OPEN PEER REVIEW

Legal Practitioners' Views on the Effectiveness of Virtual Courts

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The manuscript frequently mentions terms related to technological adoption, such as "user interface intuitiveness" and "data encryption." While these are crucial aspects, the paper could benefit from a brief clarification or definition of these terms for readers who may not be familiar with technical jargon. This would aid in making the article more accessible to a broader audience, including legal practitioners who may not have a strong background in technology.

The study presents a comprehensive view based on the Iranian context. Including comparative insights from other jurisdictions where virtual courts have been implemented could enrich the discussion. This would allow readers to understand if the identified themes are universally applicable or if there are unique challenges and successes in different legal systems.

While user satisfaction is mentioned, the manuscript could be enhanced by incorporating direct quotes or a summary of feedback from the users of virtual courts, including lawyers and their clients. This firsthand feedback could provide valuable insights into the practicalities and nuances of using virtual court systems.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The manuscript touches on the need for "continuous adaptation and training" to address technological challenges. It would be beneficial to provide more detailed suggestions or examples of what these training programs could entail. Specifically, addressing the content of training that would be most beneficial for different court personnel (judges, lawyers, paralegals) could make the recommendations more actionable and practical.

While the manuscript highlights security measures as a paramount concern, there is a need for a deeper discussion on the challenges and recommendations related to data security in virtual courts. This could include specific security protocols that have been effective, as well as areas where current virtual court systems may be falling short in protecting sensitive information.

Incorporating case studies or specific examples of virtual court sessions that highlight the identified themes (e.g., a particularly successful use of technology or a procedural adaptation that improved access to justice) could provide readers with practical illustrations of the study's findings.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted. Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.

