Student's Knowledge and Practices Regarding Standard Use of The Mobile Phone at Cihan University - Erbil – Iraq

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Abstract

Mobile phones are a modern invention that has managed to reach many parts of the world, allowing telecommunications across areas in which it was not viable before. The purpose of this study is related to the knowledge and practice of students about using a mobile that is improving them to be a good mobile user. Questionnaire form and simple random sampling technic are used for collecting data at Cihan University in Erbil-Iraq during five months in 2018. Chi Square test has been used to identify the relationship between knowledge and practice of using mobile with categorical variables. Results of this research show a good relation between knowledge and practice of students using mobile with demographic variables. Thus, shows that there is a relation between the practice of students of using mobile and marital status while there was no relation between knowledge of students of using mobile and marital status.

Keywords: Knowledge, Practices, Mobile User, Chi Square test.

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معرفة وممارسات الطلاب فيما يتعلق بالاستخدام القياسي للهاتف المحمول في جامعة جيهان - أربيل – العراق

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المستخلص: يعد الهاتف المحمول اختراعًا حديثًا ، وقد تمكن من الوصول إلى أجزاء كثيرة من العالم، مما أتاح الاتصالات عبر مناطق لم يكن ذلك ممكنًا من قبل. يرتبط الغرض من هذه الدراسة بمعرفة وممارسة الطلاب حول استخدام الهاتف المحمول مما يؤدي إلى تحسينهم ليكونوا مستخدمين جيدين للهاتف المحمول. تم استخدام نموذج الاستبيان وتقنية أخذ العينات العشوائية البسيطة لجمع البيانات في جامعة جيهان في أربيل-العراق خلال خمسة أشهر في عام 2018. تم استخدام اختبار Chi Square لتحديد العلاقة بين المعرفة والممارسة لاستخدام الهاتف المحمول مع المتغيرات الفئوية. تظهر نتائج هذا البحث علاقة جيدة بين معرفة وممارسة الطلاب لاستخدام الهاتف مع المتغيرات الديموغرافية. وبذلك يتبين أن هناك علاقة بين ممارسة الطلاب لاستخدام الهاتف المحمول والحالة الاجتماعية بينما لا توجد علاقة بين معرفة الطلاب باستخدام الهاتف المحمول والحالة الاجتماعية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: المعرفة، الممارسات، مستخدم الهاتف المحمول ، اختبار Chi Square.

1- Introduction

Mobile learning has become a distinctive area of modern digital learning. There were an estimated of 500 million mobile phone users worldwide in 2000 while there are about 5.17 billion users now [1]. Using cellphones amongst young adolescents is growing dramatically. It is an expected need which is necessary to raise awareness of the negative effects of frequent phone use on their habits of sleep wake, with serious health risks as well as interest and cognitive issues. This therefore includes the evaluation of awareness and mindset related to the threats on cell phones because they often use this. A randomly selected college student study found that 70% of headache symptoms and 20% of dizziness. In 56% of respondents, impaired concentration occurred and facial dermatitis was identified by 11% [5].

In their report, they concluded that the addictive use of the Internet in the new Era of technology is detrimental to mental health [4]. Because we know that without mental health there is no safety, we have to take the necessary steps to prevent people from this form of addiction. Using the Internet is popular in everyday life and, and it makes life easier and knowledgeful if used systematically. So a systematic method of the usage of the internet should be followed to avoid this addiction. The survey was concluded that a clear trend of increased risk for acoustic neuroma and glioma was found on the use of mobile phones for more than and equal to 10 years [3]. A study in Italy was worked to identify blood pressure variation in human volunteers exposed to a conventional GSM digital mobile phone located near to the right side of the head. The exposure, heart rate, blood pressure, capillary perfusion was measured by supine or standing for 60 sec after 35 minutes. They found that the heart rate during these tests was slight since exposure to radiation than following non exposed control sessions [2].

2- Research Methodology

The purpose of this study is related to the knowledge and practice of students about mobile use. Also it is included some good expectation of study to improve student's knowledge and practices about mobile use. Data were collected with interview technic using the questionnaire at Cihan University in Kurdistan Region of Iraq from 1 November, 2018 to 1 April, 2019. The questionnaire form consists of three main parts. Part one is related to socio demographic characteristic of the students (age, address, sex, family status, type of family, stage and department). The second part consists of statements related to student's knowledge about mobile use and the answers are divided into three categories of the scoring system as (1= know, 2 = do not know, and 3 = not certain). Part three includes items related to student's practice about mobile use and the answers are divided into three categories of the scoring system as (1 = always, 2 = some time and 3 = never use).

Chi Square test is used to see the relationship between knowledge and practice of using mobile with categorical variables by SPSS Program Version 25.

3- Results

Table 1 shows the following characteristics of sample study that most of them are ages 23 years and more, living n city center, male, single, extended family 43%, and studding in the third stage in other departments.

Table 1: Socio-demographic characteristics

Socio Demographic Characteristic		F	%
Age Group	19	15	5.1%
	20	57	19.2%
	21	51	17.2%
	22	57	19.2%
	23 and more	117	39.4%
Address	City center	231	77.8%
	Suburbs	45	15.2%
	Other place	21	7.1%
Sex	Male	156	52.5%
	Female	141	47.5%
Family Status	Single	258	86.9%
	Marriage	33	11.1%
	Divorce	6	2.0%
Type of family	Nuclear	120	40.4%
	Extended	129	43.4%
	Others	48	16.2%
Stage	First	15	5.1%
	Second	105	35.4%
	Third	141	47.5%
	Fourth	36	12.1%
Department	Health Administration	27	9.1%
	Business	96	32.3%
	Banking	60	20.2%
	Others	114	38.4%

Table 2 shows overall knowledge about mobile use as written below (Good 71.1%, fair 26.3%, and Bad 2%), so the majority of them have a good knowledge of using mobile (71%).

Table 2: Level of knowledge for using mobile

		Frequency	**%**
	Bad level of Knowledge	6	2 %
	Fair level of Knowledge	78	26.3 %
	Good level of Knowledge	213	71.1 %
	Total	297	100 %

Table 3 shows overall practices about mobile use as written below (always 17.2%, sometimes 66.7%, and never practice 16.2 %), so the majority of them have practiced sometime (66.7%) while 16.2% of them never use mobile in proper and standard style.

Table 3: Level of Practice of using mobile

		Frequency	**%**
	Always Practice	51	17.2 %
	Sometimes Practice	198	66.7 %
	Never practice	48	16.2 %
	Total	297	100 %

Table 4 shows the significant association between knowledge of using mobile and demographic variables, there was significant association between knowledge of students of using mobile and demographic variables (age, sex, family's type, stage, and departments)

Table 4: Relationship between overall knowledge of students regarding mobile use and demographic variables

Name of Demographical Variables	d.f.	P value
Age group	4	0.003
Address	2	0.075
Sex	1	0.025
Marital status	2	0.209
Family's type	2	0.001
Stage	3	0.017
Department	3	0.003

Table 5 shows the significant association between practice of using mobile and demographic variables, there was significant association between practice of students of using mobile and demographic variables (age, sex, family's type, marital status, stage, and departments)

Table 5: Relationship between overall practices of students regarding mobile use and demographic variables

Name Demographical Variables	d.f.	P value
Age group	4	0.038
Address	2	0.946
Sex	1	0.001
Marital status	2	0.015
Family's type	2	0.001
Stage	3	0.003
Department	3	0.008

4- Conclusion

The problems of this research included the lack of student's knowledge and practice about mobile use. The majority of students have a good knowledge of using mobile (71%) while most of them sometimes practice on mobile (66.7%).

There was a good relation between knowledge of students using mobile and demographic variables (age, sex, family's type, stage, and departments). Thus, male has more knowledge to use mobile rather than female. Also, most students who have knowledge for using mobile are single living in the city.

There was a significant relation between practice of students of using mobile and demographic variables (age, sex, family's type, marital status, stage, and departments). Thus, shows that there is a relation between the practice of students of using mobile and marital status while there was no relation between knowledge of students of using mobile and marital status. The same result as we had in knowledge of using mobile, male have more practice for using mobile rather than female. Also, most students who are practice for using mobile are single and living in the city.

5- Recommendations

1- Conducting more seminars for students regarding the standard use of cell phone.
2- Conducting health education for students about health hazards of magnate wave of mobile.
3- Conducting workshop for students about the health risks of overuse mobile.

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Appendix

Questionnaire Form

Three Student's knowledge and practices regarding standard use of mobile phone at Cihan University / Erbil /Iraq

Part one: Demographic characteristics of study sample:

1- Age ☐ year.

2- Address: city center ☐, suburbs ☐, other place ☐

3- Sex: male ☐ female ☐

4- Family status: single ☐ marriage ☐ ☐ widow ☐ diverse

5- Type of family : ☐ nuclear ☐ extended others ☐

6- Stage ☐ first , ☐ second ☐ third ☐ fourth .

7- Department ☐ health administration ☐ Business ☐ Banking ☐ others ☐

Part two: knowledge of using mobile

ID	variables	Know	do not know	not certain
1	Mobile use has health hazards			
2	have knowledge about how I use mobile			
3	know methods of standard use of mobile			
4	know that there are types of healthy and standard mobile			
5	know things about magnet waves from mobile			
6	There is evidence that magnet-waves from mobile may cause cancers			
7	Mobile use for a long time among some people as business man and adolescent may cause brain tumor			
8	Mobile use may affect children and pregnant women			
9	I know different methods of prevention from magnet waves of mobile			

Part three: Practices of using mobile

ID	variables	always	sometimes	never use
1	I use my mobile as standard way			
2	I respond mobile phone during car driving			
3	I use mobile during my lecture			
4	use mobile during charging			
5	I responding mobile in first ringing			
6	using mobile in low or weak signal net			
7	using ear plague during using mobile			
8	using message instead of phone			
9	using loudspeakers or other protect devices during using mobile			
10	using mobile in low battery			
11	putting mobile in pocket away from genital area			