E- Resource Usage in Ayurved Medical College Libraries in Maharashtra

Dr. S.R. Mandale
Librarian.
BharatiVidyapeethInstitute of Technology,
Sec-7 CBD Belpada, Navi Mumbai.(M.S.) India.
e-mail: smandale25@gmail.com

Abstract - *This article is based on a rapid assessment of conditions under which electronic resources are used in Ayurved Medical College Libraries in Maharashtra. Its primary focus is on the use of electronic resources by user. Data was collected using face-to-face interviews and questionnaires. For electronic resources access and use for users variations among institutions in accessing electronic resources. Libraries are changing with time from mere storehouses of collection of documents to dynamic service centers. The present period is a period of digital libraries, electronic libraries and virtual libraries. All these changes demand development of modern skills to both library professionals as well as users. The information that is available in digital form requires new and modern methods for its handling. Therefore, there is a constant Need for librarians and information professionals as well as for users to learn the new skills to cope with the present situation. The present study deals with use and usage of e-resources by the members of Ayurved Medical College Libraries. The paper describes about the Ayurved Medical College Libraries and its resources. The paper explains the need, scope and limitation, methodology of the study. It analyses data, summarizes findings, and gives suggestions for the improvement in the usage of e-resources. The paper concludes that the Ayurved Medical College Libraries are trying its best to provide facilities for proper use of e-resources by users.*

Keywords: E-resources, Internet, Online services, Usage statistics, User studies, Ayurved Medical College Libraries, Electronic Resources,

Introduction:

The library and information center is a part of any educational institution, which is the hub of the teaching, and learning activities where students, teacher and researchers get their required information according to their need. In the libraries users have to spend much more time for searching a small piece of information and for that they have to depend mainly on the library professionals or library staff. But in the age of information communication technology, computers are being used for day-to-day housekeeping activity of the library, which saves the time of the end users, and library professionals also and at the same time avoid duplication of work and make the library service smooth and effective.

Libraries are changing with time from mere storehouses of collection of documents to dynamic service centers. The present period is a period of digital libraries, electronic libraries and virtual libraries. All these changes demand development of modern skills to both library professionals as well as users. The information that is available in digital form requires new and modern methods for its handling. Therefore, there is a constant need for librarians and information professionals as well as for users to learn the new skills to cope with the present. Today we are living in the age of information.

The information is a dynamic and unending resource that affects all disciplines and walks of life. Over last decade, electronic resources have become increasingly substantial components of academic library collection. This is due to the continuous development of Information Technology and itsimpact on library collection development policies due to changing demand of users for the pin pointed and exhaustive information within a short time. With the growing popularity of e-resources, the traditional libraries are gradually migrating from print documents to e-resources where providing access to information is considered more important than owning it.

The library plays a leading role in faculty-library relationships and in instructional services such as orientation and training in use of library resources. If efficient and effective use is to be made of library's e-resources, then user training will have to increase in both intensity and coverage. It is important to remember that the ability of library staff to keep up to date is necessary, and, therefore, training for them is crucial as well.

E-resource:

Electronic resources are those resources which need computer access or any sort of electronic product that deliver a collection of data. It may be text referring to full text databases, electronic journals, image collections and other multimedia products and numerical, graphical or time bound. These may be delivered on CD-ROM on tape via internet and so on. A number of techniques and related standard have been deployed, which allow document to be created and distributed in electronic form by over past some years in order to fulfill the users demand and provide better facilities. The electronic resources have a vast input on the collection of the libraries and these are more useful due to their inherit capabilities for manipulation and searching; provide information access in cheaper to acquiring information resources, saving in storage and maintenance. E- Resources refer to any work encoded and made available for access through the use of computer. It includes both online and electronic data in physical format. The data may be stored at a remote server in electronic form and could be accessed electronically using internet. This policy covers both free internet resources and electronic resources purchased or licensed by the libraries from a commercial source, professional organization, non-profit organization or any external institution.

Electronic resources represent an increasingly important component of the collection building activities of libraries. Electronic resources refer to those materials that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile device. They may either be accessed remotely via the Internet or locally.

Ayurveda Education and Ayurveda Colleges in Maharashtra (India)

Ayurveda Education in Maharashtra is presently observed by the Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM), a Statutory Central Government body. Ayurveda education is mainly based on a humeral medical system. Ayurveda is not only a medicinal system it is a lifestyle. Ayurveda is a combination of senses, mind, body and soul. It deals not only with the physical aspect but also spiritual health too. The important aspect of Ayurveda is that the ayurvedic treatment cures a particular disease and also finds the root cause of disease. The fundamental aim of Ayurveda is to develop healthy and happy society free from diseases. Two most important aims of Ayurveda are to maintain the health of healthy people and to cure the

diseases of sick people. There are over 63 Ayurved colleges offering Ayurveda education in Maharashtra.

Objectives of the study:

To identify the user needs on e-resources.-To know the use of library services and awareness of electronics resources among users of Ayurved Medical College Libraries.The objectives of the present study are to make an assessment about the use of e-resources by the library members/users of the Ayurved Medical College Libraries. Thus the study is concerned with the following objectives.

- To know how many library members access the e-resources.
- To find out the frequency of usage of the electronic journals. Access in a month.
- To identify the initiator who introduces accessing e-journals to the respondents.
- To find out which materials of e-resources is used more frequently.
- To find out the main advantages of using e-resources.
- To identify the problems faced by the respondents while accessing the e-resource.

Scope and Limitation:

The study confines itself to the use and usage of e-resources by the library members (Students, Faculty, and Non-teaching Staff) of Ayurved Medical College Libraries only. Further among different types of e-resources, the study includes only online electronic journals/databases on the management subjects, which are subscribed & unsubscribed by the library.

Methodology of Study:

For the proposed study, questionnaire method was adopted. Accordingly a structured questionnaire was prepared keeping in mind the objectives of the study then the questionnaire was distributed to the users of library who use the e-resources. The collected data were tabulated and then analyzed with the applications of statistical tools.

Purpose of Using Electronic Resources:

Electronic resources are being used for different purposes by all the library users. users are feeling that by accessing e-resources they can get reliable information, users are using e-resources to preparing their lectures, some users are enhance their research activity through access e-resources. Users are using e-resources to write some papers or books.

Anylysis and Interpretation of Data:

The questionnaire was distributed to 100 numbers of library users, out of which only 77 responded with the filled in questionnaire (77%) with this rate of response it was decided to carry out the analysis work.

Figure-1 shows the out of 100 members 77(77%) responded positively where as 23 (23%) library users did not respond to the questionnaire.

Figure-2 shows the respondent s were aware about the e-resources subscribed by the ayurved college library.

Figure-3 indicates the majority of 53(84.12%) respondents came to know about the e-resources mainly from Library Notice/E-Mail followed by 47(74.60%) 49(77.77%) each from Institute website and Institute Newsletters. It shows that Library Notice/ E-Mail are the chief source of information for users.

Figure-4 shows the majority of 31(49.20%) access online resources daily basis followed by 11(17.46%) twice in a week), 14(22.22%) once in a week, 04(06.34%) once in month and 03(04.76%) when feel like.

Figure-5: shows that the larger number of 42(51.25%) respondents faced problems to accessing the e-journals because the host website is slow followed by 25 (30.48%) facility for copying is not sufficient,10(12.19%), searching of specific e-journals and 8 (9.75%) searching instruction is complicated.
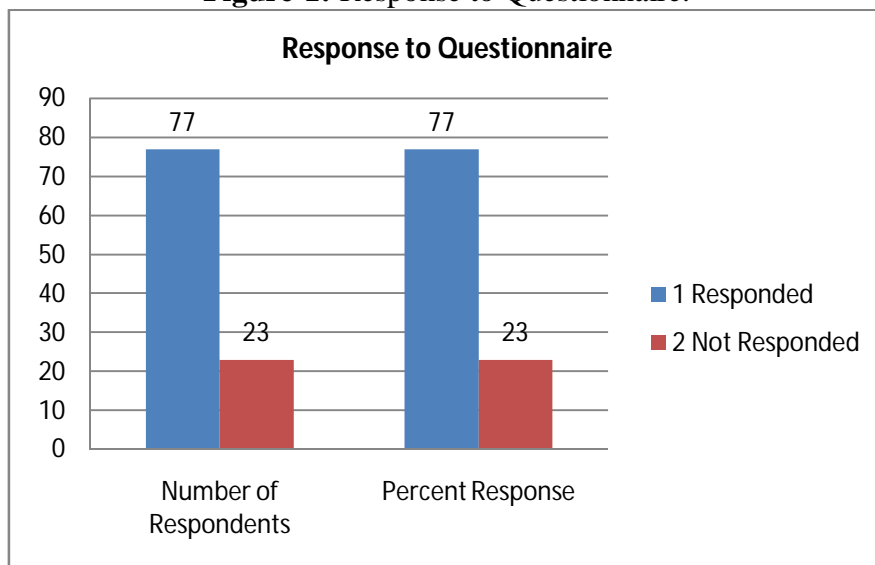
Figure-1: Response to Questionnaire.

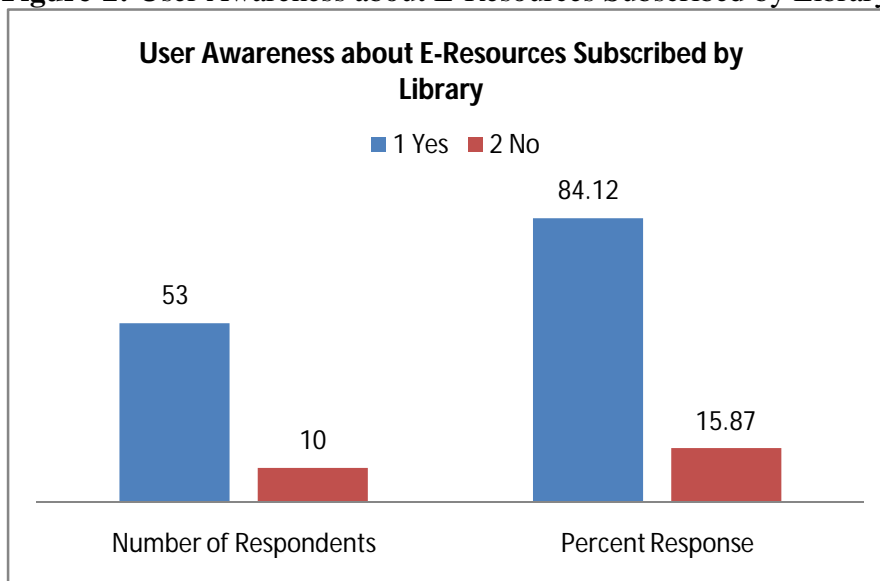**Figure-2:** User Awareness about E-Resources Subscribed by Library.

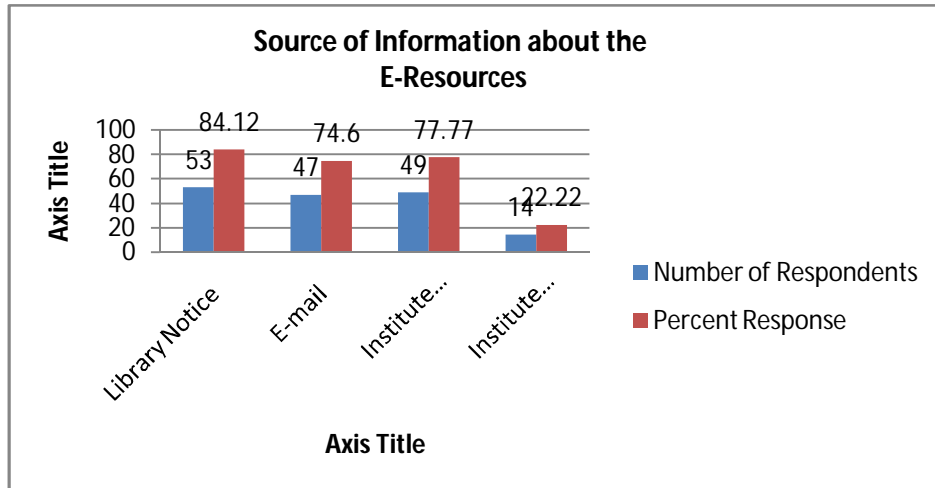**Table 3:** Source of Information about the E-Resources.

Figure-4: Frequency of Access to Online Resource.
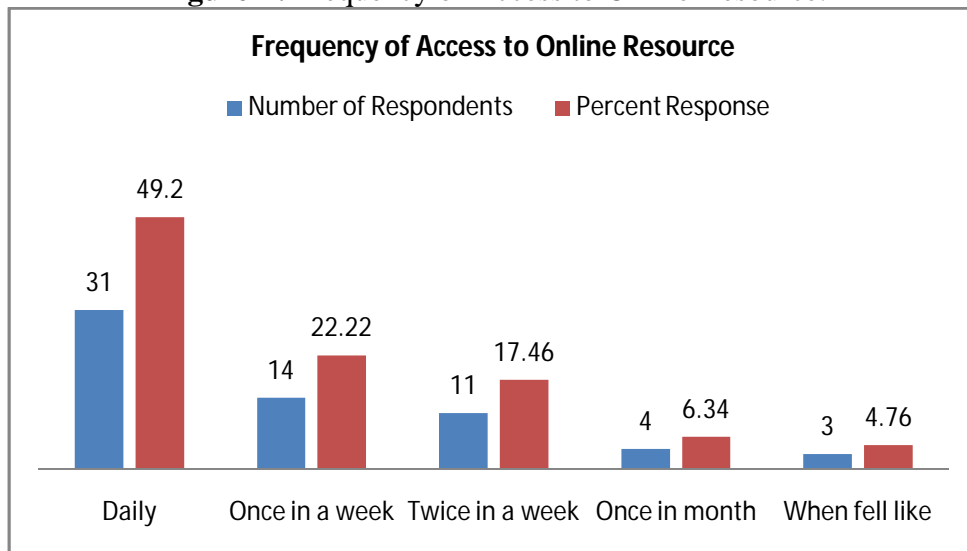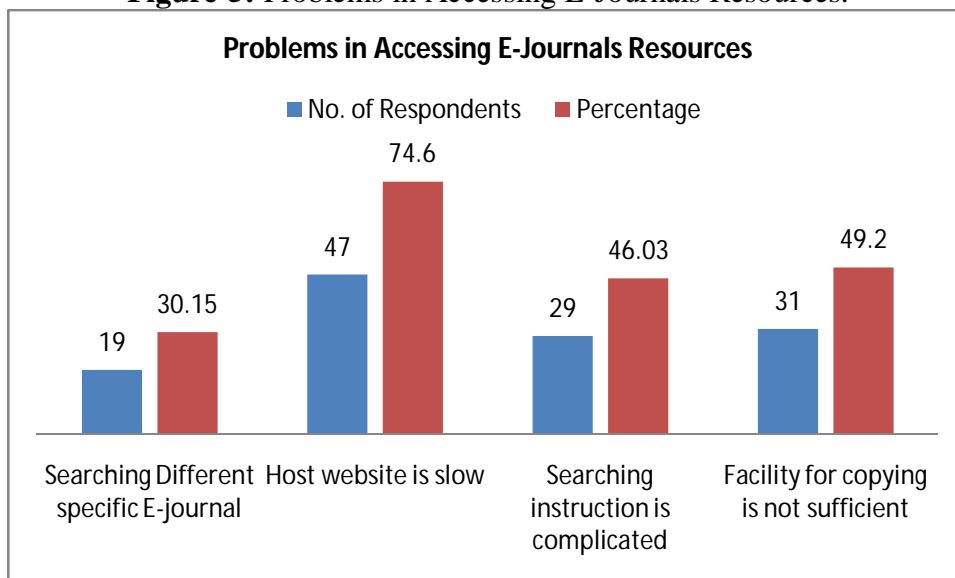

Figure-5: Problems in Accessing E-Journals Resources.

Findings:

The findings of the study are summarized as follows.

It is observed that maximum users are using printed materials; however it is matter of much pleasure that the usages of e-resources are increased. .All users have knowledge of using computer. Almost all members of Ayurved Medical College Library are aware of the e-resources.

- The members were informed about the e- resources of the Ayurved Medical College Library from the Library Notice and e-mail; hence the Library seems to be the main initiator for the use of these e-resources.
- Most of the library members access the e-journals daily, which is a good sign for any academic Institutions.
- Most of the library members access e-journals 10 to 12 hours per week, which is also good sign for any library.
- Ebsco Online Journals are mostly in use by the library members.
- Among different types of materials available online, the respondents mostly use the full text journal.
- The main advantages as opined by the library members are simultaneous usage facilities of e-resources.
- The main problems in accessing the e-resources as pointed by the respondents are the speed of host website which is very slow in some time.

Suggestions:

- The importance of e-resources in any library is immense. Now a day, no library can ignore I advantages over print collections. Ayurved Medical College Library is not an exception to this. However to provide much better service particularly in the usage of e-resources by the members, some suggestion have been made as follows
- More personalized service required to users by the library staff in accessing the e-resource.
- Adequate training programme for users for proper use of e-resources.
- Development of infrastructure facility for accessing e-resources by the users.

Conclusion:

With the information superhighway on its way, we are currently witnessing a paradigm shift from modernity to cybernetic. In this new age, old established theories, frameworks and concepts are under challenge and a fresh breeze of discourse is blowing. There are epoch-making times for the ayurved education and research, which is entering a new era the Mind Extension era. Ayurved Medical College Libraries is one of the models among the top ayurved College in India, which is trying its best in these regards.

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