An evaluation of the ‘e-Bug Training Module for Educators’: Survey and focus group responses from health educators.

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INTRODUCTION

- e-Bug is an international educational resource for children and young people about antibiotics, hygiene and infection.
- A 2014 needs assessment identified the need for health education training for educators across England.
- Based on the needs assessment, a web-based ‘e-Bug Training Module for Educators’ was developed to help educators incorporate e-Bug into their lessons.
- The training is freely available at www.e-Bug.eu and includes 10 PowerPoint presentations and 5 virtual website tours.
- The training was piloted and modified before the official launch on 01/02/16.

AIM

The aim of the study was to measure how effective the training is in assisting educators with the delivery of health topics using e-Bug.

QUANTITATIVE RESULTS

The findings were based on survey responses from 44 educators and focus group responses from 5 educators.

Downloads: 1,036 page views from 53 countries.

Quantitative data

- 91% of educators who completed the survey rated the training as good or very good.
- 84% of educators who completed the survey reported that their knowledge of e-Bug and associated health topics increased after completing the training.
- Educators who completed the survey rated the value (84%), length (98%) and appropriateness (98%) of the PowerPoint presentations as mainly good or very good.

QUALITATIVE RESULTS

Value of completing training

"That it acts as a comprehensive guide as to how to use the website and provides awareness as to all of the resources available." The training is relevant, very usable and provided clear information.

Knowledge of e-Bug

"And what I’ve learnt is that you can download in Word as well as pdfs, which is lovely." Educators advised that their knowledge of e-Bug and the e-Bug resources improved.

Functionality of the training

"The slides were clear and easy to navigate." "PowerPoints are creditable as well" Educators described that the training was flexible to their needs, user friendly and easy to navigate.

Appearance of the training

"The design of the presentations was elegant." "I think it was clearly set out." Educators liked the way the training was presented and the clear visuals.

Future development

The training module PowerPoint could be improved by including "images of pupils actually doing some of these things [activities]." Educators suggested that the training module could include "tips" on delivering e-Bug from educators who have used the resources.

Method of teacher training

"But I think certainly in the economic climate the e-learning is becoming more and more of a thing that schools are, yeah, that's OK, we can do that." Further suggestions for improvements included quotes from students on "how it's affected their learning or how it's improved their learning."

Promotion and accreditation

"Somebody in school would be responsible for CPD" "The problem with it is getting to the right person in the school." Educators highlighted the importance of promoting training to school Science or PSHE co-ordinators.

CONCLUSIONS

- The findings suggest that the ‘e-Bug Training Module for Educators’ is well received by educators.
- The e-Learning is a suitable method of teacher training about e-Bug as educators knowledge of e-Bug and associated health topics improved after the training.
- The training module is a helpful tool for educators to learn more about e-Bug and to learn how to incorporate the e-Bug resources into teaching about health education.
- To improve the training, educators suggest adding images of students completing e-Bug activities, quotes from students who have been taught e-Bug lessons and tips from educators who have delivered the e-Bug lessons.

IMPLICATIONS

- Modifications will be made to the training module following feedback in order to be more user friendly and appealing.
- The training was updated to reflect the new e-Bug website.
- Images of students, quotes from students and tips from educators will be included in modifications.
- Review options to embed the training PowerPoints in the website to avoid downloading multiple files.
- e-Bug partners will be able to translate the training module into their respective language for further dissemination.
- Further qualitative focus groups should be conducted with other educators including trainee teachers, teaching assistants and schools nurses.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to all educators who took part in the online survey and focus group.

ACCREDITATION

The Royal Society of Biology approved the e-Bug training module for the purposes of CPD.

CONTACTS

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