USAGE PATTERN OF ONLINE JOURNALS IN FACULTY OF MEDICINE LIBRARY, ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY INDIA

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Overview

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Background of ERMED:
Started 2008, 39 medical colleges covered.
2009, Medical Colleges covered: 72
2010, Medical Colleges covered: 98
Total Journals: 2000
Hypothesis:

- Consortia based subscription of online journals has enhanced the flow of health information in India.

- Substantial increase in the use of E- journals at the faculty of medicine Library.

- Shifting paradigm from Print journals to Online journals.

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Objectives of the Study:

- To analyze the Usage patterns of e-journals for identifying the areas for further research.
- To measure the effectiveness of Consortium; ERMED (Electronic Resources in Medicine)
- To make an evidence based study of the actual usage of this consortium.

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Methodology:

- Focused on usage statistics gathered as a web administrator of the consortium.
- Statistics gathered from Feb 2010 to Jan 2011.
- Based on vendor supplied usage statistics from COUNTER compliant publishers.
- Only online journals usage data was analyzed.
- Results were imported into Excel sheet and trends were analysed using simple statistical methods.
- Actual usage of 1780 journals was analyzed.

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General Findings/Results:

- Online journals were accessed 4 times higher than the print journals (710 Online journals Vs. 165 Print only)

- Total number hits at ERMED: 20,369

- Most preferred option: Table of Content Page with 5625 hits.

- Total number of full texts downloads: 4042

- Database Search Page was less preferred option: 2726 hits.
General Findings/Results:

- Post Graduates/Senior Residents (486) accessed more journals than undergraduates (1050).

- Only six publishers were found most widely used & searched with above 200 hits.

- Journals with higher impact factor were accessed & downloaded most frequently.

- It was amazing that out of 1780 journals covered under the consortium; only 44.3% journals were used and 55.7% were unused.

- Surprisingly facilities like Journal Page list and View & Print option were not used by the scholars at all.
ERMED Cumulative Usage

Cumulative Usage (Feb.10 - Jan.11)

Months

Feb.10  Mar.10  Apr.10  May.10  Jun.10  Jul.10  Aug.10  Sep.10  Oct.10  Nov.10  Dec.10  Jan.11

351  1287  2628  3598  4428  5348  7572  9982  12570  15743  18589  2036
Navigation Tools/Access Options

![Bar Chart]
Downloads per Month

![Bar graph showing total downloads per month from February 2010 to January 2011.](chart.png)
Current Vs. Archives Usage

![Graph showing Current vs. Archives usage from Feb. 2010 to Jan. 2011. The graph illustrates fluctuations in usage over the months, with a notable peak in October.]
Top 10 Subjects Accessed

- **Anaesthesiology**: 309 No. of Hits, 26 No. of Journals
- **Dentistry**: 256 No. of Hits, 30 No. of Journals
- **E.N.T.**: 280 No. of Hits, 19 No. of Journals
- **Medicine**: 592 No. of Hits, 94 No. of Journals
- **Microbiology**: 433 No. of Hits, 63 No. of Journals
- **Nephrology**: 313 No. of Hits, 19 No. of Journals
- **Obstetrics & Gynecology**: 306 No. of Hits, 27 No. of Journals
- **Ophthalmology**: 432 No. of Hits, 39 No. of Journals
- **Orthopaedics**: 491 No. of Hits, 29 No. of Journals
- **Surgery**: 279 No. of Hits, 28 No. of Journals
Print Vs. Online Journals

![Bar Chart]

The chart above compares the number of print and online journals across various medical specialties. The specialties include Anesthesiology, Dentistry, E.N.T., Medicine, Microbiology, Nephrology, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedics, and Surgery. The y-axis represents the number of journals, ranging from 0 to 100. The chart indicates that in most specialties, there are more print journals than online journals, except for Dentistry and Medicine, where online journals are more prevalent.
Top 10 Publishers Accessed

- Springer-Verlag: 20.13%
- Lippincott Williams and Wilkins: 18.98%
- Informa Healthcare: 11.89%
- BMJ Publishing Group: 10.75%
- Karger Publisher: 10.38%
- Medknow Publications Pvt Ltd: 9.10%
- John Wiley and Sons, Inc: 5.35%
- Nature Publishing Group: 4.71%
- Adis International Ltd: 4.44%
- Adis International Ltd: 4.25%
Top 10 Journals Accessed

2. American Journal of Cardiovascular Drugs - 5.09%
3. Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology of India - 5.17%
4. British Journal of Ophthalmology - 5.5%
5. Kidney International - 5.58%
6. Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics - 5.82%
7. Annals of Otology, Rhinology & Laryngology - 6.14%
8. Journal of Glaucoma - 6.31%
9. Annals of Surgery - 6.55%
10. American Journal of Nephrology - 8%
Top 5 Indian Journals Accessed

- Indian Journal of Nephrology: 58%
- Journal of Anatomical Society of India: 37%
- Indian Journal of Medical Research: 40%
- Indian Journal of Otolaryngology & Head Neck Surgery: 28%
- Indian Journal of Dermatology: 27%

Top 5 Indian Journals (in %)
Institutional Approach to Online Journals

- Medical College: 397 (51%)
- Institute of Ophthalmology: 119 (15%)
- Dental College: 262 (34%)

The chart shows the distribution of online journal access among different institutions.
Top 5 Journals Accessed in J.N. Medical College

- American Journal of Nephrology (25%)
- Annals of Surgery (21%)
- Annals of Otolaryngology, Rhinology & Laryngology (19%)
- Journal of Paediatric Orthopaedics (18%)
- Kidney International (17%)
Top 5 Journals Accessed in Inst. of Ophthalmology

- Journal of Glaucoma (32%)
- British Journal of Ophthalmology (32%)
- Archives of Ophthalmology (15%)
- Journal of Paediatrics Ophthalmology & Straubismus (13%)
- Ophthalmic Research (28%)
Top 5 Journals Accessed in Dental College

- Journal of Oral Implantology
- Implant Dentistry
- British Dental Journal
- Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology
- Journal of Conservative Dentistry
Top 10 ERMED Users (Colleges/Institutes) in India

- All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
- Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi
- Institute of PG Medical Education & Research, Pondicherry
- Government Medical College, Trivandrum
- National Medical Library
- Tamil Nadu MGR Medical University, Chennai
- University College of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
- Government Medical College, Kozhikode
- G.S. Medical College, Mumbai
- All India Institute of Speech & Hearing, Mysore
Recommendations for future study:

- Examine the impact of e-journals in all Medical libraries covered under ERMED.
- Analyze which e-journals have been accessed maximum in all the libraries.
- Find out the list of journals which have not been accessed at all.
- Conduct a survey of all the health science libraries in India to gather data regarding the patrons & user’s satisfaction.
Conclusion:

- Evidence shows that there is a shifting paradigm from print to online even in a developing country like India.
- Consortium like ERMED has enhanced the flow of health information and facilitated the access of scholarly publications.
- Finally it is important to note that the study was limited to a single library only while the Consortium covers 98 medical libraries.
- Further quantitative and qualitative research is to be performed to bring new understanding of how the services impact upon research and knowledge economy in India.
Thank you!

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