
Impact of Electronic Resources in ICMR Institutions of Tamilnadu

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Abstract

ICMR is one of the oldest medical research autonomous bodies around the world since 1949. Nowadays, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) provides various types of electronic resources and is being benefited by the users. This study is to analyze the impacts of electronic resources such as availability of electronic resources, frequent usage of electronic resources, and purpose of using electronic resources. The users are effectively using the electronic resources status and also the research status in the field of Medical and allied research.

Keywords

Electronic Resources, User Study and Indian
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1. Introduction

Biomedical research¹ (or experimental medicine), in general is simply known as medical research, is the basic research, applied research, or translational research conducted to aid and support the body of knowledge in the field of medicine. Many challenges remain, however, including the appearance of antibiotic resistance and the obesity epidemic. This study aims at the usage of electronic resources in the ICMR Institutions libraries and various studies from the users regarding the usage of electronic resources. The purpose of this study is to examine the usage and impact of electronic resources in the ICMR institutions through libraries.

2. Statement of the Problem

The purpose of the study is to find out the scope of using electronic resources and impacts of electronic resources on library users in ICMR Institutions of Tamil Nadu.

3. Review of Literature

Porumbeanu (2009) has discussed the effects of technological innovations on Romanian academic medical libraries, with particular focus given to the impact of electronic resources. The computer literacy levels of Romanian library user, resource preferences of library users, and difficulties connected with the use of electronic information resources are discussed. The author also discusses about the need of user training, available information and promotion of electronic information resources in medical libraries. And the paper concludes that the students, faculty members in medical libraries highly impact, while using the electronic resources.

Asemi (2007) aimed to investigate the relationships between awareness and usage of digital resources among students in Isfahan University of Medical Sciences. This paper identifies students had less use of offline databases, attributed to factors such as infrequent periodic orientation and lack of education on use of offline databases and fewer terminals connected to the server in the central library. Users are faced with problems like low speed connectivity and shortage of hardware facilities.

4. ICMR Profile

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world. As early as in 1911, the

Government of India set up the Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA) with the specific objective of sponsoring and coordinating medical research in the country. It was redesignated in 1949 as the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with considerably expanded scope of functions. The ICMR is funded by the Government of India through the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The present study from four ICMR institutions in Tamilnadu like 1) Tuberculosis Research Institute 2) Center for Research in Medical Entomology 3) National Institute of Epidemiology and 4) Pasteur Institute of India.

5. Objectives of the study

- ❖ To analyze the usage of electronic resources.
- ❖ To analyze the types of electronic resources available in the libraries.
- ❖ Finding out electronic resources that are used frequently.
- ❖ To find the purpose of using electronic resources, and way of search techniques for using electronic resources.
- ❖ How to learn electronic resources.
- ❖ How to obtain journal articles from the library by the users.
- ❖ Impact of Electronic Resources
- ❖ Effect of Electronic Resources in the library functions

6. Methodology

70 samples are taken from the library users of 4 ICMR Institutions in Tamil Nadu. The structured questionnaires are prepared for this study.

8. Data Analysis and Tables

8.1 Sample Size

S.No	Institute Name	Total Number of Users	%
1	National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai	16	22.85
2	Tuberculosis Research Institute, Chennai	17	24.29
3	Centre for Research in Medical Entomology, Madurai	17	24.29
4	Pasteur Institute of India, Conoor	20	28.57
Total		70	100

Source: Primary Data

According to this table 70 library users have participated in this study. 28.57 percentages of the

Questionnaires are distributed among the library users and received. The collected questionnaires are grouped, coded, tabulated and analyzed by using appropriate statistical techniques.

7. Findings of the Study

- ❖ 83.86 percentages of users has given their opinion about all type of electronic resources that are provided in the libraries.
- ❖ 75.70 percentages of have given their opinion about frequently used electronic resources in the library.
- ❖ 85.71 percentages of the users used electronic resources for different types of works. But most of users mostly used the electronic resources for research work and finding relevant information from the specific area.
- ❖ 91.42 percentages of the users are using various methods for learning electronic resources. But most of the users using trial and error method for the same.
- ❖ 94.28 of the users are getting journal articles from various methods and mostly from library's electronic version, free electronic version and photocopy from library's printed copy.
- ❖ 92.86 percentages of the users are opinion that impact the electronic resources in the libraries and change the status of library services, library productivity, user demands, user interaction, quality of information, library image.
- ❖ 82.85 percentages of the users are opinion that the effect of electronic resources and improve the library functions like library services, user demands, user satisfaction, library material usage, library image.

library users from Pasteur Institute of India, followed by 22.85 percentages from National Institute of

Epimedology, 24.29 Percentages from Tuberculosis Research Institute and Centre for Research in

Medical Entomology.

8.2 Electronic Resources in the library

S.No	Electronic Resources	Yes	%	No	%
1	E-Books	7	10.00	2	2.86
2	Full text e-Journals	10	14.29	4	5.71
3	Unique free e-Journals	14	20.00	-	
4	Electronic Reference Sources	12	17.14	2	2.86
5	Online Databases Indexing & Abstracting Service	15	21.43	4	5.71
Total		58	83.86	12	17.14

Source: Primary Data

The table 8.2 analyzes that most of the respondents 21.43 percentages have an opinion about providing online databases (indexing and abstracting service) in the library, followed by 5.71 percentages are not providing the online databases (indexing and abstracting service). 20 percentages of the user's opinion is providing unique free electronic journals available in the library. 17.14 percentages of the user's opinion is electronic reference sources in the library,

followed by 2.86 percentages are not providing the electronic reference sources in the library. 14.29 percentages of the users opinion is the library should provide full text electronic journals, followed by 5.71 percentages are not providing the full text electronic journals in the library. 10 percentages of the users opinion is electronic books are available in the library, followed by 3.38 percentages are not providing the electronic books in the library.

8.3 Frequently used e-Resources

S.No	e-Resources	Yes	%	No	%
1	E – Books	5	7.14	3	4.29
2	E – Journals	20	28.57	3	4.29
3	Conference Proceedings	6	8.57	2	2.85
4	E – Databases	10	14.28	3	4.29
5	Technical Reports	12	17.14	3	4.29
6	Theses & Dissertations	-	-	3	4.29
TOTAL		53	75.70	17	24.30

Source: Primary Data

The table 8.3 analyzes that most of the users 7.14 percentages are frequently using the electronic books in the library, followed by 4.29 percentages, which are not using electronic books frequently in the library. 28.57 percentages of the users are frequently used the electronic journals in the library, followed by 4.29 percentages are not used electronic journals frequently in the library. 8.57 percentages of the users are frequently using the conference proceedings in the library, followed by 2.85 percentages are not

using frequently the conference proceedings in the library. 14.28 of the respondents are frequently used the electronic databases in the library, followed by 4.29 percentages are not using electronic databases frequently in the library. 17.14 percentages of the respondents are frequently using the technical reports in the library, followed by 4.29 percentages, which are not frequently using the theses and dissertations in the library.

8.4. Purpose of using e-Resources

S.No	Purpose	Yes	%	No	%
1	Research Work	20	28.57	-	-
2	Publishing Article/Books	4	5.71	4	5.71
3	Keeping up to date in Subject area	6	8.57	2	2.86
4	Finding relevant information in the specific area	20	28.57	2	2.86
5	Getting current information	10	14.29	2	2.86
TOTAL		60	85.71	10	14.29

Source: Primary Data

The table 8.4 analyzes that most of the respondents 28.57 are using the electronic resources for the purpose of research work and finding relevant information in the specific area. 5.71 percentages of the respondents used the electronic resources for publishing articles and books, followed by 5.71

percentages are not using the electronic resources for publishing articles and books. 8.57 of the respondents are using the electronic resources for keeping up to date in subject area, followed by 2.86 percentages are not using the electronic resources for keeping update in subject area.

8.5 How to learn to use e-Resources

S.No	Type of Learning	Yes	%	No	%
1	Trial & Error	18	25.71	-	-
2	Self Study (Reading Books / Journals)	16	22.85	2	2.86
3	Family Friends / Colleagues	14	20.00	2	2.86
4	Guidance from Library Staff	10	14.29	2	2.86
5	Guidance from Computer Skilled Staff	6	8.57	-	-
Total		64	91.42	6	8.58

Source: Primary Data

The table 8.5 analyzes that 25.71 of the respondents have learned to use electronic resources through trial and error. 22.85 percentage of the respondents are learning to use the electronic resources through self study, followed by 2.86 percentages are have not learning this type. 20 percentages of the respondents

are learning to use electronic resources through family friends and colleagues, followed by 2.86 are not using this type. 14.29 percentages of respondents are learned to use electronic resources under the guidance of library staff, followed by 2.86 percentages are not using this type.

8.6 Impact of e-Resources

S.No	Functions	Positive	%	Negative	%
1	Library Services	12	17.14	1	1.42
2	Library Productivity	13	18.57	-	-
3	User Demands	12	17.14	1	1.42
4	Library - User Interaction	10	14.29	1	1.42
5	Quality of Information	8	11.43	1	1.42
6	Library Image	10	14.29	1	1.42
TOTAL		65	92.86	5	7.14

Source: primary Data

Table 8.6 shows that 17.14 percentages of the users are opinion about that impact the library services through using electronic resources in the library, followed by 1.42 percentages of the users are not impact the library services. 18.57 percentages of the users are opinion about that impact the library productivity through using electronic resources in the library.17.14 percentages of the users are opinion about that impact the user demands through using electronic resources in the library, followed by 1.42 percentages of the users are not impact the

user demands.14.29 percentages of the users are opinion about that impact the library – user interaction and library image through using electronic resources in the library, followed by 1.42 percentages of the users are not impact for the same. 11.43 percentages of the users are opinion about that impact the quality information through using electronic resources in the library, followed by 1.42 percentages of the users are not impact the quality of information

8.7 With the effect of e-Resources, what is your view on the status of library functions

S.No	Functions	Improve	%	Don't Improve	%	No Effect	%
1	Library Services	12	17.14	2	2.86	-	-
2	User Satisfaction	14	20.00	2	2.86	2	2.86
3	User Demands	11	15.71	2	2.86	-	-
4	Library Material Usage	11	15.71	2	2.86	-	-
5	Library Image	10	14.29	2	2.86	-	-
TOTAL		58	82.85	10	14.29	2	2.86

Source: Primary Data

The table 8.7 shows that 17.14 percentages of the users are opinion about that the improve library services through effect of electronic resources, followed by 2.86 percentages of the users are not told that not improve the same. 20 percentages of the users are opinion about that improve the user satisfaction through effect of electronic resources, followed by 2.86 percentages of the users are not told that not improve the same and 2.86 percentages of the users are told that no effect from electronic resources.15.71 percentages of the users are opinion about that the improve user demands and library material usage through effect of electronic resources, followed by 2.86 percentages of the users are not told that not improve the same.

Conclusion:

Electronic resources like electronic books, electronic journals, electronic databases etc are mostly used for research work by the library users in the ICMR Institutions of Tamil Nadu. Electronic resources have been creates the rapidly changes and image of library functions and also the status of institution. So the researcher finds out from this study , electronic resources plays a vital role in the research institutions

and help to cultivate new technologies in the field of medical research.

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