Use of Online Journals by the Faculty Members Working at the Medical Institutions in Bangalore City: A Study

ABSTRACT

This study mainly focuses on the infrastructure facilities made available for the faculty members for accessing online journals and also the analytical study of the use of online journals by the faculty members working in the 12 medical institutions of Bangalore city.

The researcher has visited all the twelve institutions and observed the infrastructure facilities available for the faculty. Further, data and information relating to the online journals subscribed to the library/institution have been obtained from the chief librarians. A Questionnaire was used to obtain data from the librarians. Another questionnaire was distributed among the faculty members in order to obtain responses as to the use of online journals.

The study has depicted that a large majority of the medical institutions possess adequate internet browsing facility to access online journals. Further, the study has also depicted that a large majority of the faculty rely upon online journals for teaching and research purposes. Important recommendations include allocation of adequate funds, increase in subscription to online journals, increase in the number of internet browsing terminals and finally increase in bandwidth of internet connectivity. Of-late, the researchers and the faculty especially in the sphere of medical sciences have stated to accessing online journals to a higher extent. This trend clearly indicates that adequate infrastructure facility has to be provided with on top priority.

Moreover, subscription to online journals and medical databases has to be made depending upon the recommendations of the faculty members. The study has also recommended for conducting the user studies periodically. It clearly shows that the extent of use of online journals and the sources is to be subscribed on priority. Online journals carry first hand information on the original research and hence, the need for getting access to all the time and everywhere. The study has clearly depicted the value of online journals for teaching and research in medical disciplines.