



Singapore Healthcare Management 2018

From Classroom Training to e-Learning

Improving Safety Trainings for SingHealth Researchers



NG Chai Lim, SIM Phoi Sang, WEE Yong Hao, Watson TEO, Cindy GOH
SingHealth Office of Biosafety



Aims

SingHealth Office of Biosafety (SingHealth OoB) has several years of experience in conducting safety trainings for SingHealth researchers and research support staff.

Recognising the limitations of traditional classroom deliveries, OoB aims to **enhance researchers learning experience** by migrating onto e-learning platform.

Methodology

SingHealth OoB has four safety trainings (Safety Orientation, Biosafety Awareness, Chemical Safety Awareness, WSH Risk Management) formerly delivered through classroom trainings.

OoB consulted with Office of SingHealth Academy (Learning Development) and invested on manpower, software, and hardware upgrade. During the contents development process, OoB takes into account learners' feedbacks, and engaged relevant stakeholders to review the developed contents and assessments to improve learner experience.

Harmonised Courses

To facilitate collaborations with researchers from local Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) (includes NUS, NTU, etc.), OoB harmonised the chemical and biological safety courses to the Workplace Safety & Health Council (WSHC) Higher Education and Research Sector (HERS) workgroup initiatives, reducing the need for learners to repeat similar prerequisite safety trainings for working at different IHL.

A tracking system was set up to manage the contents (ensure information are reviewed periodically and updated), the learners enrollment, results and evaluation. The system was repeatedly tested in-house to ensure all aspects are in order before launching the programme.

Result

OoB has seen achievements in terms of staff satisfaction and a greater reach out with the launch of e-learning. There are several **key advantages** : including quicker delivery cycle times than traditional classroom deliveries, eliminating the need for trainers and learners to travel to venue, and training is no longer limited by classroom size and availability. It also eliminates issues on late comers and researchers waiting for trainings availability prior starting work in the laboratories. Learners can now learn at their own pace, rather than the pace of the class. Furthermore, non-SingHealth learners from institutions with harmonised trainings no longer need to repeat similar courses and can focus on other trainings.

Conclusion

OoB is in its second year after embarking on e-learning. There are plans to create more courses for e-learning and to continuously improve on the existing courses.

KEY ADVANTAGES



OoB Staff Satisfaction Boost

"migration to e-learning frees up time for other work 😊"

CLASSROOM	e-LEARNING
One session every quarter Learner needs to complete fundamental safety trainings before work can start in the labs	No limits Learners can attend trainings at their own time and pace
Trainer and learners having to travel to venue	Training can occur anywhere with computer and network access
Class size is limited by seating capacity of venue	No limits Any number of learners can be trained at any time
Late comers cause delay and will miss out on information	Learners have to complete all the materials and pass the assessment (80%) to receive a certificate

e-learning is interactive and fun!



In our March 2018 survey, **88%** of our learners find the e-learning courses interesting and engaging!

Acknowledgement



The authors would like to thank **Mr Lee Jiunn Kee** for his encouragements towards Office of Biosafety to embark on online training.