DEVELOPMENT OF iTRAIN WEBSITE


Background:
In 2017, the Department of Science and Technology- Food and Nutrition Research Institute (DOST-FNRI) launched the Food and Nutrition Webinar Channel (FNWC) website to serve as platform for the conduct of webinars, an online seminar. The FNWC was enhanced and was renamed iTrain under the iFNRI website.

Objectives:
The study aimed to develop a website that caters to both webinar and on-site training services of the Institute and test its effectiveness.

Materials and Methods:
The development of the website followed the Software Development Life Cycle process namely: Planning, Systems Analysis and Requirements, System Design, Development, Integration and Testing, Implementation, Operations and Maintenance. On-site trainings, webinars and development of cooking demo videos were conducted. To evaluate the effectiveness, pre and post tests were done among 56 on-site participants and 104 webinar participants.

Results and Findings:
Two main modules, namely Train Online for webinars and cooking demo and Train On-site for online registration of trainings, were developed under iTrain website. A total of 58 participants joined the beta testing of the website and a mean score of 4.84 out of 5.00 for the agreement on statements about the relevance and usefulness of the website was recorded. Training participants were able to enroll online in two in-person trainings. The training on FNRI-Developed Nutrition Tools showed a 1.07 mean increase (fifteen-point pre/post-test) in test scores while the training on Nutrition Labelling registered a 0.95 mean increase (ten-point pre/post-test) in test scores. A total of three webinars were also conducted and shown in the website. Based on a ten-point pre/post-test, the mean increase in test scores for the webinar were 1.37 for Pinggang Pinoy, 1.30 for Vegetable Gardening and 0.72 for Nutrigenomics. Cooking demo videos on nutri-siomai and nutri-kutsinta were also developed and uploaded in the website. In terms of participant’s satisfaction of the on-site training and webinar a very satisfactory feedback score was noted.

Conclusion and Recommendations:
Both the on-site training and the webinars were able to impart positive knowledge change among the participants. Intensive promotion on the use of iTrain website is needed so that more clients can access the website. A mobile application may also be developed to make the webinar available in other platforms like cellphones and tablets.