



USE OF E-RESOURCES AND SERVICES BY THE STUDENTS OF NARAYANA MEDICAL COLLEGE, NELLORE: A STUDY.

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ABSTRACT

The study is aimed at finding the use of e-resources by the MBBS students of in the Narayana Medical College Library, Nellore. Access to e-resources from Internet is increasing day-by-day in the present society. E-books, e-journals and e-databases are most important to the library. Analysis of data collected from 86 MBBS students of Narayana Medical College using a questionnaire reveals that all the students are aware of e-resources over one fourth of them, (26.58%) using browsing centre. The study shows that 44.19% of them are visiting the library daily. Nearly one-third of them (32.56%) are using Pub Med. A high percentage of them (44.19%) are fully satisfied with e-resources. Nearly one-fourth of the students are facing the problem of low speed of internet.

KEYWORDS: Medical College Library, e-resources and services, user studies

1. INTRODUCTION:

Electronic Resources is one of the emerging environ-



ment in libraries and Information communication in the competitive service. E-Resources usually consist of e-books, e-journals, e-newspapers, e-thesis, e-dissertations, e-databases e-audios, web pages, e-mails, e-images, OPAC and CD-ROMs, which are likely to be the alternative to the print media. MEDLINE, MEDLERS, Pub Med, Emerald, Scopus are some of the examples of online databases. All updated information is published in these e-resources. The familiarity and use of electronic information resources available in the libraries is necessary for users of medical college libraries. The aim of this study is to identify how electronic information resources are utilized by academic library users. Further the study also

examines the frequency of use of electronic resources place of using, satisfaction with e-resources and problems faced by the users in accessing e-resources.

2. OBJECTIVES

The following are the objectives of the study

- To know the purpose of using e-resources, and place
- To examine the frequency of using e-resources
- To know the students awareness of e-resources; and
- To identify the problems faced by the respondents while accessing the e-resources.

3. METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out to know the MBBS students' use of e-resources. The total students of MBBS are 800

in four years. The investigator selected purposively only 3rd year MBBS students for the study. The number of students in 3rd year MBBS is 200. The investigator distributed questionnaire to 130 MBBS students. However, he received responses from 86 members only. The data is analysed according to the objectives stated.

4. NARAYANA MEDICAL COLLEGE LIBRARY

Narayana Medical Institutions, established in Nellore are the dream projects of Dr. P. Narayana, a high profile academician and visionary with a mission. Today they are one among the rapidly developing Medical Educational Institutions in the country offering diversified professional and job-oriented courses. The objective of establishing Narayana Medical Institutions is to lay a foundation and create advanced academic and research environment for medical and other health science professionals and manpower that would identify and deal effectively with peculiar problems faced in

implanting a comprehensive health care. Appropriate, relevant and up to date knowledge and skills are made available not only at grass roots level but also advanced levels of research in Medical and Health Sciences.

The library's front entrance leads to the referencing section hall where very important titles of Medical are stored in the on open shelves. Directories, Encyclopedias, MCQ books Etc., are available in this section. The faculty members can conveniently do their referencing work in the area exclusively arranged. The Journals received in the calendar year are displayed on several pigeonhole racks. At the end of the year, these are sorted date-wise and sent to the binding work. Bound volumes of journals are stored in the first floor according to the titles alphabetically. The library has centrally air conditioned stack area cum main reading hall, book reading hall, journals section and Internet section. The library provides digital contents like e-books, e-journals, NTRMEDNET Medline and Pub Med.

5. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The collected data is analysed and interpreted under various headings

5.1 Gender wise distribution

Analysis of respondents shows that 56.78% of them are male students and 43.02% of them are female students out of 86 respondents. Majority is male 56.98% and only 43.02% are female.

5.2 Awareness on e-resources

To know about the users' awareness of e-resources, respondents were asked whether they are aware of e-resources available in the library. Analysis of responses of respondents reveals that all the respondents are aware of e-resources available in the library.

5.3 Place of accessing Internet.

A question was put to the users to know the place of accessing internet. Their responses are shown in table -3

Table-1 Place of accessing Internet

S.No.	Place	Respondents	
		No.	%
1.	College library	17	19.77
2.	Computer lab	13	15.12
3.	Department	16	18.60
4.	Browsing center	22	25.58
5.	In house	18	20.93
	Total	86	100

Table-1 shows that over a fourth of the respondents (25.58%) are using internet at browsing centre, It is followed by at house (20.93%), college library (19.77%), department (18.60%) and computer lab (15.12%) . Hence it can be concluded that over a fourth of the respondents are using internet at browsing centre.

5.4 Frequency of using internet.

A question has been put to the students to know their frequency of using internet their respondents are shown in table -2

Table-2 Frequency of using Internet.

S.No.	Frequency	Respondents	
		No.	%
1.	Daily	38	44.19
2.	Once in a week	18	20.93
3.	Twice in a week	16	18.60
4.	Once in a fortnight	8	9.30
5.	Once in month	6	6.97
	Total	86	100

It is evident from the Ttable-2 that a high percentage of students (44.19%) using Internet daily followed by once in a week (20.93%), twice in a week (18.60%), 2-3 times in a month 9.30 and once in a month(6.97%).Hence it can be concluded that a high percentage of the respondents are using internet daily.

5.5 Time spent in the library.

Respondents were asked to inform the time spent in the library per day their responses are shown in Figure

Figure-1 Time spent in the library.

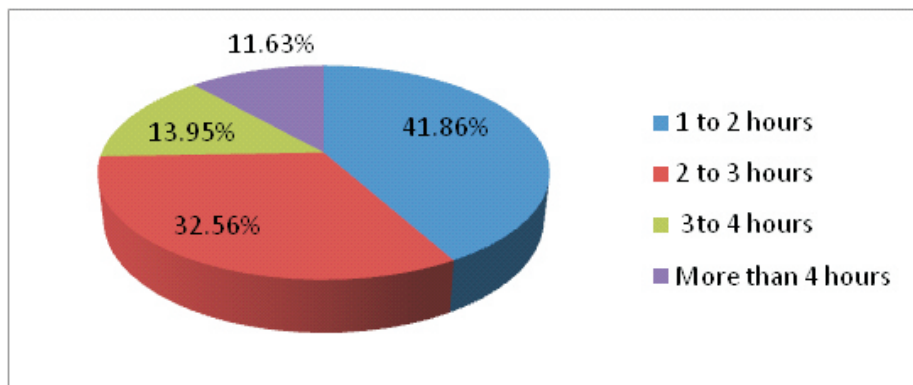


Figure-1 indicates that a high percentage of the respondents (41.86%) spent 1 to 2 hours per day in the library. It is evident from the figure that (32.56%) of respondent 2 to 3 hours, 13.95% of them 3 to 4 hours and 11.63% of them more than 4 hours.

5.6 Purpose of using e-resources.

Respondents were asked to reveal the purpose for which e-resources are used. The respondents are shown in table-3

Table -3 Purpose of using e-resources.

S. No.	Purpose	Respondents	
		No.	%
1.	For writing projects	12	13.95
2.	For preparing notes/study/teaching	17	19.77
3.	For seminars/Conferences	11	12.79
4.	For academic research work	10	11.63
5.	Communication	13	15.12
6.	Entertainment	9	10.46
7.	Current & Up-to date information	14	16.28
	Total	86	100

Table-3 shows that nearly one-fifth of the students are using e-resources for preparing notes/study/teaching, followed by current and up-data information (16.28%), communication (15.12%), writing projects (13.95%), for seminars/conferences (12.79%), academic research work (11.63%) and entertainment (10.46%).

5.7 e-resources used.

A question has been put to the respondents to known the various e-resources used

Figure-2 e-resources used

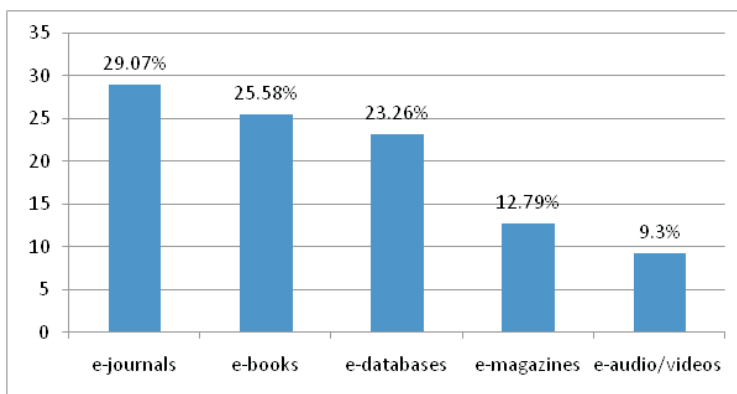


Figure-2 exposes that the use of e-resources. A high percentage of the respondents (29.07%) using e-journals followed by e-books (25.58%), e-databases (23.26%), e-audio/videos (12.79%) and e-magazines (9.30%). Hence it can be concluded that a high percentage of respondents are using e-journals.

5.8 Medical online databases used.

A question has been put to the respondents to know the various Medical online database used

Figure-3 Medical online databases used

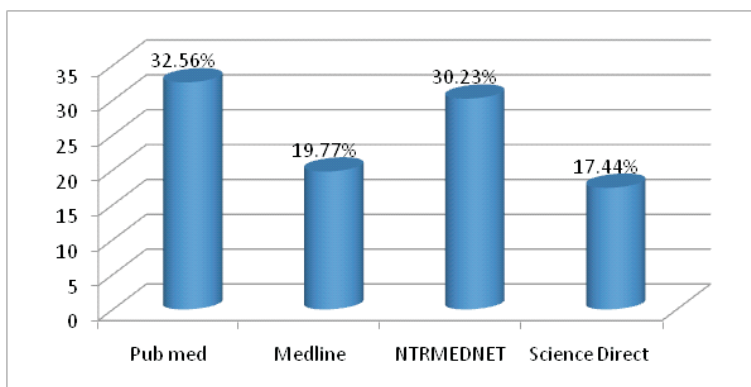


Figure-5 shows a high percentage of respondents (44.19%) are satisfied with e-resources. It is evident from the table that 37.25% of them are partially satisfied with e-resources and 18.6% of them are dissatisfied.

5.10 Problems faced in using e-resources.

A question has been put to users to know the problems faced by them their responses are shown in the table-4

Table-4 problems faced in using e-resources

S. No.	Purpose	No. respondents	Percentage
1.	Speed of internet	21	24.42
2.	Download/saving	17	19.77
3.	Network problem	19	22.09
4.	uncomfortable furniture	14	16.28
5.	Limited access permissions	15	17.44
Total		86	100

Table-4 shows that a high percentage of respondents(24.42%) are facing problem of speed of internet, 22.09% of them network problems, 19.77%, download/saving, 17.44% limited access permissions, 16.28% uncomfortable furniture.

6. FINDINGS

1. A high percentage of respondents (25.58%) are using internet in browsing centre.
2. Majority of the respondents (27.91%) are using internet purpose of learning activities.
3. Most of the respondents (44.19%) are using internet daily.
4. Majority of the respondents (41.86%) time spent E-resources on 1 to 2 hour.
5. Majority of the respondents using e-resources for the purpose of preparing notes/study/teaching.
6. Among different types of e-resources available in library. Majority of the respondents are using e-journals and e-books.
7. Majority of the respondents (24.42%) are problems faced using e-resources in speed of Internet.
8. Majority of the respondent opinion that fully satisfied.
9. Narayana medical college library is provide different digital information services to the users.

7. SUGGESTIONS

LAN facility should be provided to all the departments of MBBS students for proper utilization of the e-resources. User training programmes should be conducted regularly in use of e-resources the MBBS students. The authorities concerned should take necessary measures to increase the speed of Internet.

CONCLUSION

Electronic resources are popular and extensively used. E-resources are playing vital role in providing information to users. The importance of electronic resources and it usage in Medical College libraries abnormally increased. College library authorities should take necessary steps to develop e-resources for the benefit of MBBS students.

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