Usage of E-Booksby the Faculty Members of VS Dental College Library: A Study

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Abstract: *Today we are moving the libraries close to the user, gone are the days where we expected the users come to the library and use the resources. The Service now is vice-versa and how best we are able to reach the users is the question of the hour. Perception   of the users is changed than what the library personnel used to predict. Library has to provide required information to the user as and when   the need arises, otherwise the value of librarydiminish , and librarian have to think twice before adopting any new services or tools in the library. In this context this paper addresses the Perception of the faculty using the   services in the VS. Dental College Library , Bangalore.*
Key Words*: E-Book, Dental Science, Helinet, Library, User*

I.   Introduction:

The society has embraced the information world for day to day activities. Integration and single window concept is gaining the momentum. Stand alone cannot fetch anything. The smart generation needs the information in speed and flow. The Academic fraternity always consists of hybrid. Those who have come in the last one or two decades have witnessed both.And theyhave been adoptable. The Net generation knows only one that is everything should be digital. The Health professionals are always ahead compared to the other fraternity

II.   Review Of Literature:

Romanov&Aarnio (2006). conducted survey to evaluate medical and dental students' utilization of electronic information resources. A web survey questionnaire was sent to 837 students (49.9% responded). Twenty-four per cent of medical students and nineteen per cent of dental students searched MEDLINE 2+ times/month for study purposes, and thirty two per cent and twenty-four per cent respectively for research. Full-text.articles were used 2+ times/month by thirty-three per cent of medical and ten per cent of dental students,

Folb BL, Wessel CB &CzechowskiLJ(2011)Study findings support claims that users prefer web access to e-books over library catalog access. Prominence on the HSLS home page and enhanced access to e-book content may be responsible for the high approval rating for the HSLS federated e-book search. It was preferred over the library catalog by survey respondents.

The study conducted by MacCall,(2006) shows that the number and topical range of online medical books are reaching a point where collection-level consideration is warranted to facilitate efficient use and to prevent the problem of split files. However, the results also show that few efforts are underway on the publicly available Websites of the surveyed health sciences libraries to provide the analytical access necessary to meet the structural needs of clinical information seekers.The emergence of the Internet has definitely introduced new ways for users to access library resources and users nowexpect instant and constant access to information, 'often from distant locations, and as a result, remote access to onlinelibrary resources has become an increasingly significant part of library service'. (Foust et al. 2007). In 2008Raynor and Lggulden evaluated theproject of anatomy and physiology teaching E-Books that were subscribed on the platform ofWileyPlUS. They concluded that the nursingstudents and lecturers had positive attitudeabout anatomy and physiology E-Books as theywere highly depending on them and wanted thiseffective tool to be consistently available infuture.

VS Dental College and Hospital

VokkaligaraSangha Dental College & Hospital is located in the heart of the city of Bengaluru close to Central Railway and Bus Station. Occupying nearly 1,20,000sq.ft, VS Dental College was affiliated to Bangalore University and now it is affiliated to Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bangalore , Karnataka. The College got its recognition from D.C.I. in the year 1992. Dental Council of India has permitted Post Graduate Studies in the year 2001 in all the specialties Dentistry. The Institution offers research programmes (PhD) in the

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subject of Department of Prosthodontics & Crown and Bridge, Department of Orthodontics &Dentofacial Orthopedics, Department of Oral &Maxillo-Facial Surgery, Department Of Conservative Dentistry &Endodontics, Certificate courses in Easthetic dentistry and Implantlogy. Today, V.S. Dental College and Hospital is one of the most sought after institutions in India both for undergraduate and postgraduate admissions. Clinics and laboratories are well equipped with state of the art equipment. Training in medical subjects is imparted at KIMS Campus, with good inflow of patients (300 - 500 patients) , excellent clinical training is rendered to students. The Library has good infrastructure with ICT facilities and is a subscriber of HELINET and has a good budget provision of around thirty lakh.

III. Objective Of Study:

- To know   the profile of users in the library.
- To know the frequency at which the users use the electronic information resources.
- To find out the awareness of the resources available in the library.
- To assess knowledge about E-resources known to the users.
- To study the perception of the users in preference to the type of resources.

Methodology

A questionnaire was distributed to the faculty of dental college.76 facultyout of 78 responded to the questionnaire. Faculty consisted of 36 Male and 40 female members.
The data collected were tabulated and analysis done using percentage tool.

IV. Data Analysis:

Table-1 Genderwise Distribution

Gender	Total N=76
Male	36(47.36)
Female	40(52.63)

Total 78 questionnaires were distributed to the faculty out of which 76 questionnaires were received. The Genderwise distribution depicts that 36(47%) are Male faculty and 40(53%) are Female faculty. This show's in the college, the female faculty count is more than the male faculty.

Table -2 Designation Analysis

Gender	Designation			Total	Percentage
	Professor	Reader	Lecturer		
Male	12	18	6	36	47.36%
Female	11	16	13	40	52.63%

Designation analysis of the faculty shows that out 36 Male,12 are ofProfessordesignation, 18 are of Reader designation and 6 are of Lecturer designation. Out of 40 Female faculty, 11 are Professor in designation, 16 are of Reader in designation and 13 are ofLecturer in designation. This shows that there is almost equal no of Professors and   Readersdesignationwise, while on genderwise count female lecturers are more (68%) compared to male lecturers. This shows that the entry level female faculty are more in number compared to the male faculty.

Table-3 Frequency of Visit to Library

Frequency	Number N=76	Percentage
Four times or more	32	42%
Three times	26	34%
Two times	14	18%
One time	04	05%

The Table-3 depicts that the Majority of the faculty 32(42%) visit four or more times in a week followed by three time 26(34%) , two time14(18%) and one time 04(05%). The cumulative analysis shows that 76% of the faculty visit library frequently.This shows that the faculty comes to library to enhance their knowledge.

Table-4: Place of preference to study

Place	Number N=76	Percentage
Home	38	50%
Library	20	26 31%
Department/Clinic	18	23.68%
		99.99%

Table 4 shows that preference place for study. 38(50%) like to study at home followed by library 20(26.31%) followed by department clinic 18(23.68%). This indicates that majority of the faculty like to study at home compared to the other places and this indicates that the effective services to be planned to attract using resources in the library by providing friendlier reading ambience.

Table-5: E- Book Availability for the study

Response	Number N=76	Percentage
Available	20	26.31%
Not-Available	45	59.21%
Don't know	11	14.47%
		99.99%

The above table clearly indicates that the e books required by users are not available in the library. 45(59.21%) opined but 20(26.31%) are of the opinion that the books are available in the library and 11(14.47%) faculty response is 'Don't know'.This shows faculty are interested in using the e-books but their opinion is that what the resources needed for them is not available and the analysis indicates that there is enough gap in the procurement of the e-books required for the faculty and library has to strive to procure the required books and perception has to be increased.

Table-6: Easiness of accessing the E-Books

Response	Number N=76	Percentage
Yes	52	68.42%
No	18	23.68%
Don't Know	06	07.89%
		99.99%

Table 6 gives the clear trend of preference that majority are saying that accessing the e-books is easy52(68.42%)and 18(23.68%) are of the opinion No but only 6(07.89%) says that "don't know" that means they are not sure about the ease of finding information in the e-Book. This analysis shows that almost majority are comfortable using the e-books and it indicates that the library has to concentrate on procuring more e-resources in future.

Table-7: Preference of Format for study

Response	Number N=76	Percentage
Both E-Books & Print version	42	55.26%
E-Books	30	39.47%
Print	04	05.26
		99.99%

Table 7 gives a hybrid preference than sticking to one particular format in this analysis it has been identified that42(55.26%)faculty preferboth E-books and Print even though they are ease at using the E-Books and 30(39.47%) prefer e-books alone.This shows that the library is equipped with technology using e-books but user tendency is to have both version. The reading habit of faculty shows that they prefer both for academic and research point-of –view.

V. Findings
- This dental science institution has more female faculty compared to male faculty
- The above survey clearly indicates that users prefer more E-Resources compared to print and like to study at home than coming to the library.
- Majority of the faculty are of the opinion that the required e-books are not available in the library.
- Majority of the faculty are comfortable in using the e-books and this indicates that the acquisition program should concentrate on procuring more e-related contents than the print in future.
- The perception is that they are at ease using the E-Books provided off-campus also since they are busy with clinical and teaching activities.It would be appropriate for them to provide the resources at their work place than insisting them to come and use the e-books in a particular time and also more trail access are to be

provided for them so that the suitable resources can be procured for effective collection development of resources than procuring unnecessary resources.

VI. Suggestion:

- Making budget provision for procurement of required E-Books along with E-Journals(Helinet Consortium of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka is providing E-Journals for the member institutions).
- Updating library portal frequently to know what are the resources available converting the present static library portal into dynamic with more user friendly options.
- Conducting frequent user awareness program.
- Making provision in providing off-campus access/remote access to e-resources is to be prioritized essential service.This facility helps faculty to use the resources as and when they need the required information.
- Institution is having Students Alumni association with 970 members, their suggestion and support for the development of library can be utilized

VII. Conclusion

The Library has good infrastructure but E-books procurement is at the beginning stage, there is more preference for E-Journals and using E-Books is also gaining momentum. The users demand that information needed at the hour is more useful than stocked more cost resources but less useful.According to Adedoyin (2006), libraries that are constrained in terms of resources should consider commercializationof some library services. A hitherto free library service such as training workshops on themes'Informationsearching and retrieval techniques'. The library can plan conducting health information literacy program by inviting resource persons and also bringing awareness by notifying the trends coming up in the health e-resources and consistent health information current awareness program. The usage of e-books is to be developed gradually, because from the age of school, we have been accustomed to using print books and reading print is still comfortable compared to e-platform. But as we get habituated in using smart phones for reading news, current affairs etc. in the same way the e-book usage has to be developed. The pattern of enjoying using e-books depends on the collaborative efforts of library professionals, vendors and publishers and how they market their products and services for the benefit of the larger community.

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