Developing practical pharmacovigilance skills at a distance: description and evaluation of UMC’s instructor-led online learning

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Instructor-led online training

In response to requests from the self-paced course participants and increased PV needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the UMC has developed instructor-led online training to assist national and regional PV centre staff to advance from theory to practice by applying concepts of signal detection and causality assessment.

Course setup

- **LEARNING PLATFORM** Matrix
- **TIME** Two-week part-time
- **CONTENT** Short recorded videos, quizzes, individual assignments, and live discussions
- **CORE** Individual assignments with personal feedback from instructors
- **SUBJECT OF ANALYSIS** A drug – ADR combination from VigiBase
- **ANALYTICAL PROCESS** A structured approach using VigiLyze, a signal detection and management tool, and Bradford Hill criteria
- **EVALUATION** According to the Kirkpatrick evaluation model

Results

59 participants from 35 countries completed an English or Spanish course during 2021

- 94% of participants rated the courses as excellent
- 100% of participants thought that individual assessments of drug – ADR combinations with personal feedback provided high educational value
- 100% of participants thought that live meetings where participants and instructors discussed the difficulties and conclusions of the assessments aided their learning

Conclusions

UMC instructor-led online courses teaching PV analysis skills have provided a valuable alternative to onsite workshop-based courses.

**EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES**
More learning on an individual level

**FLEXIBILITY ADVANTAGES**
Each person decides on the time invested

**AVAILABILITY ADVANTAGES**
Reach people in more countries and teach in more languages

References