

Usage of e-resources by Students in Subbaiah Medical Institute, Shivamogga: A Study

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***Abstract** - This paper is usage and experience of e-resources in medical students at Subbaiah medical college, Shivamogga, Karnataka. In this study it is try to verify the purpose, frequency, reasons of using and place of students access to e-resources. A well structured questionnaire was administrated to the 100 medical students. The responses 78, the result of study reveals that most of students state that e-resources are informative as well as update the medical knowledge. Search engine and medical research reports are used highly among the students. A study shows that students use e-resources daily and spent more time. It is found that maximum students are aware and use e-resources of library.*

Keywords: E-resources, Use of E-resources, E-journals, Medical students in Subbaiah College.

1. Introduction

The developments of computing technology changed in all fields of education with transacting of information society to the digital world where people access and use information every day faster and easier. E-resources have become highly important learning and teaching aids in almost every field of science. It has created a great revolution in the field of medical publication, data storage and retrieval as a new medium. In medical education, they are of particular interest for the study of anatomy. In this field, the availability of visual information is essential to obtain a functional three-dimensional image of the human body and its tissues. The tremendous growth of medical information publication available in various formats as fast as possible is need which definitely requires information and communication technology. In order to work in compliance with this evolution, medical student need the awareness, skills for management of information and communication effectively and efficiently and the ability to utilise various facilities and equipment in the electronic databases.

Medical students today are very comfortable with electronic resources that have become an integral part as well as facilitate self-directed learning among them. With the rising use of e-resources in higher education, an ever – increasing amount of research has been conducted into its educational value. However, such research has been found to focus on student usage

pattern of e-resources. When developing e-resources in medical education, student need to understand not only their academic value, but also how they use and experience of e-resources. Students need more guidance of the limits of individual logs to a source of information and more assistant to access the clinical data of broader resources such as databases.

2. Subbaiah Institute of Medical Sciences

Subbaiah Institute of Medical Science is a unit of Tadikela Subbaiah Trust (R), Shimoga, (Karnataka), India. The Trust formed in the year 2003 by Sri. T.Subbaramaiah, an agriculturist by calling, and a visionary, imbued with a zeal for taking education and research to regions that would remain seamless in their sweep and sway.

As the head of his family, Sri Subbaramaiah believed that even the longest journey begins with the first step. What then could be surer of foot than beginning it from one's own family? Thus began the saga of the Tadikela Subbaiah Trust, formed under the Indian Trust Act, 1882 as educational trust, and with Sri. T.Subbaramaiah, as the Author, founder-trustee and the Chairman of the Board. The Trust is closely held by the member-trustees, Dr. S. Nagendra, M.D., Dr. S. Srinivas, M.D., Dr. Lata R Telang, MBBS., DGO., Dr. Vinaya Kumari, MBBS., DCP., Mr. Ramachandra Gopal Telang belong to the highly venerated Subbaiah family. Since their induction on the Board, all the trustees are fervently applying their individual training and skills for strengthening medical education in the country, creating dedicated doctors, and, what is more, humanizing medical services for the society.

Reputed for its high quality education and unconstrained learning facilities, students from all parts of India and from overseas gravitate to the College. The College offers courses leading to Medical, Nursing and Dental degrees, and is affiliated to the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Science (RGUHS), Bangalore, and Government of India.

3. Literature Review

Sohail & Alvi concluded that 100% of the students were aware and used for retrieving quick information of web resources as reliable resources generally in cyber café as well as with personal connection and satisfied with the web services provide by college. Bhat & Mudhol observed that anesthesiologist had the first position of satisfaction with all search engines. General medicine and Neurology respondents used e-resources personal desktop/laptops by respondents that seem to be decreased the value of libraries as gateway of e-resources in future. Bhatt & Javed found that the e-resources were used sometimes and occasionally with second preference of the students due to scarcity of ICT infrastructure as well as lack of digital literacy among students. Singh & Gill found that maximum numbers of respondents were aware availability of e-journals and used pdf format for their research work at their office daily. Varghese, et.al had pointed out that 98% of students used the e-resources frequently to varying that usefulness, to prepare for periodic formative and final summative assessments in the course as well as to understand the subject(83%) to answer questions in assessments (86%), to study the subject (59%) and biochemistry interesting (735).

4. Objectives

- To know the purpose of using e-resources by medical students in Subbaiah medical College.
- Identify the types of e-resources used by the medical students.
- To know the frequency of using e-resources.
- Know the awareness about the e-resources.

5. Methodology

The study is limited to use of the e-resources by medical students of the Subbaiah medical college, Shivamogga (Karnataka). The study is based on survey method. The questionnaire tool was used to collect primary data from the medical students. A total 150 questionnaires were distributed randomly among medical students. Out of which 78 students received back with responses. Statistical method usage of e-resources among medical students.

6. Analysis

Medical students were asked to locate the type of e-resources frequently used. It is clear from the table 1 that maximum number of students frequently used search engines (31) and e-research report (35). 9 gave the preference to video to use. However, students did responded regarding the usages preference of e-journals, e-books, EDT, e-encyclopedia and online databases.

6.1 Table-1 Types of medical e-resources used

E-resources	Users of student
e-journals	6 (5.55%)
e-books	6 (5.55%)
ETD	12(11.12%)
Videos	9 (8.34%)
E-encyclopedia	6 (5.55%)
Search engines	31 (28.70%)
e-research report	35 (32.40%)
Online database	3 (2.78%)

Every user has a nature to access e-resources with different approach. A attempt was made to know which approach is mostly used among students. Table 2 shows that title is highly used by students (46) to access different approach. A attempt was made to know which approach is mostly used among medical students. In title is highly used by students 29 students uses author for accessing e-resources. The study further shows that students have no responses the usages of DOI.

6.2 Table-2 Search strategies used for accessing e-resources

Search	Users of student
Author	29 (13.55%)
Title	46 (21.49%)
Subject	36(16.82%)
Keywords	23(10.74%)
Publishers	27 (12.61%)
Boolean search	29 (13.55%)
Truncation/Wildcard search	10 (4.67%)
DOI-based search	12 (5.60%)

To know the access frequency of e-resources, students were asked how frequency they use e-resources. It is clear from table 5 that (51) students use e-resources daily, 21 use once a week. Whereas student give the response that they use e-resources daily.

6.3 Table-3 Frequency of use e-resources

Frequency	Users of student
Daily	51 (65.38%)
Once a week	21 (26.92%)
More than Once a week	6 (7.69%)

6.4 Table-4 Place of accessing of e-resources

The place of e-resources access and describes that 53 students use e-resources at library, 22 students use at home. Data of the table presents that same numbers of students, i.e., 9 use e-resources at computer lab and any other place 9 students use e-resources at department only 2 students use e-resources.

Access Place	Users of student
At computer centre	9 (9.37%)
At Library	53 (55.20)
At home	22 (22.91)
At department	2 (2.08%)
Any Other place	9 (9.37%)

6.5 Table -5 Reasons for not using e-resources

Students were requested to indicate the reasons for not using e-resources. Table – depicts that maximum number of students (31) are not using e-resources because of slow downloading this is followed by more expensive (26), 18 students are not using because of time consuming nature,6 students state that lack of training and lack of time and virus, 3 students state lack of subject coverage. And some of Students given reason (7) any other. There is a significance difference among the reason of not using e-resources by the students.

Reason	Users of student
Lack of Subject coverage	3 (2.92%)
Lack of training	6 (5.82%)
Lack of Time	6 (5.82%)
Time consuming	18 (17.47%)
Slow downloading	31 (30.09%)
More expensive	26 (25.24%)
Virus	6 (5.83%)
Any Other	7 (6.79%)

7. Findings

- The significant among students in relation to the use of various types of e-resources, search strategy, reason for using e-resources and access frequency except purpose. However medical students used frequently used search engines as well as e-research report by title and subject of the required information for updating knowledge.
- Maximum medical students state that e-resources are more informative. The students use e-resources daily. It is interesting to note that a large number of students are aware of the e-resources from library notice/ email and colleagues, and use library to access the e-resources.
- The result found that the satisfaction level was not high among the students on usage of e-resources.

8. Conclusion:

Today all types of medical information is available in electronic formats. The e-resources play a drastic role among the medical students community in accessing and sharing of information. E-resources keep medical students up-to-date over traditional resources. The present study is conducted with the objective to know the e-resources usage patterns among the medical students at Subbaiah College, Shivamogga. Every academic Institute provides different facilities and services to its students. Library is one of the most important facilities among facilities among students to grow the carrier.

9. References

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