



# COMMONWEALTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS FORUM 2015

## Utilizing connectivity – Health

Technology for Innovative education of Health Professionals

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# Brief of Outspan Medical College



- Was started in 2009 with a vision of being the college of choice in training globally competitive quality medical professionals.
- The college had only three programs then, a number which has grown to ten with a current population of 890 students and 63 teaching staff.
- The college began the journey of innovatively overcoming challenges through embracing eLearning in mid 2014.

# Outspan Medical College



# Introduction and background



## Challenges

- Emerging diseases
- Dynamic nature of medicine
- Limited time for curricula implementation
- Shortage of staff
- Workload

Note: These challenges have driven innovation in medical education with approaches like blended learning.

Globally, these challenges are overcome through education innovations:

- ✓ Use of laptops
- ✓ Mobile learning devices
- ✓ Interactive whiteboards
- ✓ Digital libraries
- ✓ e-portfolios
- ✓ Learning management systems
- ✓ Simulations
- ✓ Videoconferencing
- ✓ Virtual laboratories
- ✓ programmable and location-aware devices.

Broadband internet is a means to maximizing these education innovations

# Objectives



The objectives for adopting blended learning included :

- To increase contact time for skill based training for the learners in order to attain maximum competencies in curriculum implementation.
- To increase the capacity of the institution to train more health workers at both preservice and in-service level.



# Method

- Capacity building by FUNZOKenya project, led to preparation of policy documents to govern eLearning implementation, faculty members were trained and content was developed using open source courseware.
- The learning management system was customized and is hosted locally thus access is limited to college premises. In view of this challenge plans are underway to cloud with KENET.
- Both support lecturers and students undergo navigation orientation prior to start of a course.

# eLearning portal



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Latest news

13 Feb, 13:58  
monicah masake  
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21 Nov, 12:32  
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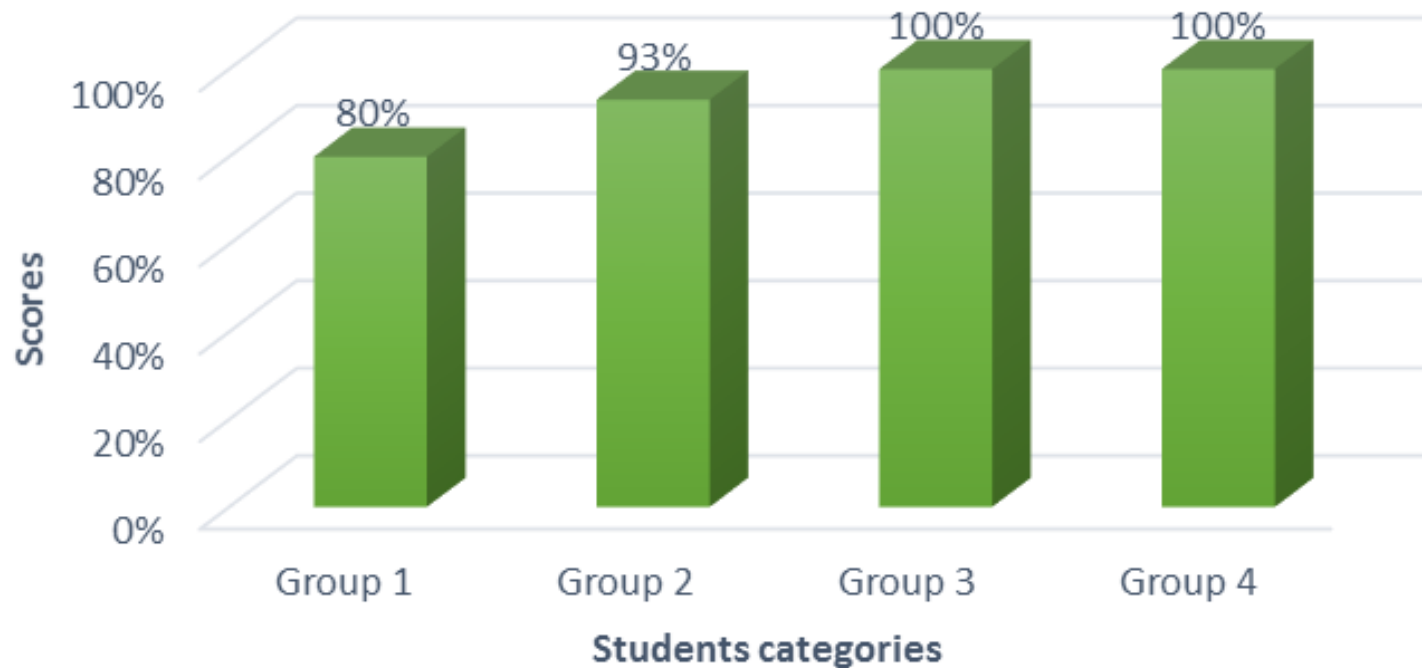
# Results



- Since the inception of the blended learning approach, the institution has enrolled 257 eLearners out of 890 in different courses.
- In addition to improved performance in courses offered in blended learning, students have enjoyed the convenience in learning.
- Delivery of eLearning has improved progressively with concurrent improvement in learning outcomes.



## Performance of courses offered in eLearning

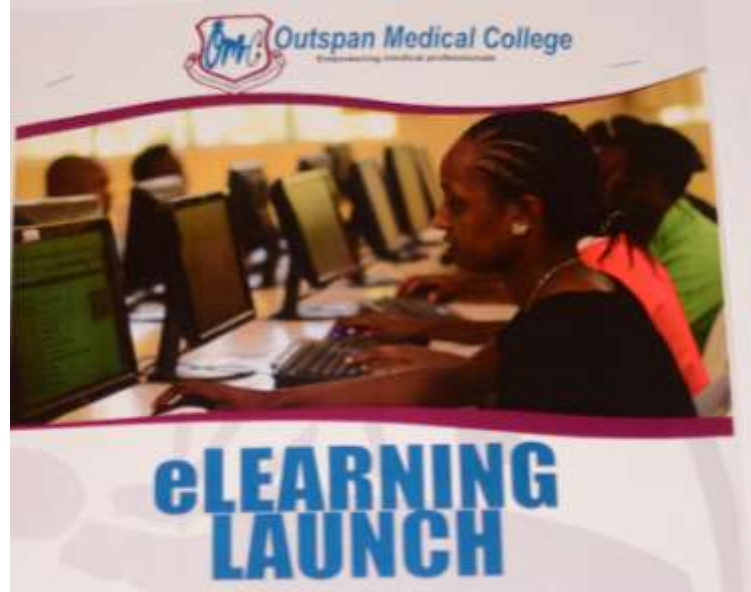




# Results

- There has been observable improvement in learnt skills.
- Demand for more units on e increased following the official launch of eLearning program- LAN
- Having enrolled off college students, it is mandatory to cloud which requires faster sustainable internet.
- **However, our learner internet access while off campus is expensive since 98% have to buy 3G internet bundles from various service providers.**

# eLearning launch





# Implications

- With appropriate governance, capacity building and learner support, eLearning offers the most efficient and cost effective present and future way of training health workers at all levels.
- To maximize on the advantages that blended learning offers: anytime, anywhere learning among others, sustainable internet is the roadmap; a means to an end.



# Implications

- Another step in this innovation is syncing of online libraries with the LMS hence improved delivery of medical education.
- This will enable health workers update their knowledge on emerging trends as well as keep abreast with rapid changes in medicine as they offer services to the public.

**Regardless of resource endowment of an organization, a country or individual, the will drives achievement. However, resources hasten the journey.**

# Thank you

