

## USER AWARENESS AND USE OF E-JOURNAL AMONG PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES LIBRARY IN AHMEDABAD: A SURVEY

**Mr. Chauhan Chetan K.**

Librarian  
Cadila Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Ahmedabad  
Chauhanchetan2000@yahoo.com

### ABSTRACT

*All libraries are undergoing changes in the digital age, but pharmaceutical libraries face additional issues that are unique to the health care system. For example, Research and development is creating enormous amounts of information. And also pharmaceutical library provide e-journals to users. Electronic journals are one of the products of information and communication technologies. The advancement of e-journal during recent years has given libraries a powerful new resource to support learning and research. This study report the result of a survey conducted at pharmaceuticals library users in Ahmedabad to determine the extent to which user are aware and make use of e-journals. The study also examines the search pattern of e-journal. This questionnaire is an online, online questionnaire was distributed among the pharmaceuticals library and also pharmaceuticals person by e-mail with URL.*

**Keywords:** Pharmaceutical companies Library, E-journals, Online Databases, User study.

### INTRODUCTION:

E-journals and online databases are undoubtedly less widespread in the Humanities than in the Scientific, Technical and Medical (STM) field. This is not just because of a lag in Humanities journals' development, but also because of the different extent to which electronic publishing technologies fit respectively the different nature and requirements of disciplines. The growth rate in usage of electronic information resources is sufficient high and if this trend continues for few more years, a time may come when the print versions will get 'totally eclipsed'. The coming of the World Wide Web has propelled this vigorous growth of the electronic forms of communication, which simple do not fit into the traditional publishing format. With the coming of the age of the e-journals, the ways scholarly communication is disseminated throughout the world has totally altered. Internet is now a hug source of academic, research and development and general information. Internet facilitates the sharing of information all over the world. It is like a global library that everyone can access at time. It is a global venue where everyone can present their knowledge and information. Earlier library served information in traditional media whereas computers like the information in digital media. In this way internet is a library that transcends space and media. Internet has become one of the most effective media for selection, collection, storage, management and dissemination of information in the gamut of knowledge. It works round the clock and connects every nook and corner of the globe. It is one of the important services of the information storage and retrieval process, which has reached millions of people. In the

1960s and 1970s, librarians were using electronic databases as a part of library services. In the 1980s, libraries started using CD-ROM versions of electronic databases. In 1990s and from 2000 onwards, Internet access and consortia approach of journals subscriptions diversified the availability of electronic information. Presently many libraries in India have provisions to access the same electronic information in multiple ways.

### **PHARMACEUTICALS USERS**

Majority users in pharmaceuticals library is scientists and doctors, they always required for print articles, e-articles, scientific literatures, online databases. And pharmaceuticals librarian always satisfied to Pharma library users for his service. The user of scientific Journals and Databases required access to high-quality, published information. Journal content which comes mainly from the peer-reviewed output from commercial and society publishers is needed throughout the various phases of R & D. Electronic access is expected in a seamless and integrated fashion, where the steps from performing a search, retrieving results and references, and finally accessing full text and document delivery services needs to be just a mouse click away.

If Pharma librarians look at how e-journals and databases are used within this community I can highlight the following pattern. E-articles are needed for the use of R&D scientists to support them in their professional need to keep informed on scientific progress and support their own research activities.

### **E-JOURNALS**

Journals in a library play vital role in distributing nascent facts and primary information to users. They publish articles and papers on recent research and development, particularly in the ever changing fields of management, science, and technology. Advent of electronic journals (e-journals) during recent years has given librarians a powerful new resource to support learning and research. Lot of journals, in all fields, both printed as well as electronic, are currently available electronically via web. Availability ranges from table of contents to the full text. Some journals only exist in their online format and others have both printed as well as electronic versions. The impact of e-journals on library collection, services, and administration is complex. Electronic version of journals changes the publication system entirely. They provide easy access to a journal and thereby save time. Keyword search ability, accessibility at the time of publication, etc., are some of the features of e-journals. Despite various advantages and popularity, e-journals have failed to replace or displace printed journals and act more as supplement to printed journals. Today most of the e-journals appear as parallel version of their print counterparts.

### **FEATURES OF ELECTRONIC JOURNALS**

E-journals offer many opportunities to today's users that were not available to their predecessors. Because of the multidimensional features of e-journals, they are becoming the choice library users. Electronic journals can be accessed round the clock across geographical barriers, which make e-journals omnipresent. The e-journals get published or reach the subscribers much before their counterparts. Another important feature of e-journals is that more than one person can access them at a time. Moreover, articles can be downloaded and printed simultaneously by more than one reader, depending on access rights and permission. Electronic journals offset the missing issue problems. If a particular volume of print version of the journal is not complete, library staff can download and print all the articles available

online or can save it in digital form till the hard copy is supplied by the publisher. Electronic journals also include multimedia and graphics and text search is much easier and less cumbersome. Electronic journals are better for the environment, by reducing the space; dust and the air pollution. The hypertext available in the electronic journal will directly link to the areas of greatest interest and results in creative reading. Electronic publication provides online submission of manuscripts and we can also keep track of the submitted manuscripts with the reference number. This reduces the time of publication of manuscripts. The content of the electronic journal can be reproduced, forwarded, modified, and leading to possible problems with copyright protection and preserving authenticity.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of the present study are as follows:

1. To find out the how many pharmaceuticals library in use e-journals.
2. To find out the awareness of users about available e-journals.
3. To study the purpose and utilization of e-journals.
4. To find out the frequency of using e-journals.
5. To find out the hindrances and problems faced by the users while accessing and using e- journals.
6. To study the level of satisfaction of users about availability and coverage of e-journals.
7. To study the preferred format for using e-journals.
8. To study the satisfaction level of users about infrastructure to support the access of e-journals.

### METHODOLOGY

The Present study was conducted using online questionnaire-based survey method along pharmaceuticals company library in Ahmedabad. We received 118 filled online questionnaires from pharmaceuticals library user. The data collected were tabulated and analyzed. Statistical techniques of percentage of respondents have been mainly used to analyze the collective data.

#### Data Analysis:

The data collected were analyzed and inferences derived, based on standard statistical techniques. The results of the study are as under:-

**Table- 2(Gender)**

Sr. No	Gender	Number	Percentage
1	Male	67	56.77%
2	Female	51	43.23%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Gender:** It is shown in table-2, 56.77% of population studied was males and only 43.23% total were females, they all participant of this studies.

**Table- 3 Pharmaceutical Companies**

Sr. No	Pharma Companies (Ahmedabad)	Number	Percentage
1	Cadila Pharmaceutical Ltd	32	27.12%
2	Zydus Pharmaceutical Ltd	24	20.34%
3	Torrent Pharmaceutical Ltd	12	10.17%
4	Intas Biopharmaceutical Ltd	15	12.71%
5	Claris Life Science Ltd	19	16.10%
6	Other	16	13.56%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Pharmaceutical Companies:** In this question we found selected pharmaceutical companies in Ahmedabad. Table-3, shows Cadila pharmaceutical filled 27.12% online questionnaire, Zydus Pharmaceutical Ltd filled 20.34%, Torrent Pharmaceutical Ltd filled 10.17%, Intas Biopharmaceutical Ltd 12.71%, and Claris Life Science Ltd filled 16.10%, other pharmaceutical filled 13.56%.

**Table 4 Pharmaceutical major department using library or library services**

Sr. No.	Department	Number	Percentage
1	CRO	19	16.10%
2	R&D	21	17.80%
3	Medical Services	22	18.64%
4	Pharmacology	11	09.34%
5	Bio-Tech	9	07.62%
6	F&D	12	10.16%
7	Chemical	8	06.78%
8	Other	16	13.56%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Pharmaceutical major department using library:** Data presented in table- 4 pharmaceuticals major department using library and library services, CRO respondents 16.10%, R&D respondents 17.80%, Medicals services respondents 18.64%, Pharmacology respondents 09.34%, Bio-Tech respondents 07.62%, F&D 10.16%, Chemical 06.78% and other department using library services 13.56%.

**Table 5 Frequency of access internet**

Sr. No.	Frequency of access to internet	Number	Percentage
1	Less Than 2 Hours	0	0
2	2- 3 Hours	8	06.78%
3	3-4 Hours	11	09.32%
4	4-5 Hours	46	38.99%
5	Above 5 Hours	53	44.91%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Frequency of access internet:** - Users were also asked as to frequency to access internet, majority of access internet About 5 Hours 44.91%, 4-5 hours 38.99%, 3-4 hours 09.32%, 2-3 hours 06.78%, and less than 2 hours internet 0%.

**Table 6**  
**Frequency of using E-journals**

Sr. No.	Purpose of Using E-Journals	Number	Percentage
1	Daily	29	24.58%
2	Thrice a week	17	14.40%
3	Twice a week	18	15.25%
4	Once in a week	20	16.95%
5	Once in a fortnight	15	12.71%
6	As and when required	19	16.11%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Frequency for using e-journals:** - Table 6 reveals 24.58% of user's access e-journals daily, 15.25% of user's access e-journals twice a week, and 14.40% of respondents use E-journals thrice a week. 16.95% users use e-journals once in a week, 12.71% users need to access e-journal once in a fortnight and only 16.11% user's access as they required.

**Table 7 Purpose of using E-Journals**

Sr. No	Purpose of Using E-Journals	Number	Percentage
1	For update subject knowledge	25	21.19%
2	For research work	46	38.99%
3	For writing papers	19	16.11%
4	Other	28	23.71%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Purpose of using E-Journals:** -From Table 7 it is clear that most of the respondents 38.99% using e-journals for their research work, 21.19% of users using e-journals for update subject knowledge and 23.71% user's using e-journal facility for other works like general awareness, etc. Only 16.11% using this facility for writing papers.

**Table 8 Difficulty of accessing E-journals**

Sr. No	Difficulty of accessing E-journals	Number	Percentage
1	Lack of infrastructure	17	14.41%
2	Unorganized	26	22.03%
3	Difficult to read from screen	33	27.97%
4	Lack of training	6	05.08%
5	Preference to paper journals	24	20.34%
6	Time consuming	12	10.17%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Difficulty of accessing E-journals:** Even though e-journals are very important source of information, but there are some problems faced by users. Table 8 reveals that 27.97% of users found Difficult to read from screen are a major problem, 22.03% users find Unorganized is difficulty in using e-journals, 20.34% users give more preference to paper journals than e-journals, 14.41 users find it Lack of infrastructure, and 10.17 user thought accessing e-journals is time consuming, only 05.08% users find e-journals as Lack of training..

**Table 9 Preference Level of using Journals**

Sr. No	Preference level of using E-journals	Number	Percentage
1	Print version	29	24.58%
2	Electronic version	58	49.15%
3	Both	31	26.27%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Preference level of using journals:** - Here an attempt to know the type of journals, preference level of using journals like print or electronic or both. The result reveals that 49.15% of users want to access only electronic journals, only 24.58% users want to read from print journals and 26.27% users want to access from both print as well as electronic form of journals.

**Table 10 most preferred format for E-journals**

Sr. No	Most preferred for E-Journals	Number	Percentage
1	HTML	19	16.10%
2	PDF	63	53.39%
3	Both	36	30.51%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Most preferred format for E-journals:** - Users were also asked to prepared format for E-journals like HTML, PDF or Both. The result reveals that 53.39% of respondents want to PDF format. Only 16.10% users say need to HTML format, and 30.51 users want access e-journals both format (PDF and HTML)

**Table 11 usually searching for Journals articles**

Sr. No.	Searching for Journals articles	Number	Percentage
1	Google search	25	21.19%
2	Pub-med search	36	30.51%
3	Science Direct	19	16.09%
4	EBSCO	17	14.41%
5	MD Consult	09	07.63%
6	Other	12	10.17%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Usually searching for Journals articles:** - pharmaceuticals library users search for his/ her on disk computer or library computer and search different type of e-journals, it is clear that most of the respondents 30.51% users search e-journals in Pub-med, 21.19% users search e-journals in Google, 16.09% users search e-journals in Science Direct database, 14.41 % users want to search EBSCO database. Only 07.63% users search MD Consult databases.

**Table 12 Satisfaction of accessing E-journals**

Sr. No	Satisfaction of accessing E-journals	Number	Percentage
1	Highly satisfied	61	51.69
2	Satisfied	26	22.03
3	Average	23	19.49
4	Not Satisfied	08	06.79
	<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Satisfaction of accessing E-journals:** - A question was asked to know the satisfaction level of accessing e-journals. It was observed that majority 51.69% of respondents are highly satisfied. 22.03% respondents to satisfied, 19.49% Average, and only 06.79% of respondents are not satisfied with the same.

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