who are native speakers and with financial support of our faculty.

We are aware that our materials lack interactive approach, but to add this dimension exceeds our possibilities as we participate in routine work of the department.

We feel that producing a high-quality e-learning is not only a matter of enthusiasm. According to the author's personal opinion there are several limiting factors why there are so few e-learning materials in our country that have all attributes of complete e-learning courses: lack of time of the authors, lack of money for technical support and last but not least lack of appreciation of this activity. Any textbooks, e-learning courses etc. are taken into account in the course of evaluation of scientific activity of university or high-school teachers, but only articles in journals with impact factor are counted.

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