

## Use of Library Resources and Services in Pharmacy Colleges of Karnataka: A Literature Review

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**Abstract** - *Review of the literature is very essential for any research. A literature review involves identifying relevant literature or sources of relevant information physically accessing the most relevant literature, reading and analyzing the previous works. Here the author has undertaken a research study entitled 'Use of Library Resources and Services in selected Pharmacy Colleges in Karnataka. As a part of the literature survey, the present study has been conducted. This study aims to identify, collect, and review the literature related to the present study. There are 33 core articles have been reviewed, and those are classified under five major headings viz., Use of Library and Information Resources, Use of Library and Information Services, User's awareness and use of electronic information resources, Satisfaction of Users about information resources and services, Information Seeking behaviour. All articles are thoroughly examined and main observations are summarized.*

**Key Words:** Literature Review, Library Resources, Library Services, Information seeking behaviour

### Introduction:

Review of the literature is very essential for any research. A literature review involves identifying relevant literature or sources of relevant information physically accessing the most relevant literature, reading and analyzing the previous works. The literature review helps the researcher to focus on important issues and variables that have to bear on the research question. Many studies have been conducted on the 'use of library resources and services', and 'electronic information usage', 'satisfaction level of users about the library resources, services and facilities in different academic institutions'. Here Author has undertaken a research study entitled 'Use of Library Resources and Services in selected Pharmacy Colleges in Karnataka. As a part of the literature survey, the present study has been conducted. Here an attempt has been made to review the studies conducted on the usage of academic library resources and services. There are 33 core articles related to user studies have been reviewed, and classified under following broad headings.

1. Use of Library and Information resources
2. User's awareness and use of electronic information resources

3. Use of Library and Information Services
4. The satisfaction of Users about information resources and services
5. Information seeking behaviour

### **Objectives of the study:**

The objectives of this study are:

1. To identify, collect and evaluate relevant literature related to Use of Library and Information Resources.
2. To provide a general overview of the previous studies about the Use of Library and Information Services.
3. To find out the important issues and variables which have a bearing on the User's awareness and use of electronic information resources.
4. To determine the satisfaction level of respondents in the various studies conducted by the researchers.
5. To review the studies conducted on Information Seeking behaviour.

### **Need for the study**

The central mission of a library is to collect, organize, preserve, and provide access to knowledge and information. The prime objective of any academic library is to meet the academic needs of the particular institution for which it is created to serve. Review of literature on the subject clearly shows that a considerable number of user studies have been conducted concerning the use of individual libraries by the various scientists and researchers. The outcome of few such studies which have set examples for the future scholars and the LIS professionals, testing the gravity of the individual library environment, provided sufficient scope for the library concerned to revamp the whole system and to rebuild the library collection to make it more purposive, need-based and meaningful for those it is intended. Many studies have been conducted to know the use of library resources and service in higher learning institutions. Review of related literature is very essential for conducting further research in the light of successive changes in the field of the library. Hence, this study attempts to review and summarize major findings and recommend of previous studies conducted related to the following themes.

#### **1. Use of Library and Information resources:**

Many studies have been conducted on the use of Library and information resources. Rajyabardhan Gartia and Karan Sing (2015) evaluated the use of library resources and services of pharmaceutical colleges in Odisha. Findings revealed that users fairly use the library for their studies and research. It also revealed that resources currently available are adequate and accessible to the users. Whereas Biradar, B.S., Dharani Kumar P. and Mahesh, Y. (2009) conducted a study that revealed, almost users visit the library, information available in all forms is adequate, but the frequency of use of reference sources was very low. The study suggested to participate library in e-consortia activities. Burman, J. S. (2013) study revealed that 68.08% students visit the library for reading textbooks, 87.23% students were aware of the photocopy service, whereas 65.95% students use the internet for educational purpose. 51.06% of students faced the problem while using the library catalogue and 61.7% ask for help to the teacher in using the library resources. 25.53% of students rated the reading area as very good. Students need proper orientation in the use of library resources. Kona, R.,

Chagari, S., & Rudraksha, G. (2017) found from their study that four selected deemed university libraries maintained good library information resources ( both print & electronic), and library users expressed their opinion about library working hours, physical facility, library information resources and services are excellent and good. Naganna, N. and Mallinath, K. (2016) study investigates the information use pattern by the students of Agricultural Science Colleges in Karnataka. The findings of the study would put light on the important data and insight into the current state of practices of students and their understanding of information use pattern. The outcome and suggestions of the study would be beneficial for them to take appropriate measures to improve their information use pattern. Arumugam, R., et. al. (2015) suggested that college management need to encourage the users to participate in the National level conferences and seminars to update their knowledge and that study tries to bring out the limelight information of the beneficiaries of the library system. Nowadays students are very much interested to seek the information in a different way. Information is an essential raw material for all human endeavors in a complex modern society. Nkebukwa, L. L. (2015) has been undertaken a study that assesses students access and use of library resources in promoting business education and development in Tanzania. The findings revealed that books, past papers, journals and electronic resources are the major resources used at the main library. Also, the findings revealed the challenges facing library users which include restricted of reading hours, the inadequacy of reading space, problems of internet connectivity, insufficient number of computers as opposed to the number of students, insufficient number of qualified library staff to assist users in searching for both print and electronic information. Jayaraman, I. et al. (2015) Conducted a study on Role of libraries in Pharmacy Education and Perceptions of library Professionals about their job. Pharmacy colleges have numerous resources Almost all the pharmacy college libraries perform the data entry, circulation services. Some colleges maintain reports and database services (73.5%). Digital library initiative started in many colleges (75.2%). Very few colleges do have connecting networks like UGC INFLIBNET (1.7%), DELNET (2.2%). No pharmacy college has Current Awareness Services (CAS)/Selective Designated Information (SDI) services and computerized bibliographic service. The library professionals' of all designations do have a high level of job satisfaction. Jadhav, V. S., et.al. (2015) in their article entitled information sources used by professionals of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad. It was seen that the professionals required information for their seminar that is 7(63.63%) and the least requirement for the examination. Majority of professionals used the Internet as a source of information. There were 81.81% browsing Internet for E-mail and E-resources 100% of professionals from Library and Information Science and Law department browse the Internet for E-mail and E-resources. No one preferred Internet for OPAC and any other specific reason. 90.91% Professionals faced difficulties in browsing the Internet-based information sources due to lack of accessibility and only 9.09% of professionals need the training.

After reviewing above studies, it is clear that almost users visit the library frequently, and purpose of the visit is to study and research, majority of users visit the library to consult textbooks and frequency of use of reference sources was below average. Many studies suggested that users need to attend in seminars and conferences to update their knowledge, libraries need to participate in library consortia and at the same time it need to create awareness among the users about their resources. Books, past papers, journals and e-resources are major resources used by the students and faculty members.

## **2. User's awareness and use of electronic information resources:**

Many user studies have conducted on the use, use pattern and awareness about electronic information resources. Mary Isabella and Mohammed Ismail (2012) conducted a study on pharmacy colleges in Chennai city and come to the conclusion that Electronic resources are highly useful for the academic community. To enhance the use of e-resources, more awareness programmes should be organized by the college authorities, and educate the user about the facilities and benefits available with the electronic format as compared to print. Special training should be given to the student community how to make use of e-journals and how to retrieve the e-resources. Well-defined and proper infrastructure facilities remain to be an encouraging factor for the use of e-resources. From their study, they concluded that the academic communities of pharmacy colleges are very much interested to access the e-resources. Bhatia, J. K. (2011) observed in her study the users of the college, in particular, the students, are loaded with the assignment and learning their own in the present day competitive academic environment. Information seeking and gathering could be a challenging task to the users with limited resources and services available in college library. The internet has attracted the attention of the users as an easy source for accessing information and e-resources as evident from the study. Faizul Nisha Naushad Ali P.M., (2012) examined the use of e-journals by the users of IIT Delhi and Delhi University. From the survey they found that most of the users are aware of e-journals and they are not only using them for building and updating their knowledge but also for collecting relevant material for their study and research purposes as information can be acquired expeditiously through e-journals. The main aim of consulting these journals is for retrieving information regarding, research, publishing research papers and manuscripts, assignments, presentations, seminars, and largely to update their knowledge. Gupta, S. K., & Sharma, S. (2017) conducted a study that focused on the awareness, purpose, satisfaction and importance in the use of Digital Information Resources and Services amongst the users of Central Library of IIT Guwahati. The study revealed that among the digital information resources, the majority of users are aware of e-books and e-journals and find these resources important for their study and research. Majority of respondents are aware of OPAC / Web OPAC service and are using the service very frequently. The finding of the study shows that the purpose of using digital information resources and services amongst the users is to search for relevant literature. 70.9% of the respondents satisfied with the available digital information resources and services. Prabakaran, T. (2013) Conducted a study entitled Use of E-Resources among the Faculty Members of Agricultural in Annamalai University. The study showed that the purpose of e-resources for updating knowledge occupies the first place and to Entertainment occupies the last place. And respondent's access to search engines for Google got the first position and YouTube got the last position. Use of e-resources in teaching for preparing lecture occupies the first position, enriching the curriculum occupies the second position and lab classes occupy the last position. Rajawat, K. (2016) Conducted a study entitled Information Communication Technology (ICT) Based Library & Information Services in Pharmacy College of Rajasthan an appraisal. Results of the study showed that most of the Libraries have CD-ROM, E-Journals and Audio –Video. Some Pharmacy college libraries fully automated, some partially automated and some adopted manual method. Pharmacy college libraries are using classification system CC, DDC, UDC, and other cataloguing system CCC, AACR, and other , circulation system using Browne, Newark, Register, Computerized and other, Form of Catalogue using card, computerized and other. Most of the libraries connected with network facility. Most of the libraries using CSIR. INFLIBNET and INDEST-AICTE. Gurikar, R., & Gurikar, R. (2015) conducted a study to know the available information sources in the Karnataka university library and its usage pattern among the research scholars in different faculty. The study showed that how the usage of the information resources changing from print to e-resources and more users are eager to use

electronic resources. Biradar, B. S., & Kumar, D. V. (2014) Conducted a survey which aimed to identify the needs and requirements of library users in general and to know the use of UGC-INFONET e-resources in the Kuvempu University by female students of science stream in particular. The study revealed that 85% of student use UGC-INFONET consortium. That study highlighted the problems of students in accessing UGC-INFONET consortium. It also tried to emphasize on users satisfaction towards this consortium. A study conducted by Kaur, K., & Kathuria, K. (2016) that focused on the use and awareness of different e-resources available in Punjab Agricultural University Library. The use of consortia and databases is also analyzed. The findings of the study revealed that electronic resources have become an integral part of the information for various features such as easy download and fast searching capability. Although e-resources have eased the task of the researcher, respondents still prefer information in both print as well as electronic formats.

There are significant output observed from the above studies that E-resources are highly useful for the academic community. Many studies suggested to enhance the use of e-resources, more awareness programmes need to be organized by the college authorities, and educate the user about how to use e-resources and the advantages of electronic format as compared to print. Proper ICT infrastructure facilities are the main encouraging factor to promote the use of e-resources. The Internet has attracted the attention of the users as an easy source for accessing information. Many studies revealed that the majority of respondents are aware of e-books, e-journals, e-theses and OPAC / Web OPAC service and those resources and services are using most frequently. E-resources are not only using for building and updating the knowledge but also for collecting relevant material for study, teaching, preparing research papers, assignment and seminar purpose. Most of the Libraries connected with network facility using CSIR, INFLIBNET and INDEST-AICTE. Users are satisfied with e-resources and services.

### **3. Use of Library and Information Services:**

Library and information centers of any institution offer variety of services to their user community; based on their information needs. Various studied have conducted on the use of library services. Daxa, L .Gajera and Neharika Udani (2013) Suggested improving the situation of pharmacy colleges within the Gujarat technology university region. The library needs to conduct user studies and suggest suitable measures to reader's problem in the use of library collection. In addition, the college library should have a separate reading room and reference section. The librarian should provide current awareness service to inform about the new arrivals, journal contents. Popoola, S. O. (2001) has conducted a study on faculty awareness and use of library information products and services in South-West Nigeria universities. The study found that there was a significant difference in faculty awareness on library information products and services. In addition, they did not have sufficient knowledge of those library products and services pertinent to their teaching and research activities. The survey also revealed that the level of knowledge of faculty, staff had a positive relationship with the frequency of use, consultation with the librarians, faculty status and membership of library committees. Lamptey, R. B. (2010) conducted a study that explains why various library services have been developed to promote and facilitate the effective use of recorded information in all formats by users. And also examines the resources available and services offered by the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) Library. The study concludes that, in spite of library budget cuts, KNUST library has made systematic efforts in promoting effective use of its resources by its users. It then makes recommendations to facilitate the more effective and efficient use of KNUST Library

resources. Geetha, M. et. al (2016) have gone through a survey to identify how the resources and services of libraries are being utilized by the students of two engineering college libraries (PESITM and JNNCE) in Shivamogga city. The findings of the study revealed that the difficulties in locating the needed materials by the students and lack of latest collection are true for both college libraries, and are the major causes amongst other problems. The observed difference between PESITM and JNNCE library services. Services offered in both libraries differ in some cases such as: Digital library, Virtual Library and E-resources. Recommendations from the study presented are: both libraries under this study should improve physical facilities such as study rooms; proper lighting and ventilation, etc.; and speed up and complete the computerization of library services. Naqvi, T. H. (2014). Studied the use of Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology (GBPUAT) library collection and services by postgraduate students and research scholars. The findings showed that the library's collection and library services were the most used among the P.G. students and research scholars for different purposes like research work, project work, study, personal work etc. It was also observed that CD-ROM databases, e-journals and online databases were the highly used e-resources. Moreover, electronic and online databases such as AGRIS, AGRICOLA, CAB Abstract and Agriculture & Natural Resources were the highly used databases among the PG students and research scholars. Nkamnebe, E. C., Udem, O. K., & Nkamnebe, C. B. (2014) conducted a study that evaluated the use of library resources and services by students of Paul University, Awka in Anambra State, Nigeria. Observation shows that respondents use the library most during examination periods. The study also revealed that resources currently available are fairly adequate and fairly accessible to the students. Furthermore, the study revealed that users are satisfied with the services and facilities provided by the library. It was recommended among others that the habit of using the Library should be inculcated into students through avenues such as organizing library display, library exhibition, library orientation, and inclusion of the use of the library as a course in the University's curriculum to attract students to the Library. Khan, G., Bhatti, R., & Khan, A. (2014) surveyed the utilization of resources, services and facilities of the Central Library of the University of Peshawar by the students. The findings reveal that most of the respondents visited the library to study course books, consult reference materials and to retrieve unpublished documents for information needs. Majority of the respondents indicated that the library provided effective services. They were satisfied with the lighting system, ventilation facilities, reading tables and staff behaviour with end-users. However, lack of e-resources, inadequate collection and insufficient physical facilities were the major problems in the effective use of library collection and services. Kumbar, M., & Lohar, M. S. (2002) study revealed the main intention for the use of the library was the academic interest of the users. The main purpose of respondents to visit the library was to consult textbooks, reference books and to get current and general information. Respondents expressed their opinion about library facilities, which is not adequate, they also dissatisfied with lighting, ventilation and other physical facilities.

After analyzing above studies, it is observed that many studies have pointed out on various aspects of library services such as the need of separate reading room and reference section and proper lighting and ventilation, speed up of internet and complete the computerization of library services. Librarians need to provide current awareness service, to inform about the new arrivals, journal contents etc. On the light of the above studies, the present study also going to investigate the use of library services in selected pharmacy colleges in Karnataka.

#### **4. The satisfaction of Users about information resources and Services:**

Veena, G., & Kotari, P. N. (2016) conducted a study to examine the user's satisfaction about library facilities, resources and services of the SDM College Library, Ujire. The findings of the study showed that 59% of respondents have the habit to visit the library on daily basis, a majority (86.7%) of respondents are highly satisfied with the collection of general books, and 70.0% are highly satisfied with the collection of textbooks, 53.3% respondents considered circulation services as excellent. The study suggested that the college library should carry out user studies at regular intervals, in order to identify user's information needs and their information gathering behaviours. Saikia, M., & Gohain, A. (2013) study investigates about the use of library resources, user satisfaction on library resources and services and information-seeking behaviours of the students and research scholars of Tezpur University. Findings revealed that 39.62 % ( 63) respondents were highly satisfied with the collection of online journals, while 37.74% (60) respondents were satisfied with the collection of textbooks. Out of seven library resources, the level of satisfaction of other library resources were indicated as newspaper/magazine (35.22%(56); Back volumes., 32.08%(51); reference sources, 30.82%(49); theses/project, 29.56%(47) and CD/DVD/VCD, 24.53%(39)of respondents. Khan, A., Bhatti, R., Khan, G., & Ismail, M. (2014). Surveyed on students' utilization of resources, services, and facilities of the Central Library of the University of Peshawar, Pakistan. Students were satisfied with the lighting system, ventilation facilities, reading tables, and staff behaviour with end-users. However, the lack of e-resources, inadequate collections, and insufficient physical facilities was identified as major issues in the effective use of library collections and services. Ali, M. (2014) Conducted a study, the results revealed that the Frequency of daily visitors to libraries is very low, as the majority of users prefer to visit monthly or weekly basis. Libraries must take proper steps in order to catch a good number of readers on a daily basis. Majority of the users are not satisfied with the quality of periodicals, so libraries should revise their present policy of periodical selection. In the survey of Biradar, B. S., & Kumar, D. V. (2014) it was highlighted the problems of students in accessing UGC-INFONET consortium. It also tried to emphasize on users satisfaction towards this consortium. Whereas in the study of Gupta, S. K., & Sharma, S. (2017) the purpose of using digital information resources and services amongst the users is to search for relevant literature. 70.9% of the respondents satisfied with the available digital information resources and services. In case of a study conducted by Nkamnebe, E. C., Udem, O. K., & Nkamnebe, C. B. (2014) that evaluated the use of library resources and services by students of Paul University, Awka in Anambra State, Nigeria the study revealed that users are satisfied with the services and facilities provided by the library such as reprography, reference, lending service, user education and so on.

Above studies have been addressed on the satisfaction level of library users about information resources, services and facilities provided by the library. In some studies, users are highly satisfied with resources and services and in many studies, users showed dissatisfaction about the library resources, services, and facilities. In the present study, an attempt has been made to know the satisfaction level of users about pharmacy college library resources, services, and facilities.

## 5. Information seeking behaviour:

Jayaraman, R., et al. (2011) conducted a study to know the various modes of literature search, the purpose of visit, type of information gathered, frequency of library visit and time spent in the library. The study revealed that there is the significant difference among the users of different colleges of Tamil Nadu Agriculture University (TNAU) in the preference of various channels of Agricultural information, modes of literature search, the purpose of visit to the library and time spent in the library. Nazir, T., & Ali, M. (2014) Conducted a study to evaluate library collections, facilities and services of degree colleges of Srinagar, Kashmir. The results reveal that the Frequency of daily visitors to libraries is very low as the majority of users prefer to visit monthly or weekly basis. Libraries must take proper steps in order to catch a good number of readers on a daily basis. Majority of the users are not satisfied with the quality of periodicals, so libraries should revise their present policy of periodical selection. The study also reveals that most of the users prefer to use textbooks and seek assistance from the library staff. The findings of the study will be helpful to higher authorities and librarians of the colleges in terms of knowing the collection, user perspectives and services and made them aware about the strength and weakness of the library. Singh, N., & Mann, A. S. (2015). Conducted a survey on 'Information seeking behaviour of lawyers of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana'. The study exposed that under influence of ICT the majority of respondents are using the Internet and e-resources to access information. At the same time, the importance of print format has not reduced as  $\frac{3}{4}$  of respondents have a preference to use both print as well as e-resources to find the required information. The study concluded with the need for library professionals to adopt a practical approach to prove their worth to the law professionals by satisfying user's information needs. Mavodza, J. (2011). Conducted a survey that seeks to comment on the information-seeking behaviour of Metropolitan College of New York (MCNY) library users. The study was based on database usage patterns from January 2007 to December 2010, as well as a literature review. Findings of the study suggest the position that database usage statistics can give insight into information behaviour and help in collection management decisions, but on their own are not sufficient to give the complete picture. The outcomes may be useful in the design of library instruction sessions in future student groups in the college as well as in post-secondary settings, in addition to informing collection management decisions. A study of library database use patterns by library users brought out relevant information relating to the tailoring and improvement of library service.

Above studies highlighted on the information-seeking behaviour such as various modes of literature search, the purpose of library visit, type of information gathered, frequency of library visit and time spent in the library preference to use both print as well as e-resources to find the required information. Some studies pointed out lack of e-resources, inadequate collections, and insufficient physical facilities were identified as major issues in the effective use of library collections and services. Some studies also reveal that most of the users prefer to use textbooks and seek assistance from the library staff. Findings of the above studies will be helpful to higher authorities and librarians of the colleges in terms of knowing the collection, user perspectives and services and made aware them about the strength and weakness of the library.

## Conclusion:

After reviewing the above studies, it is very clear that the literature search is an important step of research. Before starting a research work one should go through the existing literature



related to the selected topic. It gives a clear direction to the researcher to know what have already done and the scope for further research is. It is observed that very less number of studies conducted on the use of library resources and services of Pharmacy college libraries. All of the above research studies conducted in their own direction with their own area, scope and limitation and got different findings and results. Hence on the light of above studies, the present study also covers various aspects i.e. extent of use of library resources and services, the relevancy of resources to users and satisfaction of users about services, infrastructure and facility. This study also intends to suggest some creative measures to the betterment of library resources and services in selected Pharmacy colleges.

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