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The use of e-journals at the Ayurvedic Medical College Libraries: A Case Study in North Karnataka, India

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ABSTRACT

The paper explores to what extent the Ayurvedic medical college library users are aware and use e-resources in their respective college library. The study is based on questionnaire distributed to the users of Ayurvedic medical college library with special reference to North Karnataka, India. The study found that library facilities are good in all the libraries under study. Tukey's post hoc test reveals that the purpose of using e-resources varies from person to person. With regard to awareness of medical database, it is found that majority of the respondents do not aware of it. The statistical test results reveals that Medline plus is good and for other databases is unaware.

Keywords: e-journals, Ayurvedic Medical College Libraries, RGUHS, North Karnataka, E-Resources, Usage of e-resources, Satisfaction level in using e-resources

Introduction

In the present information era, information sources are available in different format viz., e-books, e-database, e-newspaper, e-magazine and e-journals. Journals in any field carry nascent thoughts. Generally, journals are important and major source of information in any library particularly in special libraries like Defense library, law library, engineering library, medical library and so on. E-journals are born digital. They are available online and offline electronically. The use of e-journals depends upon its various characteristics like

quality, subject coverage, authenticity, impact factor, publisher etc. In this context a study has been conducted on use of e-journals at the Ayurvedic Medical College Libraries in North Karnataka, India.

Statement of the problem

The statement of the problem is: The use of e-journals at the Ayurvedic Medical College Libraries: A Case Study in North Karnataka, India.

Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of the study are as follows

1. To know the gender-wise distribution of respondents,
2. To determine the opinion of respondents towards physical facilities of the college library,
3. To seek the opinion about library resources,
4. To explore the extent of use of e-journals in the library,
5. To understand the purpose of using e-resources and
6. To know the frequency of using online medical databases.

Methodology

To achieve the objectives of the study a structured questionnaire designed and pilot study has been conducted to test the validity of the questions. The data has been collected through well designed questionnaire from the users of Ayurvedic Medical College Libraries located in north Karnataka. Ayurvedic Medical Colleges affiliated to Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) have been considered followed by personal interview of the users as well as library professionals.

Study Population and Sample Size

Since the population size is huge, the sample size is determined using Krejcie and Morgan Table. The recommended sample size for a population of 4989, at confidence level of 99%, and a margin of error (degree of accuracy) of 0.035 would be 1066. The details are as follows

Population	Total	%	Required sample size	Questionnaires distributed	Questionnaires received	Response rate (%)
Faculty	930	18.64	199 (at 18.64% of 1066)	225	205	91.11
PG students	609	12.21	130	150	135	90
UG students	3450	69.15	737	800	761	95.12
Total	4989	100	1066	1175	1101	93.70

Out of 1175 questionnaires distributed, a total of 1101 filled questionnaires have been received with 93.70 % response rate.

Scope and Limitations of the Study

The study covers the library users i.e. students (undergraduate and post-graduate) and faculty members of 23 Ayurvedic Medical Colleges of North Karnataka affiliated to the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bangalore.

Need for the Study

Subject journals or general journals are an important source of information for the scientific research community in academic libraries. At present subscription of e-journals against print format is common in libraries. Plenty of e-journals are available in almost every field of specialization including the field of Ayurveda. The Ayurvedic medical colleges located in north Karnataka subscribe lot of e-journals along with other traditional print journals. In the paper an attempt has been made to explore the extent to which the Ayurvedic medical college students perceive and use e-journals.

Table 1: Types of Colleges

Sl. No.	Type	No. of Colleges
1	Aided	2
2	Private	21
3	Total	23

Out of 23 Ayurvedic Medical colleges of North Karnataka 21 are private colleges and 2 are aided colleges. Therefore, majority of the college libraries have e-journals collection. In the present era of information, it is the need of the hour.

Table 2: Gender-wise distribution of respondents

Sl. No.	Gender	No of respondents	%
1	Male	518	47.0
2	Female	583	53.0
3	Total	1101	100.0

Table 2 shows the gender-wise distribution of respondents. Among 1101 respondents, 518 (47%) are male and 583(53%) are female.

Physical Facilities

Library is a place where interaction between the user and his required document takes place. To carry out this activity, the library must be planned well and the building of the same must be at the place, which is approachable by the users easily. Its design should be inviting and attractive. An ideal library is a happy combination of both function and design. In this regard a opinion of the library users was sought.

Table 3: Opinion about physical facilities by the respondents

Physical facilities	Excellent	Very good	Good	Average	Poor
Library building	306 (27.8)	353 (32.1)	358 (32.5)	75 (6.8)	09 (0.8)
Reading area	290 (26.3)	342 (31.1)	370 (33.6)	88 (8.0)	11 (1.0)
Air conditioning	158 14.4	383 34.8	350 31.8	154 14.0	56 5.1
Photocopying facility	140 12.7	345 31.3	315 28.6	140 12.7	161 14.6
Lighting and Ventilation	220 (19.9)	450 (40.8)	310 (28.1)	111 (10.1)	10 (0.9)

Table 3 reveals the physical facilities of the respective institutions by the respondents. In terms of library building majority of the respondents that is 358(32.5%) responded the condition as good, followed by 353(32.1%) responded as very good followed by less number of respondents 09(0.8%) mentioned the condition as poor. Regarding Reading area maximum 370(33.6%) respondents responded as good followed by 342(31.1%) as very good. The least numbers of respondents 11(1.0%) responded the condition as poor. Regarding Air conditioning majority of 383(34.8%) respondents responded it as very good, followed by 350(31.8%) responded as good. The least number of respondents that is 56(5.1%) responded the condition as poor. Regarding photocopying facilities majority of 345(31.3%) respondents responded it as very good followed by 315(28.6%) as good. The least number of respondents that is 140(12.7%) responded in both the as excellent and average. In terms of lighting and ventilation majority of 450(40.8%) responded the condition as very good followed by 310(28.1%) responded as good. Least number of respondents that is 10(0.9%) responded it as poor.

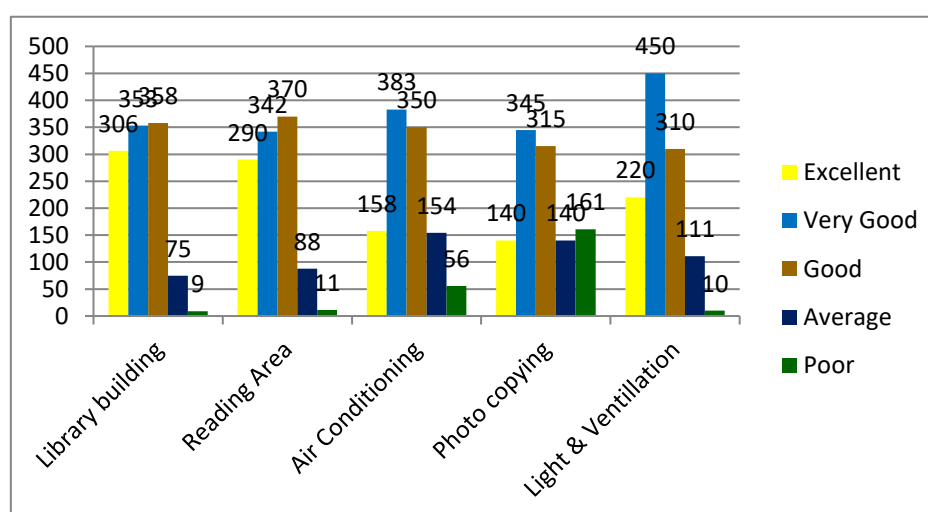


Fig.1: Users opinion about library facilities.

Table 4: Library Resources

measures		Books	Journals	Journal Back volume	AV materials	Dissertati ons	Online Data bases	CD-ROM Databases	E- Journals	Others
N	Valid	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
	Missin g	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean		1.9565	2.5217	2.7826	1.7826	1.6957	1.6522	2.0870	1.4348	1.1304
Std. Deviation		.36659	.84582	1.62247	1.12640	1.01957	.93462	1.41142	.72777	.45770

Table 4 presents a vivid description regarding various resources available in the library, e.g. books, journals, back volume of journals, audio-visual materials, dissertations, online data bases, CD-ROM databases, electronic journals and other materials.

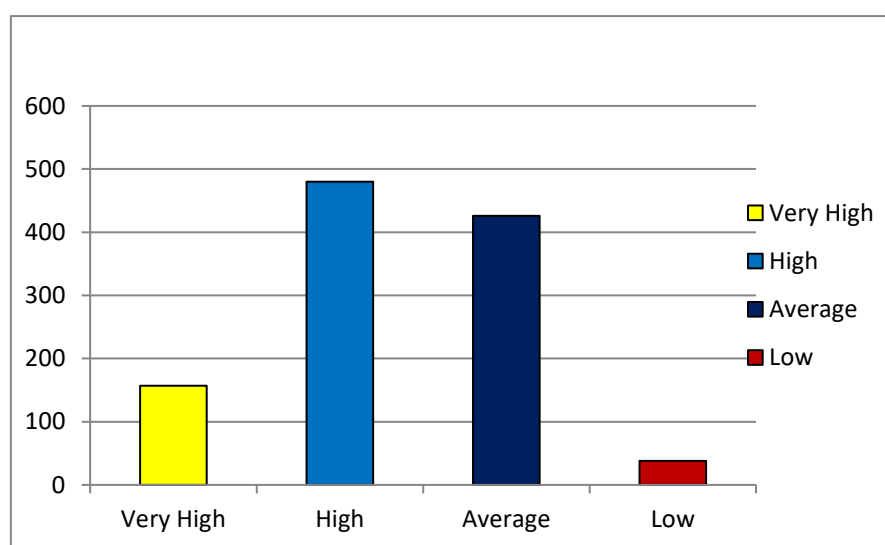


Fig 2: Rating of make use of e-journals by the respondents

The figure 2 reveals the ability to make use of e-journals by the respondents. It shows that information on internet and the response for very high is 157(13.5%), high is 480(43.6%), average 426(38.7%) and for low 38(3.5%). It shows that around more than 80% of the users possess the ability to make use of internet.

Table 5: Purpose of using e-resources

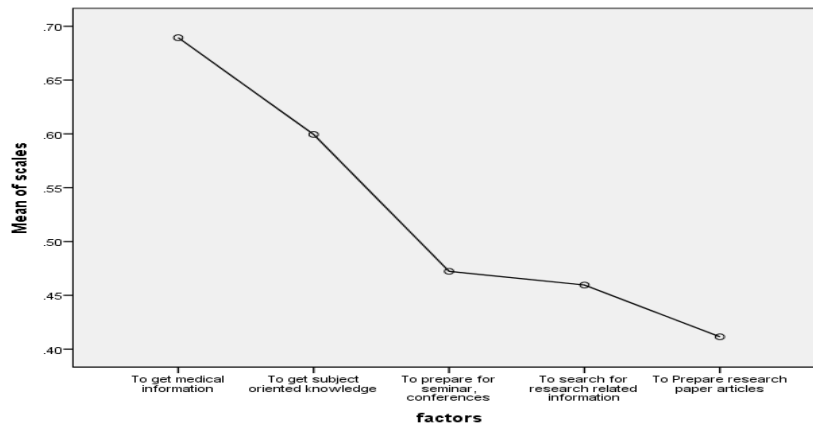
Purpose of using e-resources	Yes	No	Mean	SD
To get medical information	747 (67.8%)	354 (32.2%)	0.69	0.486
To get subject oriented knowledge	654 (59.4%)	447 (40.6%)	0.60	0.501
To prepare for seminar, conferences	512 (46.5%)	589 (53.5%)	0.47	0.516
To search for research related information	492 (44.7%)	609 (55.3%)	0.46	0.539
To Prepare research paper articles	407 (37%)	694 (63%)	0.41	0.579

Result of ANOVA test

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	57.807	4	14.452	52.410	.000
Within Groups	1516.598	5500	.276		
Total	1574.404	5504			

Tukey Post Hoc Test

Purpose of visit	N	Subset for alpha = 0.05		
		1	2	3
To Prepare research paper articles	1101	0.41		
To search for research related information	1101	0.46		
To prepare for seminar, conferences	1101	0.47		
To get subject oriented knowledge	1101		0.60	
To get medical information	1101			0.69
Sig.		0.051	1.000	1.000
Means for groups in homogeneous subsets are displayed.				
a. Uses Harmonic Mean Sample Size = 1101.000.				



From the one way analysis variance it is found that there is highly significant difference between the means of electronic resources and services used by users at 5% level of significance. From Tukeys post hoc test, it is found three homogeneous subsets, first subset contains To Prepare research paper articles, To search for research related information and To prepare for seminar, conferences with P-value 0.051 second and third subset includes single factors that To get subject oriented knowledge and To get medical information respectively with P-value 1.000. The factors to get subject oriented knowledge and to get medical information are significantly differing from all other factors. From the means plot it is observed that response for last two subset factors are YES and for other factors it is almost NO.

Table 6: Frequency of using online medical databases

Databases	Most frequently	Frequently	Moderately	Seldom	Never	Mean	SD
Science Direct	165 (15)	344 (31.2)	332 (30.2)	61(5.54)	199 (18.1)	2.80	1.286
Willy Online Library	82 (7.4)	212 (19.3)	497 (45.1)	38 (3.5)	272 (24.7)	3.19	1.216
Oxford University Press	75 (6.8)	192 (17.4)	446 (40.5)	57 (5.2)	331 (30.1)	3.34	1.259
Wolters Klumer	46 (4.2)	177 (16.1)	478 (43.4)	60 (5.4)	340 (30.9)	3.43	1.198
BMJ (British Medical Journal)	80 (7.3)	187 (17.0)	481 (43.7)	67 (6.1)	286 (26.0)	3.27	1.221
MD Consult	102 (9.3)	214 (19.4)	456 (41.4)	56 (5.1)	273 (24.8)	3.17	1.257

Results of ANOVA

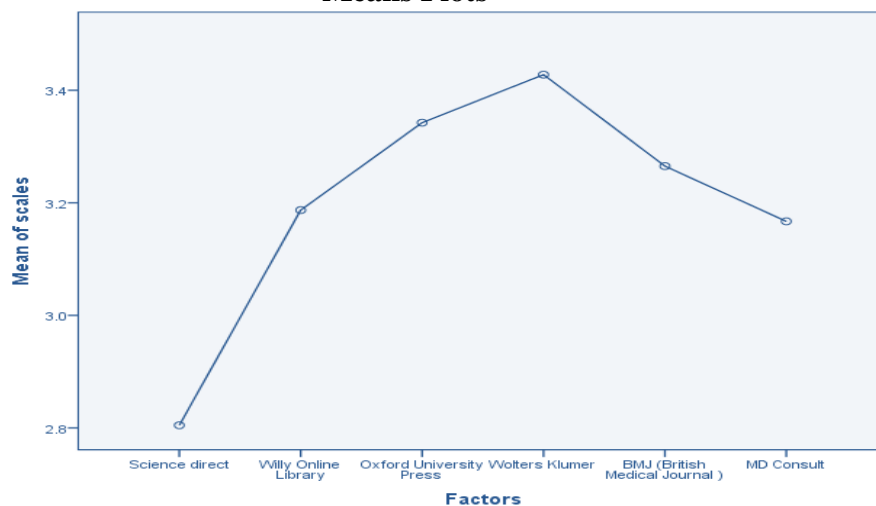
	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	257.536	5	51.507	33.493	.000
Within Groups	10149.698	6600	1.538		
Total	10407.234	6605			

Tukey Post Hoc Tests

Databases	N	Subset for alpha = 0.05			
		1	2	3	4
Science direct	1101	2.80			
MD Consult	1101		3.17		
Willy Online Library	1101		3.19		
BMJ (British Medical Journal)	1101			3.27	
Oxford University Press	1101			3.34	3.34
Wolters Klumer	1101				3.43
Sig.		1.000	.430	.689	.588
Means for groups in homogeneous subsets are displayed.					

a. Uses Harmonic Mean Sample Size = 1101.000.

Means Plots



One way analysis of variance is found to be significant at 5% level of significance. To observe a specific factor/factors which are significantly varied it is tested the post hoc test (Tukeys), from the test it is found that the four homogeneous subsets of non-significant factors group. First subset with only one factor Science direct, that indicates, this factor

respondent's response is significantly varying comparing to all the factors with the P value 1.000 and second subset contains the factors MD Consult, and Willy Online Library, third subset include BMJ (British Medical Journal) and Oxford University Press and last subset contains the factors Oxford University Press and Wolters Klumer with the P value 1.000, 0.430, 0.689 and 0.588. These factors are non-significant within the subset and significant between the subsets. From the means plot it is observed that the scale of the graph is varied between 2.8 to 3.4, these average responses indicated users are unaware about the databases related to medical sciences. This reveals that the awareness of online medical databases among users in Ayurvedic Medical College Libraries in North Karnataka is very less.

Table 7: Rating the Online Medical databases provided by the library

Databases	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Mean	SD
Medline Plus	235 (21.3)	331 (30.1)	258 (23.4)	98 (8.9)	179 (16.3)	2.69	1.341
Pub Med	137 (12.4)	342 (31.1)	334 (30.3)	113 (10.3)	175 (15.9)	2.86	1.236
Pop line	71 (6.4)	207 (18.8)	513 (46.6)	96 (8.7)	214 (19.4)	3.16	1.134
Indian Medlars Centre	61 (5.5)	209 (19.0)	501 (45.5)	117 (10.6)	213 (19.3)	3.19	1.121
NLM	61 (5.5)	166 (15.1)	561 (51.0)	100 (9.1)	213 (19.3)	3.22	1.092
Extra Med	64 (5.8)	197 (17.9)	538 (48.9)	93 (8.4)	209 (19.0)	3.17	1.108
WHO Library databases	97 (8.8)	278 (25.2)	429 (39.0)	100 (9.1)	197 (17.9)	3.02	1.188
Molecular Biology databases	66(6.0)	262 (23.8)	454 (41.2)	105 (9.5)	214 (19.4)	3.13	1.156
Multimedia Database	62 (5.6)	246 (22.3)	475 (43.1)	106 (9.6)	212 (19.3)	3.15	1.138
Scientific Database	98 (8.9)	251 (22.8)	450 (40.9)	97 (8.8)	205 (18.6)	3.05	1.190

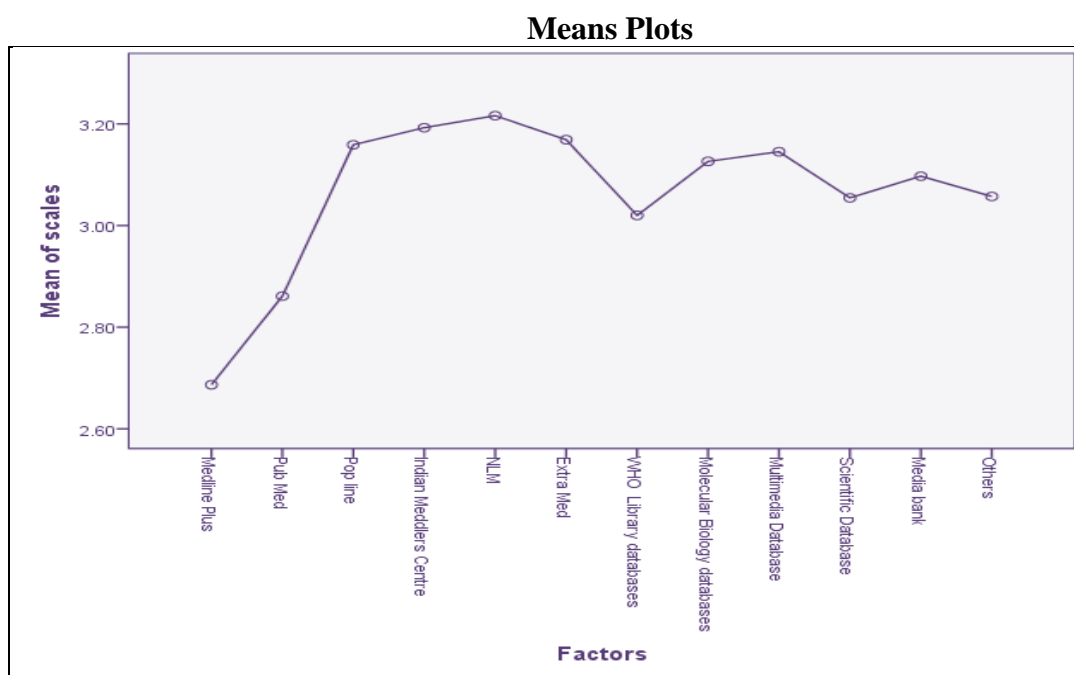
Media bank	73 (6.6)	256 (23.3)	466 (42.3)	103 (9.4)	203 (18.4)	3.10	1.149
Others	81 (7.4)	273 (24.8)	449 (40.8)	98 (8.9)	200 (18.2)	3.05	1.154

Result of ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	282.886	11	25.717	18.792	.000
Within Groups	18064.612	13200	1.369		
Total	18347.499	13211			

Tukey Post Hoc Test

Databases	N	Subset for alpha = 0.05			
		1	2	3	4
Medline Plus	1101	2.6866			
Pub Med	1101		2.8610		
WHO Library databases	1101		3.0200		
Scientific Database	1101			3.0545	
Others	1101			3.0572	
Media bank	1101			3.0972	
Molecular Biology databases	1101			3.1262	
Multimedia Database	1101			3.1453	
Pop line	1101			3.1589	
Extra Med	1101			3.1689	
Indian Medlers Centre	1101				3.1926
NLM	1101				3.2162
Sig.		1.000	.064	.112	.054
Means for groups in homogeneous subsets are displayed.					
a. Uses Harmonic Mean Sample Size = 1101.000.					



One way analysis of variance is found to be significant at 5% level of significance. To observe a specific factor/factors which are significantly varied it is tested the post hoc test (Tukey's), from the test it is found the four homogeneous subsets of non-significant factors group. First subset with only one factor Medline plus, that indicates, this factor respondents response is significantly varying comparing to all the factors with the P value 1.000 and second subset contains the factors second subset includes Pub med and Science databases third subset contains Scientific Database, Others, Media bank, Molecular Biology databases, Multimedia Database, Pop line and Extra Med and last subset contains Indian Meddlers Centre and NLM with P values 0.064, 0.112 and 0.054 respectively. From the means plot it is observed for Medline plus response is good and for other databases is unaware. Therefore, the respondents are aware of Medline database.

Findings and Conclusion

From the study it is found that library facilities are good in all the libraries under study. But still it has to be improved in terms of library collection, library organization of collection and also more importantly, the electronic service. From Tukey's post hoc test, it is found that the purpose of using e-resources varies from person to person. Therefore, it is inferred that the library authority has to study and analyses the information need of the Ayurvedic medical college library users and accordingly plan and design the system. With regard to awareness of medical database, it is found that majority of the respondents do not aware of it. The library authority has to create awareness about this among the users. From Tukey's post hoc test, it is found that Medline plus is good and for

other databases as unaware. Therefore, the respondents are aware of other medical database. This is most probably, the respondents are heavily depend upon Medline Plus only. To suggest the concerned authority to initiate information literacy program to create awareness about the same.

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