

Abstract

Background

A significant personality in providing required services at the grass root levels in the public health sector is the Public Health Inspector. One of his key responsibilities is updating data in the “Monthly Report”, which is an important document to have a clear understanding about the Environmental, Occupational Health and Food Safety aspects, of a particular Medical Officer of Health area. This outdated Monthly Report format has resulted in generating incomplete and untimely reports at national level, with inferior and inaccurate data. With the emergence of public health information management systems, the usage of a web based free and open source platform known as “District Health Information Software version 2 (DHIS2)” has been considered for this study, to transform paper based data into electronic data, for effective and timely results.

Method

It was decided to use DHIS2, which is known as a generic public health information system to identify the prevalent problems in the present system. The system usability was tested and related feedback was obtained from the participants, based on an appropriately developed questionnaire.

Results

Generic DHIS2 platform was adequately flexible to customise and revise the Monthly Report. The average System Usability Scale study of this proposed system recorded 72.25 with a higher Standard Deviation of 13.37 which confirmed that, it is a usable system. However, a knowledge gap of 92% was identified among the users of the proposed electronic Environmental, Occupational Health and Food Safety Information Management System (eEOHFSIMS).

Conclusion

The electronic system has proved its capability in providing accurate, complete and timely data which will greatly assist the primary healthcare service of the country, in implementing the government’s national health policy initiatives and thereafter for continuous monitoring and evaluation as well.