

Information Use Pattern by Faculty Members and Students of Health Sciences: A Case Study

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***Abstract** - The present paper is mainly focus on the importance of medical information and its effective utilization. This study observes that most of the users are depending library only to get a relevant information for their education. These health science library users are using ip based online resource by the HELINET Consortium and the library users are needed digital resources for the study it is for easy access and time saving. The result of the study would therefore help not only to strengthen the library resources and service but also to know the needs of the users based on their opinions*

Keyword: User perception, Library services, Medical library, Health Sciences.

Introduction

The New Information and Communication Technology has brought significant changes in education. A medical education has also undergone profound changes due to recent technological advancements. Health science institutions, particularly in the developed countries, have invested heavily in information and communication technologies (ICT), not only to deliver education, but also to improve the quality of services that health professionals provide. As well health sciences libraries are setup in medical & nursing colleges to lend support to their basic function of promoting medical education among the medical professionals. Such libraries are entrusted with the responsibility to develop a good collection of documents comprising of medical literature, which is required and demanded by its users. These health science libraries must be well equipped to meet all the users need in a wide range of discipline related to medicine.

Health science institute libraries are special libraries as they tailored to the group of professionals who are associated with medicine and allied sciences. Hence, a special library is also established, supported, and administrated by a private corporation, association, government agency, or other special-interest groups to meet the information needs of its institution's goals. Scope of collections and services is limited to the subject interests of the host or parent organization. Peter Stokes, Christine Urquhart (2011)¹ Findings in this study is students are who has seriousness about the study they much involved in searching information's as they need more information resources, as a part in suggestions by the study librarian can know that information sources which are most useful based can collections will be develop in libraries. Siddiqui, Mohammad Azeem (2011)² study is on medical college library. These libraries must be well equipped to meet all the user's need in wide range of

disciplines related to medicine. As well must cater to the need of medical students, research scholars and faculty cum practitioners. Turoff, Murray and Hiltz, Starr Roxanne (2008)³ A Study on professionals concerned medicine with health and medicine” This is a study for the National Library of Medicine on information requirements for health-related issues in emergency preparedness, management, and response. Mokhtar, Intan Azura et al. (2009)⁴ Report on “Medical and Health Information Seeking among Singapore Youths: An Exploratory Study” This study aimed to find out what were the attitudes of young people in Singapore towards medical or health information seeking.

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study is to understand the “Information use pattern by students and faculty members of Florence nursing institute.

- To assess the collection and service of Florence institute library.
- To know the frequency visit library
- To know time spent in library by user
- To know the purpose for use of information by user.
- To study the use of document sources
- To suggest the possible solution for the future development of the library.

Scope and Methodology

The study is confined to the students and faculty members of Florence Institute of Nursing. Florence Group of Institutions is run by Devanahalli rural education trust (Regd.), which was established in the year 1984 and it is situated at Kalyannagar, Bengaluru. The theme of the trust is good education with strict discipline. In this institution presently around 148 B Sc., Nursing students are studying, and 15 faculties are working. The required data is collected through well designed questionnaire. The questionnaire consists of 18 relevant questions on resources, services and facilities of the library. The questionnaires are distributed to nursing students, faculty members and personal interview have been to the users and librarian.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Number of Respondents

Among the 148 respondents, 106 students were responded with the responding rate (88.33%) and in case faculties respondents, we had distributed 15 questionnaires randomly among the 15 respondents 12 faculty members have responded with responding rate of 80%

Table-1: Number of Respondents

Respondents	Total number of library users	Total number of questionnaires distributed	No. of questionnaires received
Students	148(100%)	120 (81.08%)	106(88.33%)
Faculties	15 (100%)	15 (100%)	12 (80%)
Total	163	135	118

Frequency of visit to library

In this present study we had asked a question to the Nursing Students and Faculties of Florence Institute about the frequency of visit to the library. The below table represents the frequency of visit. Table2 A question was asked to the library users to know how much time they spent every day for reading in library. Table2 highlights the data about frequency of visit to the library. Among the total respondents, 12(11.32%) made visit occasionally and 38 (35.84%) respondents are visiting the library every day. In case of faculty members again large numbers of respondents (33.33%) are visits library once in two days followed by occasionally. Lowest percent (16.66%) of respondents visiting once in a week.

Table-2 Frequency of visit to library

Frequency of visit	No. of Respondents (Students) n=106	No. of Respondents (Faculties) n=12
Every day	38 (35.84%)	03 (25.00%)
Once in two days	24 (22.64%)	04 (33.33%)
Once in week	32 (30.18%)	02 (16.66%)
Occasionally	12(11.32%)	03(25.00%)

Time spent in library

Table - 3 represents the amount of time spent in library. Among the total respondents of students (25.47%) of the respondent's time spent in library between two to three hours, and no one respondents are time spends more than five hours in library and four to five hours also. But in case of faculties large number (75.00%) of respondents spent time for one hour and in case of students (64.15%) spent in library.

Table-3: Time spent in library

Hours of library use	No. of Respondents (Students) n=106	No. of Respondents (Faculties) n=12
One hours	68(64.15%)	09 (75.00%)
Two to three hours	27 (25.47%)	03 (25.00%)
Four to five hours	--	--
More then Five hours	--	--
Not-Responded	11	--
Total	106 (100%)	12 (100%)

Use of documentary sources

Table-4: Purpose of Library visit

Purpose of library visit	No. of Respondents (Students) n=106	No. of Respondents (Faculties) n=12
To barrow book	72 (67.92%)	04 (33.33%)
To read book	38 (35.84%)	03 (25.00%)
To read news papers	13 (12.26%)	03 (25.25%)
To read periodicals	06 (05.66%)	02 (16.66%)

Purpose of library visit

The purpose of library visit will differ from one categories of users to another category of users. Table-4 describes that purpose of library visit. Large number of student (67.92%) and faculties (33.33%) visit library to barrow book and (12.26%) of students and (25.00%) of faculties visit to read newspapers. Interestingly only (05.66%) of students and (16.66%) of faculty visit library for reading subject periodicals.

Table-5: Use of Documentary sources by students

Documentary Sources	n=106 (Respondents)			
	Most often	Often	Occasionally	Not at all
Books	64 60.37%	27 25.17%	09 (08.49%)	-
Periodicals	06 05.66%	13 2.26%	46 (43.39%)	-
Newspapers and Magazines	19 17.92%	40 7.73%	31 (29.24%)	-

Table-5 shows the types of documents used by the respondents. Among the different documentary sources most often readable sources are books (60.37%) and Newspapers and magazines (17.92%). It is observed that good number of students use periodicals occasionally (43.39%) followed by often (12.26). Like students' large number of faculty members also used book (75.00%) most often followed by Newspapers and magazines (25.00%) and periodicals (58.33%). It is significant to note that no one has responded occasionally and not at all it means library user are using documentary sources most often.

Table-6 : Use of Documentary sources by Faculties

Documentary Sources	n=12 (Respondents)			
	Most often	Often	Occasionally	Not at all
Books	09 (75.00%)	02 (16.66%)		--
Periodicals	02 (16.66%)	07 (58.33%)		--
Newspapers and Magazines	03 (25.00%)	03 (25.00%)		--

Opinion about Library facilities

This table reveals that (24.52%) of students and (16.66%) of faculties are fully satisfied with the reading space. And (16.98%) of students and (33.33%) of faculty members are satisfied with the furniture in their library. Opinion bout light and ventilation most of respondent are given positive responses.

Table-7: Opinion about library facilities

Library Facilities	No. of Respondents (Students) n=106			No. of Respondents (Faculties) n=12		
	Fully satisfied	Satisfied	Not satisfied	Fully satisfied	Satisfied	Not satisfied
Space for reading	26 (24.52%)	39 (36.79%)	22 (20.75%)	02 (16.66%)	7(58.33%)	--
Furniture	18(16.98%)	47 (44.33%)	28 (26.41%)	03 (25.00%)	04 33.33%	02 (16.66%)
Ventilation	32 (30.18%)	25 (23.58%)	14 (13.20%)	04 (33.33%)	04(33.33%)	02 (16.66%)
Light	45(45.28%)	52 (49.05%)	08 (07.54%)	03 (25.25%)	5(41.66%)	0108.33%

Opinion about library staff

Most of the respondents (81.13%) are of the opinion that library staffs are always ready to help the users. In case of faculty (75.00%) faculty respondents opined that library, staffs are always ready to help and (08.49%) opined that can't say about the present opinion about library staff

Table-8: Opinion about library staff

User Opinions are	No. of Respondents (Students) n=106	No. of Respondents (Faculties) n=12
Always ready for helps	86 (81.13%)	9(75.00%)
They are not helpful	-	-
Helpful but need patience	-	-
Can't say	09(8.49%)	

Conclusion

Health educational system can work efficiently, and the library should adopt modern techniques and devices in library operations to save the time of library users and the students and teaching staff. In this context the library should at least adopt user education or library orientation programme for effective utilization of existing resources and online databases searching strategies. The result of the study would therefore help not only to strengthen the library, resources and service but also to know the needs of the users based on their opinions.

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