Prioritization of potential policy actions to develop the eHealth IT skills competence among healthcare workforce

Author: Sisi Li

Email: sisi.li@stud.ki.se

Result:

A final list of 23 actions were listed and scored by technical experts with backgrounds in nursing, pharmacy, medicine, health informatics, biomedical information, education, standardization, health information system, EHR, eLeanring and eHealth. The findings are a clear call for attention to integration of eHealth in current curricula, training for both educator and health workforce, improving awareness of the importance of eHealth and inclusion of workforce in the development of eHealth solutions.

This study firstly explored the potential policy actions to develop IT skill competence among healthcare workforce using CHNRI methodology and systematically ranked priority list for generates specific suggestions. It is definitely clear that more researches in this field are required in order to provide comprehensive understanding of actions needed to foster IT skill competence for healthcare workforce at different levels.

Overall rank:

Rank	Actions	Feasible	Effective	Deliverable	Maximum impact	Score
1.	Integrate health IT in curricula at both undergraduate and postgraduate level	92.6	95.5	75.8	76.7	**85.1**
2.	Inclusion of healthcare professionals in the development process of the ICT-solutions	88.2	92.4	79.0	78.3	**84.5**
3.	Ensure the competence for educators, train the trainer in eHealth IT skills	88.2	86.3	85.5	77.6	**84.4**
4.	Raise awareness of the importance of eHealth	92.6	89.4	83.9	70.0	**84.0**
5.	Training on patient-centered eHealth/Health IT services for different professional groups	91.2	89.4	82.2	71.7	**83.6**
6.	Exposure to relevant ICT solutions and medical technologies, increase users' confidence in eHealth	83.8	84.8	79.0	73.3	**80.3**
7.	Training on role specific and organization-specific IT skills for different professional groups	88.2	81.8	77.4	73.3	**80.2**
8.	Improve learning arrangements - facilities, methods, equipment	81.2	87.5	65.0	76.7	**77.6**
9.	Training on the development of processes and activities supported by IT solutions for different professional groups	77.9	80.3	74.2	70.0	**75.6**

10.	Increase research in user acceptance of IT for healthcare workers	85.2	81.8	69.3	63.8	**75.1**
11.	Define IT skill training programs by regional/national authorities	79.4	81.8	65.5	70.0	**74.5**
12.	Evaluate training program, identify barriers	85.3	81.8	67.7	63.3	**74.2**
13.	Investment in new technology	77.9	78.8	75.0	65.0	**74.2**
14.	Introduce online training tools, e.g. MOOC, as well as in housing training	83.3	73.4	66.7	66.7	**72.57**
15.	Help to recognize eHealth/health IT as a specialty	81.2	77.2	67.7	55.0	**70.5**
16.	Identification of IT competences needed at international level, allow recognition of competences beyond frontiers, create of competency framework	74.2	75.0	72.4	58.3	**70.0**
17.	Analysis the skills needed for jobs	77.9	68.1	71.7	61.7	**69.9**
18.	Carry out regular audit / evaluate of skills of existing and new staff, offer qualification procedure	82.3	72.7	53.2	56.7	**66.2**
19.	Guarantee the governance for education and training	73.5	74.2	53.2	56.7	**64.4**
20.	Joint Funding for generic training programs	66.7	68.2	55.0	61.7	**62.9**
21.	Set up coordinating body to support availability of ICT in broad community of healthcare workers	58.8	59.1	53.3	55.0	**56.6**
22.	Create and use registries	57.6	58.0	53.4	50.0	**54.8**
23.	Improving training on potential healthcare workforce at high school level, undergraduate level	50.0	51.6	41.4	48.3	**47.8**