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EMPERICAL ANALYSIS OF LIBRARY RESOURCES USE BY CLINICAL STUDENTS IN LAUTECH COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, OGBOMOSO, OYO STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study was designed to examine use of library resources by medical students in LAUTECH College of Health Sciences, Osogbo, Osun State, Nigeria. The study employed the descriptive survey design to collect primary data from Medical students of College of Health Sciences, Osogbo, Osun State, Nigeria. A total of two hundred and eighty (280) medical students (400 - 600 level) of College of Health Sciences were randomly selected for the study. The main instrument for data collection was a structure questionnaire which was administered to the respondents shortly after their lectures. Both face and content validity of the instrument were carried out. The reliability test of the research instrument was done by means of the Cronbach alpha test and a Cronbach's score of 0.7 was derived. The data gathered was analyzed using relative importance index. Relative importance index helps to rank the criteria according to their relative importance. Findings from the study indicated that medical textbooks (0.812) ranked first of the library resources available to students, closely followed by dictionaries (0.754), newspaper magazines (0.696), internet (0.687), medical journals (0.598), encyclopedia (0.552), data base (0.519), world health publications (0.514), OPAC (0.474), thesis & dissertation (0.446) and CD-ROM (0.438). With regards to purpose of use, it shows that research (0.826), followed by examination preparation (0.825), advancing knowledge (0.808), and self-development (0.806), were the major reasons for using the library. Those materials frequently used include medical textbooks (0.608) ranked first in the frequency at which library resources are used, followed by dictionaries (0.676). Others are internet (0.666), newspaper magazines (0.661), medical journals (0.608), encyclopedias (0.596), thesis & dissertation (0.564), world health publication (0.561), CD-ROM (0.542), data-base (0.534) and OPAC (0.533) lastly, with regards to barriers militating effective use of the library and its resources, the study shows that obsolete library resources (0.743), difficulty locating resources (0.703), poor sitting arrangement (0.671), poor ventilation (0.675), noisy library environment (0.652), and slow internet network (0.733) constituted major barriers. The study recommended that the college authority should urgently looked into the critical barriers highlighted in this study and adopt workable strategies to effectively improve the overall library condition both in terms of physical and material resources that are hindering effective library utilization among medical students and scholars in the college.

Keyword: Library resources, Medical Students, College of Health Sciences, Lautech, Osogbo, Nigeria

Introduction

A library can be defined as an institution that acquires, organizes, preserves and make available the recorded knowledge of man to the users, a library can also be defined as a collection of book and non-book materials organized and kept for reading, studying and consultation (Nwafor, 2000). Library play vital role in development of individuals in our society. The quality of library resources both print and electronic determines quality of graduates produced and research development. Libraries are agents of educational, social and economic development. The purpose of setting up libraries is to acquire, process, store, preserve and make available current and relevant print and electronic materials that will meet the need of its users at appropriate time (Pertti and Sanna, 2006). Today's library is powerhouse where information is stored, generated and transferred to fulfill the users need. For the optimum use of library, its users should also have knowledge to access its resources to their full benefit making every search effective. But still the information searching strategies shows that the user's searching behavior as being subject to specific and most users pick what they perceive as important word in an assigned topic and they use it to search for the needed information.

Library resources are many and varied, but they can be divided into two broad categories namely "printed and non-printed materials". The printed materials are books, pamphlets, periodicals, newspapers and references resources. Non printed resources can be grouped into three (audio, visual and audiovisual). We also have electronic resources in the libraries. Popoola and Haliso (2009) define library information resources as those information bearing materials that are in both printed and electronic formats. Such as textbooks, journals, indexes, abstracts, newspapers and magazines, reports, CD-ROM databases, internet/E-mail, video tapes/ cassettes, diskettes, magnetic disk, computers, micro forms etc. In today's scenario more students surf the Internet for information then going through the library resources, as it is less complicated and readily available. Still, students who are regular user of the library know that libraries have resources that are more comprehensive and scholarly then most web sites provide. Which also are not freely available or may not be online at all. It is in college that a student becomes aware of the library resources where some student may show interest in learning and using library resources both electronic and print whereas some may not find it necessary to find specialized resources for their papers. This difference in approach could be the student attitude towards technology. It evolves as the student's familiarity with the technology increases. Student new to

a particular technology may initially exhibit some concern about the role of technology in their learning process. Students may not have been exposed to library resources, or not be aware of which resources a library might have or how to make use of them. Therefore, this study is to understand what characteristics will make one student branch out and explore library resources while another might not.

Libraries are termed as treasure of knowledge, it house information available in a variety of documentary forms such as journal articles, research and technical reports, conference papers, standards, patents, dissertation, survey data etc. According to the nature of information content these are categorized as primary sources. Primary sources are that which embody the information in original and nascent form. Libraries also provides secondary source of information that guides users to the primary documents or more so they organize the primary literature in convenient form documents like indexes, bibliographies and abstracts. Other than these one more type of sources termed as reference sources also exist which are basically books that are referred to for a definite piece of information like dictionaries, encyclopedias and handbook all these forms of sources are part of the library resources. In this information age along with these traditional forms of resources a new form of resources are also introduced in libraries they are CD-ROM, online journals, Optical Discs, DVD and Internet. Students today are web savvy they normally prefer the fastest way that would lead to satisfactory results when studying like going for the electronic library resources if they have or rather searching through the Internet from the library or from home wherever they have access from or also making use of the other information centers that have access to electronic information sources.

The medical library is meant to serve the medical students, Nurses' students, biomedical students, lecturers and other members of the university community. The quality of a university is measured largely by the quality of its library because of its unique role in the university system. There can never be the existence of a college of Health Sciences without a medical library and since the university is meant to teach and carry out research (Oladapo, Adeoye, Tomomowo-Ayodele & Adegun, 2021). For the teaching staff and research fellows, the medical library is supposed to provide information resources and services of sufficient quality and diversity. Use of library resources simply means using of library resources. A person or thing that uses something somewhere or someplace to achieve his or her purposes is a user. In the same context, one can state that those who make use of the library materials for their benefits are library users. Also,

those who enter the library and find such library materials useful are library users. Whittaker (1993) also defined a user as “a person who uses one or more of library services at least once a year. Hence, people who go either to the public, private, special or academic libraries for some genuine reasons, requiring the attention of the library staff, are known as the library users. Library users in the medical library in College of Health Sciences Osogbo (LAUTECH) can be divided up administratively into external and internal users. The internal users consist of undergraduate medical students, post-Medical educational students, Student Nurses, Biomedical students, lecturers, research fellows and other members of the tertiary institutions, while the external users are those who are not members of the institution, but are also served by the libraries but under certain specific official arrangement.

Users of medical libraries are mostly made up of subject readers who concentrate their use of library materials on subject fields; they are working in or are studying. Students belong to these subgroups of subjects’ readers. Subject specialists or academic staff is also part of these subgroups, with the students obviously forming a high proportion of the users of medical libraries. Medical students need library resources because they are repositories of knowledge that provide the vital underpinning for medical development. The focus of a library is always to serve its patron to give them resources that definitely take them to the level of excellence. But do these students always view their library as the only source for needed information where every facility is provided or do they feel the need for their library to change adapt more modern technologies so they could be more effective and help them excel in their studies. The questions that arise therefore are do the student make use of these opportunity if their libraries are resourceful in every possible way? Does this opportunity yield them any positive result? The present study examines the impact of library resources as predictors of academic performance of the medical students.

The user education policy of the LAUTECH College of Health Sciences, Osogbo, Library is quite effective. It covers both staff and students and normally lasts for a whole semester for newly admitted students and staff members. Here students and staff are taught such things as use of library catalogue, classification of books, circulation and lending procedures as well as rules and regulations of the university library.

Statement of problem

Libraries are nests; the users need to be motivated to see the real worth of a library. There are various resources available both in print and electronically the main purpose of these resources will be fulfilled only if the users are able to locate this information source effectively. Hence, the true worth of the library will be made. Coming to this era of technological development the forms of resources has been distinctively transformed from printed books and journals to various electronic forms. Today's library has a challenge to broaden its resources and develop its collection in print resources as well as electronic format. Student of these generation are more inclined to digital forms of information they like to get information in a fastest way.

Research questions

1. what are the types of library resources available to medical student in LAUTECH College of Health Science, Osogbo?
2. what are the purposes for use of library resources by medical students?
3. what is the frequency of use of library resources by medical students?
4. what are the barriers militating against the use of library resources by medical students?

Literature review

Medical libraries reflect the development of the colleges and universities of which they are a part. These libraries, are integral parts of the institutions they serve, design their collections and services to meet the instructional programs of the particular institution. The program of the medical library varies depending upon institution of which they are a part. The basic assumption governing the growth and development of all medical libraries is that the library plays a role of central and critical importance in the instructional and scholarly life of the college or university. One of the most important products of the academic endeavor is students' success in their courses of study. However, despite various attempts over the years, it has seldom been possible to demonstrate conclusively that medical library use significantly contributes to medical student success.

Roberson (2005) defines a library as an institution that manages the intellectual products that individual can gain access too readily. Made it very clear that users are the best judges of library services and that customer opinion of library service is of paramount importance. Should there be no users; libraries would only be needed as warehouses. User evaluations of library

goodness have therefore frequently been taken at face value to indicate quality of service. Associated with the mission of libraries and their institutions, user satisfaction may or may not be related to the value or the performance of a library.

Ranganathan as quoted by Iyanda and Salawu (2006) describe library as a public institution or an establishment charged with the care of a collection of books, the duty of making them accessible to those who require the use of them and the task of covering every person in its neighborhood into habitual library goers and readers of books. This also underscores outcomes measures of library services as “the ways in which library users are changed as a result of their contact with the library’s resources and programs”. Improvement in academic performance and academic success are quoted as examples of such changes. Popoola and Haliso (2009) define library information resources as those information bearing materials. That are in both printed and electronic formats, such as textbooks, journals, indexes, abstracts, newspapers and magazines, reports, CD-ROM databases, internet/E-mail, video tapes/cassettes, diskettes magnetic disk, computers, micro forms etc. Also found a positive correlation between undergraduate academic achievement and the use of a variety of library resources and services such as using the catalogue, obtaining assistance from library staff and using different library materials such as electronic resources, journal articles, books and reference works (Adeoye, Abimbola & Oladapo, 2016). The amount of time spent in the library did not correlate with academic achievement. An interesting aspect of the study is that it did not rely on borrowing books as the sole indicator of library use.

Bassey (2006) posited that satisfying the request of users implies providing the actual information or services that will meet their needs. Hence, this leads to low standard of teaching and research intuitions through the provision of obsolete e-books, e-journals, and other library resources, which reduces access to academic libraries and result into poor scholarship for desire study, research and lifelong learning (Oladapo, Opele, Adeoye & Amusan, 2021). Ibenne (2010) reveal that libraries are channels of delivering information. The rigid nature of the traditional role in providing information services to its respective users have been revolutionized by the advancement in information communication technologies. This in one way or the other has made medical student research much more flexible and a lot more rewarding. According to Popoola, (2001), the use of library resources and services is thus indispensable to the medical students in order to achieve their academic objective. However, resources of a library can influence its use

by medical students. Literature has revealed that information availability does not mean accessibility and use therefore; medical libraries are to market their resources and service to attract users. Kumar, (2013) stresses on the use of information resources and service of the medical students, majority of the users frequently visit the library almost daily and it was further found that books, newspapers and periodicals are the most used by user.

Okly, (2000) found that respondents used books more than other materials and that they browsed the shelves to locate these materials. In line with findings, Ugah, (2007) further found out that textbooks account for most library visit. Base on the gap in literatures on the extent of use of the library resources for effective research output among medical students of LAUTECH College of Health Sciences it becomes critical to understudy this population of medical students. He also showed that there is a low patronage of library service and that many users have not actually realized the full potential of the library in pursuit and attainment of academic excellence. He also argued that the scope of knowledge has become too vast to be covered extensively with the boundaries of classroom instruction. He, therefore, stressed that a good library can help in promoting the development of reading skills and providing a framework for academic achievement.

Oguntuase and Falaiye (2004) agree with this view by observing that the most effective way to mobilize people is through the provision of require information in the useable form and that such information should be provided for the benefit of a large number of people. In this regard, the findings revealed that the inability of students to use library facilities after taking a course in the use of library. The result showed that there is little interaction between the medical students and the library staff during the orientation program. They were also overloaded with so much information with a short time that the chances of retention and internalization of the avalanche of new information is quite slim. Oguntuase et al (2004) concluded that high enrolment with adequate physical facilities made effective work difficult. Dr. Rabindranath Tagor at Bengal Library Conference held in West Bengal, India said “what makes a library big?”. He said that it is not the big building, big collection of books, big finances and big staff that makes a library big but it is the big use of the resources of the library that earns the big name to it. The value of books and library is epitomized in the larger use of its collection. Library collections do not consist only of books and journals. A medical library should house collection of films, slides and filmstrips. The recent development in automation has seen the spread of

personal computers and network terminal nodes in medical libraries, and an increasing number of libraries house and circulate software and other automated information packages in their collection. Many libraries are sharing information and data facilities and services on academic purpose.

A factor that might motivate an individual to use a library is how easy it can be used. Thus, ease of use becomes an important factor to consider when a user is contemplating using a library. It is better to device an information retrieval system that will not make it troublesome for a customer to have information. Ease of use is sometimes ranked ahead of quality of information expected from a particular source. Effective academic libraries provide additional reading opportunities for students, which in turn improve reading skills, knowledge, and writing and clarity of expression, which in turn support student performance in all other curriculum subjects World Bank (2008). Provision of library catalogues that are easy to use, adequate guides to library collections and adequately shelved books enhance and facilitate library use. The LAUTECH College of Health Science Medical Library is one of the academic libraries. It has precise role and functions to play as determined by the institution's goals and aspirations. The task of this library is, no doubt a formidable one considering the complex nature of the institution's community and the variety of learning and research interest. There is every need to use, effective strategies to improve library use. Oyesiku and Oduwole (2004) focus on academic library use. The investigation revealed that the students used the library most during examinations and to do class assignments. Ampka's (2000) study of the use library found that a majority of students did not use the library effectively because they did not know how to use library catalogues. Okly (2000) assesses student use of academic libraries in Nigeria. She found that students used books more than other reading materials and that they tended to find materials by browsing the shelves. Similar studies were conducted by Gbadamosi (2003) on catalogue use.

Osinulu and Balogun (2003) on the effectiveness of reference service to users. Also observed that the college teacher who thinks of education only in terms of his particular course aims and who confines himself to the use of lecture notes, textbook and assigned readings all of his own choosing, has tradition and experience to assume his success. The collegiate teacher must suggest, provoke and guide reading and has to create interest where it does not exist. The lecturer can thus promote use of information sources in the library through teaching and research while the librarian will also do this through use of the library instruction. Other strategy for

improving library use by patrons is that there must be provision of extensive materials (books and non-book materials) alike for study, teaching and research for the benefit of students and staff. For the LAUTECH College of Health Sciences, Osogbo this has been taken care of by the library management as enough materials have been provided for the present library capacity of four hundred and sixty readers.

Another strategy for effective use of the library is to encourage the students to develop the life-long habit of good reading with a view to encourage independent study. This has been taken care of by the Medical Library through the provision of adequate materials to encourage independent study. For an academic library to be effective, it needs to explore the crucial relationship between libraries and its users, focusing on developing and managing reliable resources and services. Library should be aware of users' information-seeking behavior and also their needs and wants. Fabunmi (2004) describes library effectiveness as including information customized to meet individual needs. He also states that effective library systems are timely in delivery, meet their specific needs, are easy to understand/use, and are delivered by courteous and knowledgeable staff. The LAUTECH College of Health Sciences, Oshogbo Medical Library preserves library materials for further usage through cataloguing, classification and binding. In this way the materials are used for a long time. The library also instructs readers on how to use the library as earlier mentioned. By so doing it places proper tools in their hands thus avoiding theft and mutilation of books. Also the Medical library holds exhibitions and displays of library materials in order to reinforce the teaching of institutions staff. The exhibitions and displays enable library clientele to know the availability of new books and other library materials. In this way library patrons are encouraged to use the library.

One of the major developments in libraries and information systems in the past 15 years are the advent and spread of electronic information sources (EISs), services and networks mainly as a result of developments in information and communication technologies. The change is basically of physical form where information content is increasingly being captured, processed, stored and disseminated in electronic form. The commonly available EISs, namely, CD-ROMs, online databases, OPACs, and the Internet and other networked information sources, are competing, and in some instances replacing, the print-based information sources which have been in place for centuries as the primary media for the storage and communication of recorded information content. Iyoro (2004) in his study identified accessibility as one of the pre-

requisites of information use. The amount and variety of information content in electronic form is growing Hurd (2000). As the literature of library and information science (LIS) further shows, the changes from print and other forms to electronic forms have already brought about significant changes in the nature of information available to users. Internet offers a wealth of new applications which are advantageous to both education institutions and their clients. In the field of education inclusion of Internet resources is in the interest for support of research work and education itself. Integration of Internet resources into library services, however bring about significant changes in the nature of information retrieved and searched by the users.

Ugah (2008) opined that the more accessible information sources are, the more likely they are to be used and readers tend to use information sources that require the least effort to access also that Students' use of information systems can be in the form of communicating or posting of information or material by way of electronic mail, bulletin boards, World Wide Web (Internet), or other such electronic tools. In recent years, the use of electronic information has become prominent in the drive for making information and data transfer available to users, especially medical students. The need for electronic information for the purpose of research and learning in various institutions has posed challenges in relation to system connections, working ability, and access. Electronic information has many functions and benefits which can be of immense use to medical students and other students in schools and educational sectors, particularly research institutions. Once Kebede, Gaslow "The changing information needs of users in electronic information environment" in "The Electronic Library" the user is connected to the Internet, the user can link up with any part of the world for whatever purpose the user intends.

Osunrinde, Adekiya and Adeyemo (2002) Electronic information serves as a motivating factor to medical students as it provides the opportunity to transmit, acquire or download process and disseminate information on a subject of interest. Electronic information sources offer today's medical students' opportunities different from their predecessors. According to Osuji (2002), electronic resources include data, information of personnel, subjects, faculties, organizations stored in an electronic media or materials. It is now the source of information for students worldwide. Advances in telecommunication technology in this information age have led to development of computer networks that allow access to vast amount of information services. Details the advantages of networking for the user as being: "the information needed which can

be delivered from the most appropriate source to the user; the user can re-specify his or her needs dynamically; the information is obtained when it is wanted, so becomes 'just in time' rather than 'just in case'; the user selects only the information needed to answer the specific question and finally, the information is only stored what the user wish."

Sajad and Ramzy (2004) state that electronic information resources are currently the backbone of any dynamic collection of any discipline and that the university library should be able to house these materials for benefit of its users. However, libraries of all sizes and types are embracing digital collections, although most libraries will continue to offer both print and digital collection for many years to come. Other advantages include the fact that "electronic information sources are often faster than consulting print indexes, especially when searching retrospectively, and they are straighter forward when wishing to use combinations of keywords. They open up the possibility of searching multiple files at one time, a feat accomplished more easily than when using printed equivalents. Electronic resources can be printed and searches saved to be repeated at a later date; they are updated more often than printed tools. Related to these, Internet is used as a medium of expression to educate the learner, provide information needs at their desktop, and send hitch-free and cross-referenced data to the appropriate location. It could be said that improved data transmission facilities will go a long way to reduce the incessant hardship faced by medical students in the acquisition and generation of data which serves as the basis for research and academic performance improvement. This is because it seems the use of electronic information by medical students enhances their performance in academic activities. Among the electronic information system medical students use to get most of their information are: Internet, e-mail, electronic journals, bulletin boards, telephone, telex, CD-ROM databases, and electronic books. Some studies on the use of electronic information and academic performance.

Ugah (2008) reveals that the academic community has accepted that electronic information sources have an impact on their work. Also reported that in the academic situation, a huge proportion of respondents had access to both Internet facilities and online services provided by the library, yet usage figures for these media were quite low. Information literacy is tied directly to computer technologies. As a result, librarians need to teach literacy in both finding and evaluating information in the best use of computers. This can get complicated and can place the librarian into unfamiliar teaching situations. Librarians need to stay abreast of developments in computers and learn them early so they can teach patrons. He believed that academic

institutions needed to broaden their institutional goals to encompass both information literacy and computer training and to teach them jointly.

The importance of libraries to education generally lies in the fact that they provide necessary information to lecturers, students and researchers and community services. The significance of academic libraries lies in the fact that they are repositories of knowledge that provide the vital underpinning for national development. For the students to effectively use the resources, libraries need to teach information literacy skills as a semester course for the first year students. This will mean that by the time they are through with this course, students would be able to access and fully use the resources provided by the library effectively, Ahenkorah-Marfo and Teye, (2010). Libraries also exist as dynamic instruments of education to enable their parent institutions discharge their teaching and research functions. Libraries are important because they are store-houses of information or record of human experience to which researchers can turn for information. Such libraries make available and accessible to their clientele information resources needed for research.

Furthermore, the completeness of libraries enables the researcher to avoid duplicating what has already been done or is being investigated by another individual as well as know whether the available information resources are adequate for the type of investigation. Library orientation is a welcoming activity and often forms part of the university's orientation program for first year students, (Agyen-Gyasi, 2008). The role of the Library therefore is to make available organized materials that will enable the institution to achieve its set objectives. Hence, the medical library is the nerve centre, the central and primary place of the institutions medical activities. This indicates the fact that a medical library should be built with vision, ambition, knowledge and dedication. Above all, the LATECH College of Health Sciences Medical library was built with the conditions governing the set up of its institution that is to provide necessary information to lecturers, students and researchers and community services, without which the whole system will perhaps collapse.

In summary, apart from supporting the instructional program of the institution, the Library should endeavor to:

- Provide extensive materials (books and non-book materials alike) for study, teaching and research for the benefit of the students and staff of the university and others.

- Encourage the students to develop the life-long habit of good reading with a view to encourage independent study.
- Prepare and preserve these materials, for further usage through cataloguing, classification and binding.
- Hold exhibitions and displays of library materials in order to reinforce the teaching of the institutions staff.

From the foregoing, it is evident that a library in an educational institution is a force for and source of educational excellence. This reveals the fact that the provision of adequate library building, staff, finance, books and other reading materials is a necessity for any academic institution to successfully carry out its program.

Collections also form part of resources of a library. There is no doubt that, what is at stake is the ability of Medical libraries and librarians to deliver adequate, relevant, up to date and needed collections to their clientele. Books have always been the basic tool for education. Very little result can be achieved without the use of books, journals, periodicals and audio-visual to academic institutions. They are the vehicle of communication and transmission of education, learning and culture of the society for the past, present and future. Chinaka (2011) stated that library information resources are seen as all inputs which are utilized in the library in order to provide good learning environment for both students and lecturers so as to be able to achieve educational goals. It might be interesting to also consider the book situation in academic institutions and Nigeria in general. The existing information sources in our higher institution libraries can no longer meet the needs of their patrons. She maintained that unless immediate positive and systematic efforts are made to improve their quality and quantity, it would become increasingly difficult to satisfy the academic activities. Understandably, today, whenever the cost of education is discussed in Nigeria, books constitute a dominant project.

A number of factors influence the use of medical library collections. These include availability of library materials, location, age of collection, and user education. Availability of materials certainly influences the use of a library. The frequent use of a library will be influenced by the availability of the information sources in the library to the user. Availability is the simple most important determinant of the overall extent to which an information channel is used. Both availability and technical quality influence the selection of first choice. When books and other information sources are available in the library for use, the library user is satisfied as his

information needs are likely to be met. The user develops a positive attitude towards the library, on the other hand, unavailability of information sources lead to user frustration. Adeyemi (2009) opined that poor quality of library resources, scarcity of current reading and research materials were the challenges facing students in using libraries. The location of a library can influence its use. The extent of library use is partly dependent on the distance between the library and users' home or office. It is clear that if a library is located far away from user's residence, its use will be low. On the other hand, proximity of the library to the user's residence is likely to maximize library use. Arua (2011) observed that poor library accommodation; poor library orientation and restricted library hours were problems militating against the use of school libraries.

The study of Patron-Ash (2012) revealed that one of the problems facing libraries includes the lack of a national policy, academic library information resources, the theft of computers as a result of the lack of security, as well as the lack of understanding by lecturers of the role the library in teaching and learning. Clabo, (2002) asserted that reading rooms restrictions, restrictions on numbers of books, reference materials, lack of computers and internet connectivity are the challenges that hinders students in use of academic libraries. Also the age of the collection affects its use. In most libraries current information sources are likely to be used than retrospective ones' Also indicated that new titles were used substantially more than old titles. The implication of this is that age of materials affects the usage. As information sources become older with time, the frequency of their use declines. This is particularly important in a science or technological oriented library where currency of information is frequently needed by users who have to keep abreast of current developments in their fields. Fakomogbon, et al., (2012) had stated that lack of standard academic library with relevant information resources which student could use for their studies could be of the major causes of mass failure in the school. However, little is known about the use of library resources.

Abdullahi (2008) asserted that most the students who enter universities have never used the library effectively before gained admission. This influences the use of the library user education. A major reason why medical libraries spend some time educating their users is to improve their skills on library use. User education certainly has some effect on library use. Also, the effective instruction should decrease the time which would have been wasted to bibliographic searching and could reveal to the user many possibilities of locating needed information in the library. It therefore follows that failure on the part of users to locate needed sources of

information is partly due to lack of inadequate user education. The main objective in giving user education is to help the users make the best use of overall library resources. The specific aims of the user education program include: developing readers awareness of the overall information resources available to them in their own and other libraries; developing skills necessary for retrieving required materials; developing in-depth knowledge of materials in readers subject area and developing skills in presenting bibliographic references (Edoka, 2000).

Methodology

The study employed the descriptive survey design to collect primary data from Medical students of College of Health Sciences, Osogbo, Osun State, Nigeria. A total two hundred and eighty (280) 400 through 600 level medical students of College were randomly selected for the study. The main instrument for data collection was a structure questionnaire which was administered to the respondents shortly after their lectures. Both face and content validity of the instrument were carried out. The reliability test of the research instrument was done by means of the Cronbach alpha test and a Cronbach's score of 0.7 and above was considered good and reliable for the study. The data gathered was analyzed using relative importance index. Relative importance index helps to rank the criteria according to their relative importance. The following formula is used to determine the relative index.

$$R.I. = \sum \frac{W}{A*N} \quad \text{or} \quad RII = \text{Sum of weights} \frac{W1+W2+W3.....+Wn}{A*N}$$

Where:

R.I. = or RII = Sum of weights

W is the weighting as assigned by each respondent on a scale of one to five, with one implying the least and five the highest.

A is the highest weight, and

N is the total number of the sample. Based on the Ranking (R) of Relative Importance Index (RII), the weighted average of the two groups will be determined. According to Akadiri (2011), five important levels are transformed from (RII) values: High (H) ($0.74 \leq RII \leq 1$), High-Medium (H-M) ($0.69 \leq RII \leq 1$) and Low (L) ($0.59 \leq RII \leq 1$).

Results

Research question 1: What are the types of library resources available to medical students in LAUTECH College of Health Science, Osogbo?

Table 1: Types of library resources available to medical students in LAUTECH College of Health Science, Osogbo

Types of library resources	RII	Ranking
Medical Textbooks	0.812	1 st
Dictionaries	0.754	2 nd
Newspaper Magazines	0.696	3 rd
Internet	0.687	4 th
Medical Journals	0.598	5 th
Encyclopedias	0.552	6 th
Data-base: HINARY, Open Gate, PUBMEDetc	0.519	7 th
World Health Publications	0.514	8 th
OPAC	0.474	9 th
Thesis & Dissertation	0.446	10 th
CD-ROM	0.438	11 th

Source: Field Work, 2017

Table 1 reveals that medical textbooks (0.812) ranked first of the library resources available to students, closely followed by dictionaries (0.754), newspaper magazines (0.696), internet (0.687), medical journals (0.598), encyclopedia (0.552), data base (0.519), world health publications (0.514), OPAC (0.474), thesis & dissertation (0.446) and CD-ROM (0.438). This implies a rich and balance collection of information resources in the college library

Research question 2: What are the purposes for use of library resources by medical students?

Table 2: Purposes for use of library resources by medical students

Purposes of use of library resources	RII	Ranking
Research	0.826	1 st
Examination preparation	0.825	2 nd
Advance knowledge	0.808	3 rd
Self-development	0.806	4 th
Assignment	0.805	5 th
Presentation/seminar	0.769	6 th
Reading for pleasure	0.747	7 th
Class work	0.728	8 th
Field work	0.710	9 th
Practical work	0.708	10 th
Clinical work	0.675	11 th

Source: Field Work, 2017

Table 2 reveals that research (0.826) ranked first of the purpose of use of library resources by medical students. Others are ranked as follows, examination preparation (0.825), advance knowledge (0.808), self-development (0.806), assignment (0.805), presentation/seminar (0.769), reading for pleasure (0.747), class work (0.728), field work (0.710), practical work (0.708) and clinical work (0.675).

Research question 3: What is the frequency of use of library resources by medical students?

Table 3: Frequency of use of library resources by medical students.

Items	RII	Ranking
Medical Textbooks	0.732	1 st
Dictionaries	0.676	2 nd
Internet	0.666	3 rd
Newspaper Magazines	0.661	4 th
Medical Journals	0.608	5 th
Encyclopedias	0.596	6 th
Thesis & Dissertation	0.564	7 th
World Health Publications	0.561	8 th
CD-Rom	0.542	9 th
Data-base: Hinary, open gate, pubmedetc	0.534	10 th
OPAC	0.533	11 th

Source: Field Work, 2017

Table 3 shows that medical textbooks (0.608) ranked first in the frequency at which library resources are used, followed by dictionaries (0.676). Others are internet (0.666), newspaper magazines (0.661), medical journals (0.608), encyclopedias (0.596), thesis & dissertation (0.564), world health publication (0.561), CD-ROM (0.542), data-base (0.534) and OPAC (0.533).

Research question 4: What are the barriers militating against the use of library resources by medical students?

Table 4: The barriers militating against the use of library resources by medical students

Barriers	RII	Ranking
Obsolete library resources	0.743	2 nd
Difficulty locating resources	0.703	3 rd
poor sitting arrangement	0.671	6 th
Poor ventilation	0.675	4 th
There is noise around the Library environment	0.652	5 th
There is noise within the Library	0.626	8 th
Unlabeled shelves	0.645	7 th
Erratic Power Supply	0.736	1 st
Slow Internet Network	0.733	1 st

Source: Field Work, 2017

Table 4 shows that obsolete library resources (0.743) ranked first among the challenges faced by medical students with the use of library resources. Others are; difficulty locating resources (0.703), poor sitting arrangement (0.671), poor ventilation (0.675), noisy library environment (0.652), noise within library environment (0.626), unlabeled shelves (0.645), erratic power supply (0.736) and slow internet network (0.733).

Summary of findings

The study revealed that medical textbooks, dictionaries, internet, newspaper magazines, publications of the world health organization (WHO) and encyclopedias were among information materials available and accessible to medical students in the college. The findings further revealed that the major purposes of use of library resources by medical students include the purpose of carrying out their school assignment, examination preparation, to advance knowledge, research, presentation/seminar, self-development, class work, reading for pleasure,

practical work, and field work. These finding corroborates the study of Kumar (2013), he carried out a study on use of information resources and service by medical students and found that majority of the users frequently visit the library almost daily and that textbooks, newspapers and periodicals were the most used by medical students. This finding also agrees with the finding of Oyesiku and Oduwole(2004) who investigated library use among undergraduate students. The outcome of the current study also tallies with the finding of Sajad and Ramzy (2004) who carried out a study on electronic information resources and found that Internet, e-mail, electronic journals, bulletin boards, telephone, telex, CD-ROM databases, and electronic books were commonly used by undergraduates.

With regards to barriers to library use, the current study revealed that erratic power supply, slow Internet network, obsolete library materials, inadequate ventilation, poor sitting arrangement and, unlabeled shelves were the major barriers to library resources use by medical students in the study area. Similar sentiment has been shared in a study by Adeyemi (2009), who found that poor quality of library resources, scarcity of current reading and research materials were the challenges facing students in using libraries. In a related study, Clabo, (2002) asserted that reading rooms restrictions, restrictions on numbers of books, reference materials, lack of computers and internet connectivity are the challenges that hinders students in use of academic libraries in many academic libraries in developing countries.

Conclusion and recommendations

The outcome of this study indicated that medical students at LAUTECH College of Health Sciences, Osogbo, Nigeriamade effective use of the available library materials despite reported barriers such as obsolete library resources, difficulty locating resources, poor sitting arrangement, poor ventilation, and noisy library environment, noise within library environment, unlabeled shelves, erratic power supply and slow internet network. Based on the findings, it is therefore recommended that the college authority should urgently looked into the critical barriers highlighted in this study and adopt workable strategies to effectively improve the overall library condition both in terms of physical and material resources that are hindering effective library utilization among medical students and scholars in the college.

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