

A STUDY ON USE OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION RESOURCES BY THE USERS OF GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE MEDICAL COLLEGE LIBRARIES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

M. Padmaja* Dr. Avineni Kishore **

***Research Scholar,**
Department of Library and Information Science,
Dravidian University,
Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh, India.

****Assistant Professor,**
Department of Library and Information Science,
Dravidian University,
Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh, India.

QR Code



Abstract: - *The present study explores the use of electronic information resources by the users of Government and Private medical college libraries in Andhra Pradesh. The study highlights the extent of usage of online medical databases, awareness and frequency of use of electronic resources from NTRMEDNET Consortium and benefits of accessing electronic resources. Structured questionnaire was designed for the purpose of data collection. The result shows that majority of the Govt. medical college users represent 'Open access databases' regarding extent of usage of online medical databases completely where as Pvt. Medical college users represent 'Clinicalkey.com'. Most of the Govt. and Pvt. Medical College users use Cochrane databases frequently followed by useful links. Most of the Govt. Medical College users agreed 'Less expensive' regarding benefits of accessing electronic resources where as Pvt. Medical College users agreed with 'Easy access to information'. Poor Internet connectivity' is the major barrier raised by Govt. medical college users where as Pvt. medical college library users raised 'too much information retrieved' as major barrier while accessing electronic resources.*

Keywords: **Electronic Information Resources, Online Medical Databases, NTRMEDNET Consortium, Government and Private Medical College Libraries.**

Introduction

The rapid proliferation of information in our era has important implications for the education of health professionals including medical professionals. Sources of information available via the internet are increasing exponentially. This comes with a steady increase

in Internet use for education and for research. The internet is the most economical, easy, instant and vast resource of current information. The internet is an ideal tool for medical literature search, physician education, patient education and telemedicine. Organizations, journals, educational resources, academic departments, patient-

oriented, corporate and index sites individual and group practices are some of the categories of websites. Internet based communications are evolving at a tremendous rate.

Review of Literature

The following studies which were conducted on usage of e-resources by medical community were reviewed.

Rajender Kumar (2016) had carried out a study on Use of E-resources by the Medical Students of M.M. University, Ambala: A Case Study shows that most of P.G. and U.G. student's assigned e-resources are informative as well as update the medical knowledge. Search engine and medical research reports are used highly among the students. Further study shows that undergraduate students use e-resources daily and spent more time as compared to P.G. students. It is found that maximum students are aware and use e-resources of library. The satisfaction of medical students is not high with regard to e-resources. Study also reveals that PG students feel that e-resources are time consuming and face slow downloading whereas UG students face virus, slow downloading and feel more expensive of using e-resources.

Das and Singh (2016) in their study "Use of E-Resources by the different users of Jorhat Medical College Library, Assam" found that majority of the users prefer department for

accessing e-resources and E-mail has been chosen as the most popular internet service. Online databases and e-journals are the most popular electronic resources. Majority of the respondents feel fully satisfied with Internet services and electronic resources. User education and training are required for the users to know different searching techniques & development for accessing e- resources on their own. There is a need to subscribe very high bandwidth and internet connectivity for quick access to the available e- resources. Authority or administration should develop the necessary infrastructure for the development of e-resources.

Anandhalli and Shakuntala (2014) in their study "Students attitude towards the utilization of e-resources in Medical College Libraries of Davangere, Karnataka: A Study" reveals that e-resources mainly used for the purpose of examination study the current events in the medical science and research activities. Further, it is found that there is strong correlation coefficient between the undergraduate and postgraduate students regarding the purpose of their library visit, purpose of use of e-resources, frequently used e-resources and extent of awareness about e-resources. The study also reveals that e-journals, online-medical bibliographical databases and CD-ROM databases are the most extensively used e-resources by the medical students. Finally it is found that more than fifty three percent of the medical students

opined that they are satisfied with the existing e-resources in their library.

Bhat and Mudhol (2014) in their study “Use of E-resources by Faculty Members and Students of Sher-E-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS)” revealed that medical faculty members and students’ attitudes seem to be very positive towards e-resources for their study and research and the role of libraries as gateway to provide assistance in accessing these resources. Faculty members and medical students access more and more e-resources in their respective departments or personal desktop/laptops, it seems to be more hypothetical. The libraries should develop necessary tools to provide such services to their users satisfactorily. The speed of internet needs to be increased for quick access to the available e-resources. The SKIMS Central Library needs to arrange various orientation and training programmes for faculty members and students for the optimum use of available e-resources. In this context, the SKIMS Library may arrange orientation programmes and subscribe more databases for its users.

Rao and Mudhol (2013) launched a critical study on the topic “Utilization of web resources at the medical college libraries in Coastal Karnataka”. The study shows that growing significance of internet-based information sources, have caught the fancy of professionals, students and faculty all over the

worked and changing of the way learning happens. In order to cater to growing demand for information, most of the libraries have made available their collections in digital format, thus allowing medical graduate students access them from a place of their choice. A survey conducted on the post graduate students and faculty of 6 medical colleges in Coastal Karnataka reveals a high degree of engagement with web based information resources.

Objectives

The main objective of the present study is to assess the use of electronic information resources by the users of Govt. and Pvt. Medical college libraries. The specific objectives of the study are

1. To find out the extent of usage of online medical databases for relevant references.
2. To know the awareness of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources.
3. To examine the frequency of use of electronic resources from NTRMEDNET Consortium.
4. To assess the benefits of accessing electronic information resources.
5. To ascertain the barriers and overall satisfaction by the usage of electronic information resources.

Methodology

The survey method of research was deployed for the present study. The researcher

visited six Government Medical College Libraries and ten Private Medical College Libraries in Andhra Pradesh. To collect the data, structured questionnaire was designed in keeping view the objectives of the study. A total of 1242 questionnaires were distributed among six Govt. Medical college users and ten Pvt. Medical college users which include MBBS Students, PG Doctors and Faculty members and 986 duly filled in questionnaires were received, thus resulting into a response rate of 79.4%. The data collected through questionnaire method have been analyzed and interpreted.

Scope and limitations of the study

The study is limited to use of electronic information resources by the users of MBBS IV year students, MD/MS PG Students and Faculty members for the academic year 2013-14 in selected Govt. and Pvt. Medical college libraries in Andhra Pradesh. The colleges were selected up to 2005 established date.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

This part deals with the analysis of data received through questionnaires from MBBS Students, PG Doctors and Faculty members of Govt. and Pvt. Medical college libraries.

Distribution of respondents

A total of 1242 questionnaires were distributed and 986 duly filled in questionnaires

were received, thus resulting into a response rate of 79.4%.

Table -1
Distribution of respondents

Respondents	Total Sample	Distributed Sample	Received Sample	Percentage
Government	2450	588	490	83.3
Private	3021	654	496	75.8
Total	5471	1242	986	79.4

Table 1 depicts that among Govt. medical college users 588 questionnaires were distributed and 490 duly filled in questionnaires were received, thus resulting into a response rate of 83.3%. Among Pvt. medical college users 654 questionnaires were distributed and 496 duly filled in questionnaires were received, thus resulting into a response rate of 75.8%.

Age wise distribution of respondents

In order to know the age of the respondents, a question has been asked to the respondents and the replies given by them are presented in table 2.

Table - 2
Distribution of respondents according to age

Age	Govt. Medical College users	Pvt. Medical College users	Total
Below 30	212 (52.0)	282 (48.8)	494 (50.1)
31-35	102 (25.0)	144 (24.9)	246 (24.9)

36-40	32 (7.8)	34 (5.8)	66 (6.7)
41-45	62 (15.2)	101 (17.5)	163 (16.5)
46-50	0 (0.0)	15 (2.6)	15 (1.5)
Above 50	0 (0.0)	2 (0.3)	2 (0.2)
Total	408 (100)	578 (100)	986 (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses denote percentages

Table 2 explains that 50.1 per cent of total respondents come under the age group of below 30 years, 24.9 per cent under 31-35, 6.7 per cent under 36-40, 16.5 per cent under 41-45, 1.5 per cent under 46-50 and 0.2 per cent above 50.

The table also explains that 52 per cent of Govt. Medical College users and 48.8 per cent of Pvt. Medical College users come under the age group of below 30. 25 per cent of Govt. Medical College users and 24.9 per cent of Pvt. Medical College users come under the age group of 31-35. 7.8 per cent of Govt. Medical College users and 5.8 per cent of Pvt. Medical College users come under the age group of 36-40. 15.2 per cent of Govt. Medical College users and 17.5 per cent of Pvt. Medical College users come under the age group of 41-45.

It can be concluded that most of the respondents comes under the age group of below 30 years.

Gender-wise distribution of respondents

To know the gender of the respondents, a question has been posed to the respondents and the replies made by them are shown in table 3.

Table – 3 Distribution of respondents according to gender

Gender	Govt. Medical College users	Pvt. Medical College users	Total
Male	243 (59.6)	329 (56.9)	572 (58.0)
Female	165 (40.4)	249 (43.1)	414 (42.0)
Total	408 (100)	578 (100)	986 (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses denote percentages.

Table 3 reveals gender wise distribution of respondents. Out of total respondents, 58 per cent belongs to male respondents and the remaining 42 per cent are female respondents. Among Govt. Medical College users 59.6 per cent belongs to male respondents and the remaining 40.4 per cent are female respondents. Among Pvt. Medical College users 56.9 per cent belongs to male respondents and the remaining 43.1 per cent are female respondents.

It can be concluded that most of the respondents are male.

Purpose of visit to the library

To know the purpose of visit to the library a question has been posed to the respondents and the replies are shown in table 4.

Table - 4
Distribution of respondents according to purpose of visit to the Library

Purpose of visit to the library	Govt. Medical College users (n=408)		Pvt. Medical College users (n=578)	
	Weighted mean score	Rank	Weighted mean score	Rank
For personal books reading	5.72 (3.328)	6	8.23 (3.157)	1
For borrowing and returning of reading materials	6.86 (2.997)	2	5.83 (3.187)	5
For using reference books	5.83 (2.739)	5	6.29 (3.475)	4
For consulting current periodicals	6.14 (2.976)	4	6.87 (3.126)	2
For searching online medical databases	5.18 (2.780)	7	3.90 (2.345)	10
For using audio-visual materials	4.80 (2.335)	8	4.65 (2.411)	8
For using Internet (other than searching medical database)	7.98 (3.439)	1	6.34 (2.919)	3
For scanning documents	2.83 (2.653)	11	5.23 (2.721)	7
For photocopying	3.88 (2.410)	10	3.08 (2.788)	11
For clinical reports	4.45 (3.128)	9	5.81 (2.603)	6
For project	6.15	3	4.62	9

reports	(3.493)		(3.244)	
---------	---------	--	---------	--

Note: Figures in parenthesis denote standard deviation values.

Table 4 shows that Govt. medical college users assigned first rank for 'using internet' regarding purpose of visit to the library where as Pvt. Medical college users for 'personal books reading'. Govt. medical college users assigned 2nd rank for 'borrowing and returning of reading materials' where as Pvt. Medical college users for 'consulting current periodicals'. The last rank i.e., 11 given for 'scanning documents' by Govt. medical college users where as Pvt. Medical college users for 'photocopying'.

It can be concluded that majority of the respondents are utilizing the library for personal books reading and for using internet.

Extent of usage of online medical databases

To know the extent of usage of online medical databases a question has been posed to the respondents and the replies are shown in table 5.

Table 5

Distribution of respondents according to extent of usage of online medical databases for relevant references

Online Medical Databases	Govt. Medical College users (n = 408)			Pvt. Medical College users (n = 578)		
	C	S	M	C	S	M
Medind	127 (31.1)	261 (64.0)	20 (4.9)	115 (19.9)	409 (70.8)	54 (9.3)
PubMed/Medline	50 (12.3)	300 (73.5)	58 (14.2)	417 (72.1)	106 (18.3)	55 (9.5)
Clinicalkey.Com	66 (16.2)	304 (74.5)	38 (9.3)	418 (72.3)	119 (20.6)	41 (7.1)
Science direct	78 (19.1)	290 (71.1)	40 (9.8)	416 (72.0)	98 (17.0)	64 (11.1)
Scopus	164 (40.2)	199 (48.8)	45 (11.0)	232 (40.1)	256 (44.3)	90 (15.6)
NML Gateway	144 (35.3)	230 (56.4)	34 (8.3)	148 (25.6)	356 (61.6)	74 (12.8)
Open access databases	308 (75.5)	82 (20.1)	18 (4.4)	201 (34.8)	353 (61.1)	24 (4.2)
Medline plus	73 (17.9)	279 (68.4)	56 (13.7)	151 (26.1)	366 (63.3)	61 (10.6)
Ovid Databases	89 (21.8)	286 (70.1)	33 (8.1)	115 (19.9)	399 (69.0)	64 (11.1)
Research Gate	89 (21.8)	266 (65.2)	53 (13.0)	207 (35.8)	319 (55.2)	52 (9.0)
Cochrane Library	95 (23.3)	265 (65.0)	48 (11.8)	122 (21.1)	403 (69.7)	53 (9.2)
UpToDate	118 (28.9)	216 (52.9)	74 (18.1)	190 (32.9)	287 (49.7)	101 (17.5)
Pro Quest	131 (32.1)	230 (56.4)	47 (11.5)	216 (37.4)	289 (50.0)	73 (12.6)

Note: Figures in parentheses denote percentages; C-Completely, S-Substantially, M-Marginally

Table 5 shows that most of the Govt. Medical College users i.e., 75.5 per cent represent 'open access databases' completely regarding extent of usage of online medical databases followed by 74.5 per cent 'Clinicalkey.Com', 73.5 per cent 'PubMed/Medline', 71.1 per cent 'Science Direct' substantially and so on. Among Pvt. Medical College users 72.3 per cent represent 'Clinicalkey.Com' regarding extent of usage of online medical databases followed by 72.1 per cent 'PubMed/Medline' and 72 per cent 'Science direct' completely whereas 70.8 per cent represent 'Medind' and 69 per cent represent 'Ovid databases' substantially and so on.

It can also be concluded that majority of the Government medical college users represent 'Open access databases' regarding extent of usage of online medical databases completely where as Private medical college users represent 'Clinicalkey.com' completely.

Awareness of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources

To improve the quality of education and research and to provide cost effective services the consortium was started in the medical colleges of the state through enhanced access to high quality medical literature. To know the awareness of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources a question has been posed to the respondents and the replies are shown in table 6.

Table 6
Distribution of respondents according to awareness of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources

Awareness of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources	Govt. Med. College users	Pvt. Med. College users	Total
Yes	383 (93.9)	570 (98.6)	953 (96.6)
No	25 (6.1)	8 (1.4)	33 (3.4)
Total	408 (100)	578 (100)	986 (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses denote percentages

Table 6 shows that majority of respondents i.e., 96.6 per cent are aware of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources and the remaining 3.4 per cent are not aware of that.

The table also shows that majority i.e., 98.6 per cent of Pvt. medical college users and 93.9 per cent of Govt. Med. College users are aware of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources and the remaining are not aware of that.

It can be concluded that majority of Pvt. medical college users are much aware of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources when compared to Govt. medical college users.

Frequency of use of electronic resources from NTRMEDNET Consortium

To know the frequency of use of electronic resources from NTRMEDNET Consortium a question has been posed to the respondents and the replies are shown in table 7.

Table 7
Distribution of respondents according to frequency of use of Electronic resources from NTRMEDNET Consortium

Electronic Resources	Govt. Medical College users (n = 408)			Pvt. Medical College users (n = 578)		
	F	S	R	F	S	R
ERMED Journals	128 (31.4)	182 (44.6)	98 (24.0)	204 (35.3)	257 (44.5)	117 (20.2)
Free e-books	136 (33.3)	185 (45.3)	87 (21.3)	183 (31.7)	245 (42.4)	150 (26.0)
Cochrane databases	185 (45.3)	156 (38.2)	67 (16.4)	285 (49.3)	174 (30.1)	119 (20.6)
National database of Indian Medical Journals	159 (39.0)	131 (32.1)	118 (28.9)	215 (37.2)	229 (39.6)	134 (23.2)
LIS Blogs	143 (35.0)	174 (42.6)	91 (22.3)	243 (42.0)	207 (35.8)	128 (22.1)
Useful links	178 (43.6)	166 (40.7)	64 (15.7)	276 (47.8)	215 (37.2)	87 (15.1)
Journals of NTRUHS	162 (39.7)	174 (42.6)	72 (17.6)	217 (37.5)	246 (42.6)	115 (19.9)

Note: Figures in parentheses denote percentages; F-Frequently, S-Sometimes, R-Rarely

Table 7 shows that among Govt. Medical College users 45.3 per cent use 'Cochrane databases' and 33.3 per cent use 'free e-books' frequently followed by 44.6 per cent 'ERMED Journals' substantially. Among Pvt. Medical College users 49.3 per cent use 'Cochrane databases' and 47.8 per cent use 'useful links' frequently followed by 44.5 per cent use 'ERMED Journals' and 42.6 per cent use 'Journals of NTRUHS' substantially and so on.

It can be concluded that most of the Govt. and Pvt. Medical College users use Cochrane databases frequently followed by useful links.

Benefits of accessing electronic resources

To know the benefits of accessing electronic resources a question has been posed to the respondents and the replies are shown in table 8.

Table 8
Distribution of respondents according
to benefits of accessing electronic resources

Benefits	Govt. Medical College users (n=408)					Pvt. Medical College users (n = 578)				
	SA	A	N	D	SD	SA	A	N	D	SD
Easy access to information	116 (28.4)	172 (42.2)	92 (22.5)	15 (3.7)	13 (3.2)	89 (15.4)	347 (60.0)	69 (11.9)	53 (9.2)	20 (3.5)
Available 24 hours a day	193 (47.3)	97 (23.8)	64 (15.7)	39 (9.6)	15 (3.7)	78 (13.5)	314 (54.3)	66 (11.4)	94 (16.3)	26 (4.5)
Save time in looking up information and retrieving information	111 (27.2)	193 (47.3)	51 (12.5)	36 (8.8)	17 (4.2)	299 (51.7)	122 (21.1)	55 (9.5)	90 (15.6)	12 (2.1)
All of the information is available in one place	117 (28.7)	169 (41.4)	68 (16.7)	32 (7.8)	22 (5.4)	142 (24.6)	229 (39.6)	28 (4.8)	128 (22.1)	51 (8.8)
Availability of the journal much before the print copy	68 (16.7)	171 (41.9)	127 (31.1)	31 (7.6)	11 (2.7)	174 (30.1)	211 (36.5)	52 (9.0)	109 (18.9)	32 (5.5)
Downloading facility	106 (26.0)	160 (39.2)	74 (18.1)	46 (11.3)	22 (5.4)	161 (27.9)	246 (42.6)	56 (9.7)	73 (12.6)	42 (7.3)
Simultaneous usage	150 (36.8)	177 (43.4)	44 (10.8)	29 (7.1)	8 (2.0)	196 (33.9)	254 (43.9)	55 (9.5)	56 (9.7)	17 (2.9)
Archival facility	77 (18.9)	187 (45.8)	75 (18.4)	60 (14.7)	9 (2.2)	188 (32.5)	209 (36.2)	46 (8.0)	92 (15.9)	43 (7.4)
Good overview of what is available on any particular topic	237 (58.1)	78 (19.1)	45 (11.0)	37 (9.1)	11 (2.7)	168 (29.1)	251 (43.4)	60 (10.4)	82 (14.2)	17 (2.9)
Less expensive	55 (13.5)	251 (61.5)	45 (11.0)	46 (11.3)	11 (2.7)	236 (40.8)	183 (31.7)	32 (5.4)	98 (17.0)	29 (5.0)

Note: Figures in parentheses denote percentages

SA-Strongly agree, A- Agree, N-Neutral, D-Disagree, SD-Strongly disagree

Table 8 depicts that 61.5 per cent of Govt. Medical College users agreed with 'Less expensive' regarding benefits of accessing electronic resources followed by 47.3 per cent 'Save time in looking up information and retrieving information', 45.8 per cent 'archival facility', 43.4 per cent 'Simultaneous usage' 42.2 per cent 'Easy access to information', 41.9 per cent 'Availability of the journal much before the print copy', 41.4 per cent 'All of the information is available in one place'.

The table also depicts that among Pvt. medical college users 60 per cent agreed with 'Easy access to information' regarding benefits of accessing electronic resources followed by 54.3 per cent 'available 24

hours a day', 43.9 per cent 'Simultaneous usage', 43.4 per cent 'Good overview of what is available on any particular topic', 42.6 per cent 'Downloading facility', 39.6 per cent 'All of the information is available in one place', 36.5 per cent 'Availability of the journal much before the print copy', 36.2 per cent 'Archival facility', and 21.1 per cent 'Save time in looking up information and retrieving information'.

It can be concluded that most of the Govt. Medical College users agreed 'Less expensive' regarding benefits of accessing electronic resources where as Pvt. Medical College users agreed with 'Easy access to information'.

Barriers while accessing electronic resources

To know the barriers while accessing electronic resources a question has been posed to the respondents and the replies are shown in table 9.

Table 9
Distribution of respondents according to barriers while accessing electronic resources

Barriers	Govt. Medical college users (n=408)		Pvt. Medical college users (n=578)	
	Weighted mean score	Rank	Weighted mean score	Rank
Poor Internet connectivity	9.733 (1.234)	1	2.287 (2.220)	10
Limited access to computer terminals	8.015 (1.054)	2	3.720 (2.178)	7
Problem with back issues	3.451 (2.018)	9	8.035 (1.190)	2
Lack of awareness	3.618 (1.757)	8	3.647 (1.574)	8
Too much information retrieved	4.395 (1.583)	6	9.820 (1.051)	1
Irrelevant responses	5.750 (1.650)	5	4.479 (1.451)	6
Staff not always available to help	4.186 (2.317)	7	6.433 (2.404)	4
*Inaccessibility to required e-resources	6.191 (2.323)	4	5.863 (1.471)	5
Congestion in computer labs	6.868 (2.378)	3	3.687 (2.021)	9
*Resources not easily available	2.794 (2.547)	10	7.029 (2.017)	3

Note: Figures in parenthesis denote standard deviation values

Table 9 shows that Govt. medical college users assigned first rank for 'poor internet connectivity' as barrier while accessing electronic resources where as Pvt. medical college users for 'too much information retrieved'. Govt. medical college users assigned 2nd rank for 'Limited access to computer terminals' where as Pvt. medical college users for 'problem with back issues'. Govt. medical college users assigned 3rd rank for 'congestion in computer labs' where as Pvt. medical college users for 'Resources not easily available'. The last rank i.e., 10th, for 'resources not easily available' given by Govt. medical college users where as Pvt. medical college users for 'Poor Internet connectivity'.

It can also be concluded that Government medical college library user's assigned first rank for 'Poor Internet connectivity' where as Private medical college library users for 'Too much information retrieved' as barriers 'while accessing electronic resources'.

Satisfaction with electronic resources

To know the satisfaction with electronic resources a question has been posed to the respondents and the replies are shown in table 10.

Table 10
Distribution of respondents according to satisfaction with electronic resources in their libraries

Satisfaction with electronic resources in their libraries	Govt. Medical College users	Pvt. Medical College users	Total
Very much satisfied	12 (2.9)	39 (6.7)	51 (5.2)
Satisfied	40 (9.8)	198 (34.3)	238 (24.1)
Somewhat satisfied	155 (38.0)	312 (53.9)	467 (47.4)
Dissatisfied	201 (49.3)	29 (5.1)	230 (23.3)
Total	408 (100)	578 (100)	986 (100)

Note: Figures in parentheses denote percentages

Table 10 reveals that 47.4 per cent of total respondents are somewhat satisfied with electronic resources provided by central library followed by 24.1 per cent satisfied, 23.3 per cent dissatisfied and 5.2 per cent are very much satisfied.

The table also reveals that 49.3 per cent of Govt. Medical College users are dissatisfied with electronic resources in central library followed by 38 percent somewhat satisfied, 9.8 per cent satisfied and

2.9 per cent very much satisfied. 53.9 per cent of Pvt. Medical College users are somewhat satisfied, 34.3 per cent are satisfied, 6.7 per cent are very much satisfied and 5.1 per cent are dissatisfied.

It can be concluded that most of the Govt. Medical College users are dissatisfied with electronic resources provided by central library whereas most of the Pvt. Medical College users are somewhat satisfied.

Findings

1. Majority of the respondents are utilizing the library for personal books reading and for using internet.
2. Majority of the Government medical college users represent 'Open access databases' regarding extent of usage of online medical databases completely where as Private medical college users represent 'Clinicalkey.com' completely.
3. Majority of Private medical college users are much aware of NTRMEDNET Consortium electronic resources when compared to Government medical college users.
4. Most of the Government and Private Medical College users use Cochrane databases frequently followed by useful links.
5. Most of the Government Medical College users agreed 'Less expensive' regarding benefits of accessing electronic resources where as Private Medical College users agreed with 'Easy access to information'.
6. 'Poor Internet connectivity' is the major barrier assigned by Govt. medical college users where as Private medical college library users assigned 'too much

information retrieved' as major barrier while accessing electronic resources.

7. Most of the Government Medical College users are dissatisfied with electronic resources provided by central library whereas Private Medical College users are somewhat satisfied.

Suggestions

Based on the various observations of the study the following suggestions are made:

1. More computer terminals should be installed in the library for easy access to faculty members and students.
2. Increasing resources should be allocated for enriching electronic resources for the benefit of users.
3. Awareness should be generated on the e-resources to obtain current information.
4. Some orientation training programmes should be organized by medical libraries at regular intervals so that the maximum users can improve their excellence or proficiency in the use of e-resources.

Conclusion

Today all type of medical information is available in electronic formats. The e-resources play a drastic role among the medical academic community in accessing and sharing of information. E-resources keep medical community up-to-date over traditional resources. The present study is conducted with the objective to know the e-resources extent of usage patterns among MBBS Students, PG Doctors and Faculty members at six Govt. Medical college library users and ten Pvt. Medical college library users in Andhra Pradesh. The study found significant differences between Govt. Medical College library users and Pvt. Medical College library users. Most of the Govt. Medical College library users are dissatisfied with electronic resources provided by central library whereas most of the Pvt. Medical College library users are somewhat satisfied. Therefore, much more is need to be done to make maximum access of e-resources in Govt. Medical College libraries. Awareness progammes should be conducted among the users with regard to how E-resources are easy to access at any place any time, provide right information at right time, and have become widely used tools in medical literature and patient care education today as well as have benefits over traditional educational resources.

References

- Anandhalli, G. & Shakuntala, G.S. (2014). Students attitude towards the utilization of e-resources in Medical College libraries of Davangere, Karnataka: A Study. *International Journal of Information Dissemination and technology*, 4(3), 234-239.
- Bhat Iqbal and Mudhol Mahesh V. (2014). Use of E-resources by Faculty Members and Students of Sher-E-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS). *DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology*, 34(1), 28-34.
- Das R., Singh Sanjay Kumar. (2016). Use of E-Resources by the different users of Jorhat Medical College Library, Assam. *International Journal of Library and Information Studies*, 6(2), 97-103.
- Rajender Kumar(2016). Use of E-resources by the Medical Students of M.M. University, Ambala: A Case Study. *DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology*, 36(1), 10-16.
- Rao Mahabaleshwara, B. and Mudhol, M.V. (2013). Utilization of web resources at the medical college libraries in Coastal Karnataka. *SRELS Journal of Information Management*, 50; 61-91.