TOWARDS DEVELOPING A VIABLE LEARNING MODEL IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR POST-COVID-19 PANDEMIC OUTBREAK IN UAE CONTEXT

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Review of Literature

- EBSCO and ProQuest search engines.

- A total of 56 research papers, including dissertations, were identified, among which 35 were pertinent to the study's nature and scope and the UAE perspective.

Key Research reviewed:

❖ Deep impact of virtual mode on student learning (Verma et al., 2020).

❖ Online learning develops an interface for absorbing new techniques and processes of learning, access to resources and less time required (Agarwal S, Kaushik J, 2020; Dhawan S, 2020).

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Studies focused on UAE context

- Almuraqab (2020), Saravanan et al. (2020),
- Malkawi, Bawaneh and Bawaneh (2020),
- Alterri et al.,2020.
- Other Asian papers studied were (Abdulmonem, 2020; Alashwal, 2020; Elzainy et al. I, 2020; Diab&Elgahsh, 2020; Suryaman et al., 2020; Almoayad&Almuwais, 2020; Almaiah, Al-Khasawneh&Althunibat, 2020; Abuhammad, 2020).

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Research on Virtual learning

- Chakravorti, 2017; *Marta Žuvic-Butorac et al.*,2011; Gilbert, 2015; Anne-MetteNortvig, Anne Kristine Petersen and SørenHattesenBalle, 2018; Lee, 2015; Patrick, S., & Powell, A., 2009; Swan, K.,2003; Green, K.C., & Wagner, E.,2011; Nagel, D.,2010; Van Der Werf, M., & Sabatier, G., ,2009; Christensen C., Horn M., &, Caldera, L., 2011; Meyer, K. PhD. ,2008; Twigg, C. A., 2001; Meyer, K., PhD. ,2006; DiFilipo, S. ,2011; Rickard, 2010).

Research gaps identified:

- Student perception of the effectiveness of the virtual learning environment initiatives.
- Other Stakeholders' (faculty, parents, family members) their perception of professional satisfaction achieved.
- Challenges faced by the University authorities.
- Lack of a viable Virtual learning framework.

Research questions posited:

- Are the virtual learning initiatives effective in accomplishing set goals from the student perspective?

- What is the stakeholders' perception of the teaching delivery in the Virtual environment?

- What should the government's support/assistance be in streamlining and assisting in the virtual learning processes?

- How can a viable virtual learning model be developed in the UAE context?

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Aspects covered in the research

- Emirati students' perception of government initiatives,

- the challenges faced and

- consequently developing a viable model to highlight a sustainable and effective system of implementing the new method of learning and teaching.

Method

Phase-1

- Qualitative Survey with 15 students (9 MBA and 6 BBA students).

- 8 themes were identified through coding categories.

- Questionnaire (30 Qs) was developed and a pilot survey was conducted on 18 students

- Finalized 22 Qs in the Questionnaire.

Phase-2

- Questionnaire administered on 250 participants.

- 130 Returned.

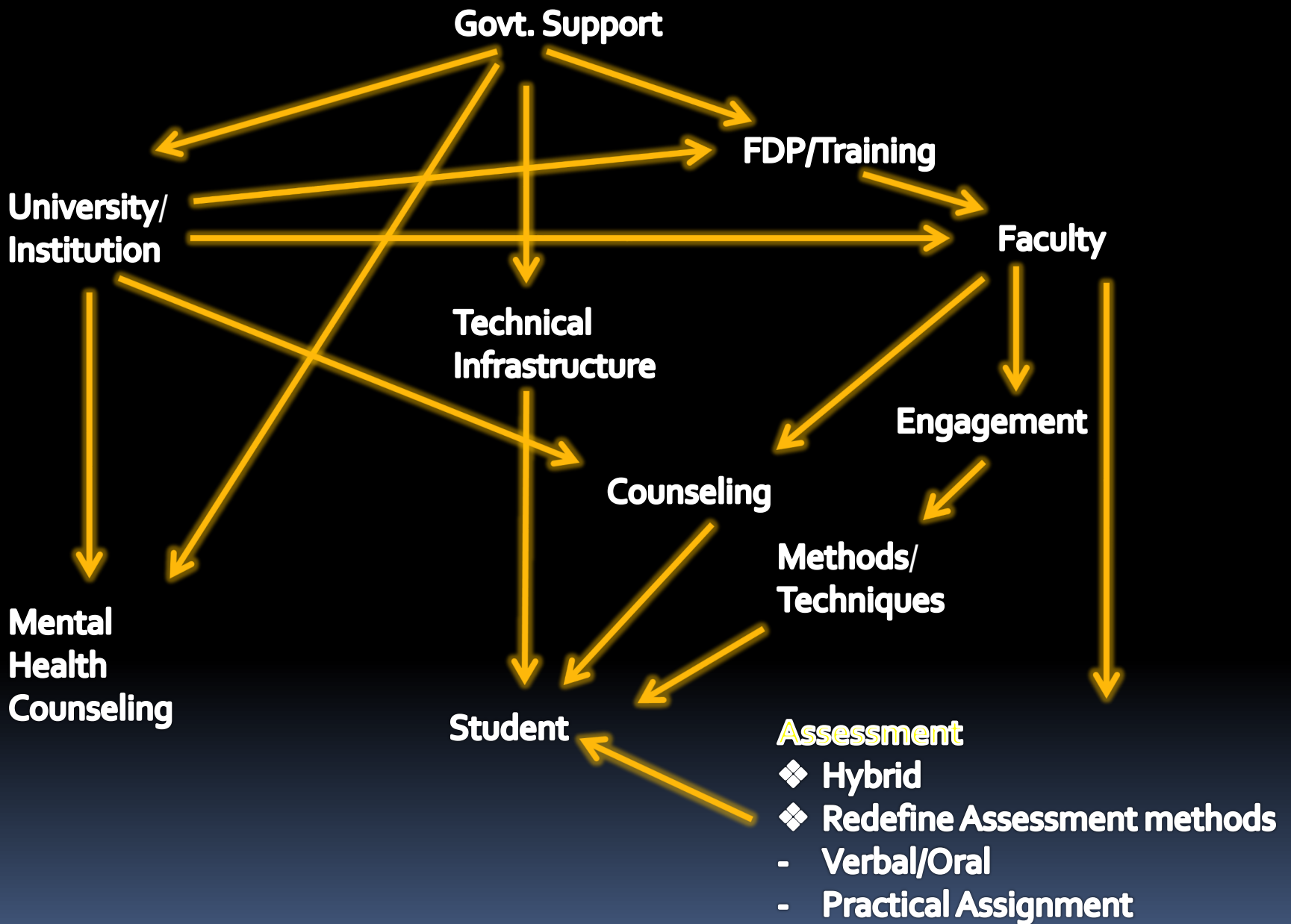- 113 Final sample size.

Demographic Profile

Variables	Categories	Value	Total Sample Size
Gender	Male	71	
	Female	42	
Education	Under-Graduate Student	48	
	Graduate Student	65	
Age	Below 20 years	18	
	21 to 24 years	59	113
	25 years & above	36	
Marital Status	Single	40	
	Married	73	
Work Experience	No Experience	14	
	Below 2 years	28	
	3 to 5 years	67	
	6 years & Above	4	

Dimensions / Factors

Dimensions	Cronbach Alpha	Number of Items
Student Engagement	0.92	8
Mental Health	0.84	6
Assessment	0.76	5
Technical Infrastructure	0.72	3
All items for 4 Dimensions	0.81	22

Proposed Model

CONCLUSION & FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

Thank you