

# "Enhancing Interprofessional Collaboration and Learning for Strengthening Primary Health Care"

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## TUFH 2021 ABSTRACTS

Title	Medical Education and E-learning: Knowledge, Attitudes, Practices and Barriers Among Medicine and Nursing Students at Makerere University, Uganda
Type	<b>Oral Presentation</b> <i>High-Quality Learning and Collaborations in the Health Workforce</i>
1st Author	<b>RONALD OLUM</b>
Co-Authors	-
Country	<b>UGANDA</b>
Abstract N <sup>o</sup>	<b>TUFH535</b>
Content	<p>Given the dearth need for healthcare workers in the control of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, e-learning has been adopted in many settings to hasten the continuation of medical training. We aimed to assess the awareness, attitudes, preferences, and challenges to e-learning among Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) and Bachelor of Nursing (B.NUR) students at Makerere University, Uganda. An online cross-sectional study was conducted between July and August 2020. Of the 214 responses, 57.5% were male, and 77.1% were pursuing the MBChB program. Ownership of computers, smartphones, and email addresses were at 61.2%, 94.9%, and 97.2%, respectively. However, only 26.6% had access to good quality internet. Awareness and self-reported usage of e-learning platforms were high. However, over 50% lacked skills in using the Makerere University e-learning platform. About 49% of the students believed that e-learning is not an efficient method of teaching. Monthly income (<math>p=0.006</math>), internet connectivity quality (<math>p &lt; 0.001</math>), computer ownership (<math>p=0.015</math>) and frequency of usage of academic websites (<math>p=0.006</math>) significantly affected attitudes towards e-learning. Moreover, internet costs and poor internet connectivity were the most important barriers to e-learning reported by 93% and 84% , respectively. Training of students and faculty on e-learning on the use of existing learning platforms are important to improve the attitude and use of e-learning. Blended online and use of offline downloadable learning materials would overcome the challenges related to variable quality of internet access in the country.</p>