

Letter to Editor

Professional web meetings and online seminars: Pros and Cons**Gupta Mahesh Kumar^{1*}, Varsakiya Jitendra²**¹Assistant Professor, Dept. of Shalya Tantra,²Assistant Professor, Dept. of Kayachikitsa,

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Dear Editors

Many online platforms emerges and got huge popularity in this pandemic situation for virtual conferences like Zoom,^[1] Microsoft team,^[2] Google meet,^[3] Cisco WebEx,^[4] you tube live,^[5] Facebook group messengers,^[6] WhatsApp^[7] group video calling, etc.

Due to current pandemic situations (Covid-19), it is difficult to arrange physical meetings and seminars at institutional level. For facing such type of challenges people finds alternatives in the form of online seminars or webinars as well as virtual discussions. We are in touch with lot of online webinars and conferences in this pandemic scenario. It provides the better platform to continue teaching, training, education and needy academic and research works. It is noticed after organizing and attending many webinars that various difficulties were facing by organizer or host in organizing successful events and scheduled on going webinars.

The online platform is better place for knowledge sharing, exchanging ideas and discussion on various professional and academic matters. It favours inexpensive and easy to conduct as there is no need to travel the participants to attend the particulars. Also feasibility of participants is to attend the seminar or meetings from any places like home, hospital, office, institute etc that prevent the itinerary trouble and expenditures. It also secure the time of an individuals. The webinar is very helpful to handle scheduled emergency professional works. Each participant has freedom to share their views and become a part of discussion.

As each coin have both aspects well and bad, same like the webinar also have disadvantages with its benefits^[8]. During the event many hotchpotch takes place that create disturbances during experts talk. The reason behind that is poor networking. The network issues causes unclear voice or voice interruption that resulting into difficulties in conveying the subject or knowledge. Also it is noticed that sometime speaker and participants are not familiar with technical infrastructures and tools. This causes wastage of time while conducting the sessions. The availability of infrastructure is also a challenge to conduct the online important events. The carelessness of participants with their poor concentrations is creating problems if their voices and videos are active or unmuted. In concern of safety point of view, the online platform is not safe to conduct confidential meetings. It may provide chance to leak out secrets. The physical participation in meeting or seminars is always better than the virtual ones. Face to face meetings create full involvement of the participant in issues while discussing.

Every subject has aspect of pros and cons^[9]. This depends mostly on the situation. No doubt the online platform is best for every sector in such pandemic situation to handle the routine works. The attention should be given to make awareness and enhance the technical skill of professionals towards online platform.

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