University Online Courses in 2020 and the COVID-19 Pandemic Year

Hiroshi Kijima*

*Hirosaki University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan.

ABSTRACT

The COVID-19 was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, China, and has resulted in an ongoing pandemic. In August 2020, more than 20 million cases have been reported in the world, and more than 52,000 patients have been reported in Japan. In Japan, all schools/colleges/universities start a new school year in April every year. In 2020, university faculties in Japan had to modify ordinary face-to-face classes to the online courses. The faculties of Hirosaki University School of Medicine have newly structured fully online courses, Hirosaki University Online Learning Supporting System (HOLS). In this presentation, I introduce the overview of HOLS, including the online courses. In addition, the student representatives and the university faculties have surveyed student attitudes toward the COVID-19 pandemic, the online courses, and daily lives. The surveys demonstrate alterations of the student attitudes. I also introduce the results of the student attitude surveys. Based on the faculty's experiences/opinions, and student attitudes, we have to re-organized university courses in the second semester of 2020.

Keywords: Online courses, Learning, Student attitude, Survey, COVID-19

Corresponding author: Hiroshi Kijima, Hirosaki University Graduate School of Medicine, Japan, E-mail: hkijima@hirosaki-u.ac.jp