

*Original article*

# Attitudes and Knowledge of Medical Students about Distance Learning

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## SUMMARY

Distance learning can be defined as education or training offered to participants at a different place, physically distant from the lecturer or sources of information. The difference in attitudes and knowledge of students about distance learning in relation to gender and year of studying was examined. The study sample included 371 students of the Faculty of Medicine in Niš (165 students were at the first year of studies and 206 students were at the sixth year of studies). Originally structured epidemiological questionnaire was distributed to students. Gender and age had no significant influence on students' knowledge of distance learning. There was no statistically significant difference in taking positive attitudes about distance learning among medical students of the first and sixth year. Gender has statistically significantly affected the attitudes. E-learning does not eliminate the existing methods of learning, but it supplements them and greatly helps in teaching plans and programs.

*Key words:* distance learning, attitude, students, knowledge, information technology

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