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The Impact of User Characteristics, Instructor Availability, and Pre-training Interventions on E-learning Outcomes

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ABSTRACT

Internet based e-learning courses has the potential to become a key tool for knowledge dissemination, particularly for delivering Information Technology (IT) courses. The objective of the current study is to understand whether learner characteristics, instructor availability, and pre-training intervention influence the learning outcomes of e-learning based courses on IT. Using Social Cognitive Theory as a foundation, we study the role of individual learner characteristics such as, ability to self-regulate learning, and computer self-efficacy in impacting learning outcomes. We conducted two pilot studies and found some support for our premise. Currently, data is being collected for the complete study and these results will be presented at the conference.