APPENDIX I: INFORMATION SEEKING STRATEGIES FOR MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

A STUDY OF NORTH EAST INDIA.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Doctor,

In connection with my requirements for Ph.D at N.E.H.U., Shillong, I am conducting a research study in the topic cited above. The main objective of the study is to investigate the nature of information needs, sources, channels used by the medical practitioners for medicine and patient care and also examine the barriers for quality transmission of the health information, so that possible suggestions can be made for effective transmission of health information in North East India. Therefore, I request you to spare a few minutes of your valuable time to fill up this questionnaire.

All the information supplied by you will be kept strictly confidential.

Thanking you.

Sincerely Yours.

(BIJOY BHARALI)
Section 1: INFORMATION NEEDS.

Information need is defined as "state of want". It is a basic resource for medical education, research and patient care, thus rendering support towards enhancing the quality of life. Medical practitioners need information for keeping abreast with the latest developments in their fields, writing or reviewing articles or preparing research projects.

Listed below are some statements on information needs. Please encircle whichever is appropriate.

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<th>Statement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I need information to keep abreast with the latest developments in my area of specialization.</td>
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<td>2. I need information to keep abreast with the latest developments in the area which are related to my field of specialization.</td>
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<td>3. I need information for solving day to day problems I face in my profession.</td>
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<td>4. I need information to gain knowledge about the new drugs.</td>
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<td>5. I need information to gain knowledge about new clinical methods.</td>
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<td>6. I need information to gain knowledge about new treatments.</td>
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<td>7. I need information to know about the background of the patients.</td>
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<td>8. I need statistical information regarding various disease/epidemics to treat patients suffering from similar symptoms.</td>
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<td>9. I need information for preparing lectures for the students or audiences.</td>
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<td>10. I need information for preparing conference/seminar papers.</td>
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<td>11. I need information to write an article or review an article.</td>
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<td>12. I collect information for understanding research project</td>
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<td>13. I need information to attend national conference/seminar/workshop</td>
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14. I need information to attend the international conference/seminar/workshop. 5 4 3 2 1

15. I need information for preparing research projects in my area of specialization. 5 4 3 2 1

SECTION 2: INFORMATION SOURCES

"Information is the key to quality health care". In order to get information, various information sources are used. Below are listed some of the information sources, you may be using for getting information.

Please encircle whichever is appropriate.

5-Very often
4-Often
3-Sometimes
2-Seldom
1-Never

To satisfy information needs, I use,

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>1. Journals. Indian</td>
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<td>International</td>
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<td>2. News letters</td>
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<td>3. Current Awareness Bulletins</td>
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<td>4. Government Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Research monograph</td>
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<td>6. Research report</td>
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<td>7. Conference proceedings</td>
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<td>8. Dissertations/Thesis</td>
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<td>9. Review of progress</td>
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<td>10. Trade literature</td>
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<td>11. Treatise</td>
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<td>12. Patents</td>
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<td>13. Standards</td>
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<td>14. Text books</td>
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<td>16. Published bibliographies</td>
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17. Pre-Prints or Publishers advance notice 5 4 3 2 1
18. Dictionaries 5 4 3 2 1
19. Encyclopaedias 5 4 3 2 1
20. Atlas 5 4 3 2 1
21. Year books 5 4 3 2 1
22. Year book published from UNICEF/WHO 5 4 3 2 1
23. Directories 5 4 3 2 1
24-20. Unpublished sources 5 4 3 2 1
25. In-house memoranda 5 4 3 2 1
26. Internal meetings 5 4 3 2 1
27. Discussion within hospital 5 4 3 2 1
28. Discussion with other hospitals 5 4 3 2 1
29. Patients record (Personal) 5 4 3 2 1
30. Patients record (Centralised i.e. MRD) 5 4 3 2 1
31. Pharmaceutical representatives 5 4 3 2 1
32. News papers/Magazines 5 4 3 2 1
33. Programme Documents 5 4 3 2 1
34. Published from WHO
   Statistical Quarterly 5 4 3 2 1
   Public Health Paper 5 4 3 2 1
   Technical Report Series 5 4 3 2 1
   Any Other 5 4 3 2 1
35. Audio-Visual:
   Radio 5 4 3 2 1
   Tape Recorder 5 4 3 2 1
   Slide 5 4 3 2 1
   T V 5 4 3 2 1
   V C R 5 4 3 2 1
   LCD Projector 5 4 3 2 1
   Cinema 5 4 3 2 1
36. C D Rom 5 4 3 2 1
37. Indexing and Abstracting services
   Index Medicus 5 4 3 2 1
   IMSEAR 5 4 3 2 1
   Medlars 5 4 3 2 1
   Internet 5 4 3 2 1
   Any other 5 4 3 2 1
38. On-line databases

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<td>Internet</td>
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<td>Any other</td>
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SECTION 3: INFORMATION CHANNELS

Information channels means how you get or acquire information from various sources. Below are the listed some information channels medical practitioners use for satisfying their information needs. Please encircle whichever is appropriate.

5-Very often
4-often
3-Sometimes
2-Seldom
1-Never

I get/acquire information by:-

1. Consult the Institutional library 5 4 3 2 1
2. Consult the public libraries 5 4 3 2 1
3. Consult any other libraries 5 4 3 2 1
4. Personal collection 5 4 3 2 1
5. Personal collection from colleagues 5 4 3 2 1
6. Personal visit to subject specialist 5 4 3 2 1
7. Attending seminars/conferences/workshop 5 4 3 2 1
8. Discussion with colleagues/meetings 5 4 3 2 1
9. Accidental discovery of information 5 4 3 2 1
10. Follows up references and footnotes 5 4 3 2 1
11. Asking the author for reprint 5 4 3 2 1
12. Writing a letter to friend in India/abroad 5 4 3 2 1
13. Phone calls to a subject specialist in India/abroad 5 4 3 2 1
14. Sending E-mail to a subject specialist in India/abroad 5 4 3 2 1
15. Sending fax to a subject specialist in India/abroad 5 4 3 2 1
16. Conducting computer based searches in my computer 5 4 3 2 1
17. Conducting computer based searches on
my Institute 5 4 3 2 1

18. Conducting computer based searches in other Institution in India 5 4 3 2 1

19. Conducting computer based searches while abroad 5 4 3 2 1

20. Accessing on-line data bases like:
   MEDLINE 5 4 3 2 1
   INTERNET 5 4 3 2 1
   ADONIS 5 4 3 2 1
   TOXLINE 5 4 3 2 1
   Medical Bulletin Board Service (M.B.B.S.) 5 4 3 2 1
   Any other 5 4 3 2 1

Section 4: INFORMATION BARRIERS

You might be facing some problems or barriers while acquiring information from various sources. Listed below are some problems or barriers which you might have encountered.

Please encircle whichever is appropriate:
5- Quite true
4- True
3- Doubtful
2- False
1- Quite false

1. There is always shortage of books in my library 5 4 3 2 1
2. I wish there were more Journals available in my library 5 4 3 2 1
3. Indexing and abstracting services are not available in the library 5 4 3 2 1
4. Library staff does not assist in using library resources 5 4 3 2 1
5. I have communication barriers with my library staff 5 4 3 2 1
6. Computerized library services are not available to me 5 4 3 2 1
7. I do not have access to online service in my Library. 5 4 3 2 1
8. I do not have access to online service personally. 5 4 3 2 1
9. I do not have access to Internet in the library. 5 4 3 2 1
10. I do not have access to Internet personally. 5 4 3 2 1
11. I do not have time to visit library 5 4 3 2 1
12. Latest books and periodicals are not available in the library. 5 4 3 2 1
13. My library lacks duplicating facilities. 5 4 3 2 1
14. I wish library was opened for more time. 5 4 3 2 1
15. Lack of physical facilities viz. AC room, Seating facilities etc does not allow library resources to be used maximally. 5 4 3 2 1
16. The library staff do not assist/help in using manual bibliographic tools in the library. 5 4 3 2 1
17. The library staff do not assist/help in using computerised bibliographic tools in the library. 5 4 3 2 1

Section 5: PERSONAL DATA

Please tick (✓) mark whichever is appropriate for you

1. PRESENT AGE (Years):
   1. Below 25
   2. 25-30
   3. 30-35
   4. 35-40
   5. 40-45
   6. 45-50
   7. 50-55
   8. 55-60

2. Age at the time of joining medical profession(Years):
   1. Below 25
   2. 25-30
   3. 30-35
   4. 35-40
   5. 40+

3. Sex
   1. Male
   2. Female

4. Marital Status
   1. Married
   2. Unmarried
   3. Single
   4. Divorced
   5. Others

5. Designation
   1. Professor
   2. Asso. Prof.
   3. Asst. Prof.
   4. Registrar/ Demonstrator
   5. Any other (Please specify)
6. Please Indicate your academic qualification at the time of joining in the profession.
   5. Diploma (Please specify)
   6. Any other (Please specify)

7. Please Indicate your present academic qualifications.
   5. Diploma (Please specify)
   6. Any other (Please specify)

8. Your area of specialization

9. How long you have worked in this present organization

10. How long you've been in this profession

11. How many years you have been in the present position.

12. How many other organizations you've worked in.
APPENDIX II: INFORMATION SEEKING STRATEGIES FOR MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

:A STUDY OF NORTH EAST INDIA.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Name of the library:

2. Date of establishment:

3. Collection:
   - No of books:
   - No of bound volumes: Indian: International:

4. Budget:
   - For Last five years:
     - On books:
     - On periodicals:

5. Status of Computerisation
   - Availability:
     - No. of PC:
     - No. of CDROMS:
     - Networking:

6. Availability of Databases
   - CDROM Databases:
     - On-line databases:
     - In-house databases:
     - Software use in the library:

7. Manpower:
   - Name
     1. Librarian
     2. Dy. Librarian
     3. Asstt Librarian
     4. Technical Asstt.
     5. Library Asstt.
     7. Library Attendent.
     8. UDA
     9. LDA
     10. Others.
     - Qualifications
8. Persons trained in IT:
   Professionals  Semi-Prof.  Non-Prof.

9. Users:
   No. of users (Last five years)

10. Opening time of the library:

11. Services provided to the users
   Circulation:
   Reference:
   Others:

12. Statistical data
   No. of user per day
   How many books issue per day

13. Arrangement:
   Classification:
   Cataloguing:

14. Future plan for Computerization and others

15. Suggestions: