

Information Use Pattern among Medical Professionals in Union Territory of Puducherry

A. Sampath

¹Research Scholar, Dept. of Library and Information Science, Vinayaka Mission University, Salem

*Corresponding Author: tct2009@gmail.com

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Abstract— Information Seeking Behavior is one of the important areas in user studies .The motives and purposes of users give rise to information needs and requirements. To satisfy such needs and requirements ,users adopt many ways and means of accessing and searching sources of information .Then they try to acquire necessary information both in regular and in adhoc manner as necessary from these sources. In the act of acquiring information ,the uses or calls upon the sources of predetermined ,thus leading to satisfaction or dissatisfaction in relation to purposes and needs.

Keywords—Information, Medicine, Pudhucherry, Territory

I. INTRODUCTION

Information Seeking Behavior is one of the important areas in user studies .The motives and purposes of users give rise to information needs and requirements. To satisfy such needs and requirements ,users adopt many ways and means of accessing and searching sources of information .Then they try to acquire necessary information both in regular and in *ad hoc* manner as necessary from these sources. In the act of acquiring information ,the uses or calls upon the sources of predetermined ,thus leading to satisfaction or dissatisfaction in relation to purposes and needs.

1.1 Statement of the problems

This study examines information seeking behavior of medical professionals in medical colleges of Union Territory of puducherry and encompasses medical professionals of nine medical colleges whose information needs information seeking behavior can be assessed from their responses. The information needs can be assessed on the basis of duration and quantum of time utilization in search of information in libraries of their own institutions and also in other institutions :and so the time aspect had been brought within the purview of the present study.

The analysis of nature and type of information required by medical professional is the second important aspect of studying information use pattern ,the medical professionals whose information use pattern behavior is determined by levels of their motivation .Hence this study attempts to assess the medical professionals level of motivation in respect of seeking and collecting various sources of information.

The study explore the extent to which the medical professionals of selected institutions depend on various sources of library information and there by the performance of library services can be studied from the perspective of rendering services to users ,and also possession of facilities amenities. The complete utilization of library services and facilities are indicative of conductive information seeking environment ,otherwise the level of utility will decline. So the third aspect of this study involves a careful analysis of the effectiveness of library services ,for a productive utilization of information.

The access to library services and facilities determines the utility of library. The users may for instance ,expect some advantages while utilizing the library facilities .Analyzing the users' perception about advantages of utilizing the library of their own institution merit ,and hence this study enfold the third aspect, the assessment of information sharing behaviors of the medical professionals which is a key issue; and it shows how the information sharing behavior determines the information use pattern among medical professionals.

The study of respondents' professional activities and achievements gives a clue to their access to information and information needs, since a higher level of professionals activities and achievements indicative the proportionate degree of access to information and also of information needs and utilization of such information .Hence ,there is a need to assess the types of medical professionals who possess higher level of medical professionals activities and achievements. The study of medical professionals 'extent of utilization various databases indicatives their subject concentration and determines their information requirements.

The analyze of respondents 'extent of satisfaction over various sources of library information forms another vital constituent and fifth aspect of study. This type of assessments helps to assess the utility of library services and calls fourth an analysis of three independent variables namely, colleges, educational status and sex.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Birandar and sampath kumar (2000) study attempted to identify the periodicals use pattern by teachers and research scholars in the university environment. The author tried to trace the impact of personal attribute on the use⁴ of periodicals.

Robert Orfon ,Rita Marcella and Graeme Baxter(2000) described the results of an observational study of the information seeki8ng behavior of Members of Parliament .It was argued the their political life depended on a flow of information and the information itself id a prime resources. The study sought to determine the characteristics the impact upon the manner in which information was collected and used by parliamentarians.

Wilson (2000) studied on the recent trends in user studies :action research and qualitative methods. The study attempted to set out what was, for the first time , a novel perspective in appropriative methodologies for the study of human information seeking behavior. The focus was on qualitative methods and action research. The argument was that the application of information research depended rather upon its adoption into the managerial process of organizations ,than on its self-evident relationship to any body of theory.

Melissa Gross(2001) studied on imposed information seeking in public libraries and school libraries media centers . The study summarized researches on the imposed query in two different information providing contexts: the elementary school and the adult reference desk at the public library .Results brought out users in these environments and provided an assessment of the imposed quarries these contexts.

Suda,S.T and Harinarayanan N.S(2009) Use of e-resources by professional and non professional college students and its optimum utilization level of satisfaction derived and the problems encountered while browsing information and felt fairly better satisfaction by using e-resources to support their academic and research activities.

Mahawar (2011) in his paper explains the utilization of the library services, frequency and purposes of the internet use ,awareness and time spent on the search engines and web sites, overall rating of the library/documentation/information

/internet service ,opinion for improvement of the library services/functions of the users of research and academic institution libraries at Luknow.

Belwal,Mahesh chandrs B and sadik Batca ,M(2012) conducted a study under title "Use of ICT Technologies and its Dependency Level among Students and Faculty Members of G.B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology to examine the scale of dependency of using different ICT technologies by the respondents .The study brings out the findings that the users highly use ICT technologies for their academic purposes and in result it has made high impact on the use pattern and information seeking approaches.

Saleem,A.Shabana Tabasum and Satik Batcha ,M(2014) dia a study under the title " application and Uses of Information Communication Technology in Academic Libraries : An Overview to find out the users 'ICT skills ,and to know the opinion of the users in using ICT resources for their different purposes .The study ends with result that the increasing use of application of ICT tools in academic Libraries are noteworthy and users are benefitted at the maximum percentages.

III. RESEARCH DESIGN

3.1 Objectives

- In order to persue this study ,the following objectives are framed in according with the scope of this investigation:
- i) To analyses the respondents 'duration and quantum of time utilization in search of information in the libraries of selected colleges.
 - ii) To examine the nature and type of information require by the medical professionals in medical colleges of union territory of puducherry.
 - iii) To identify the extent of motivation among the medical professionals in union territory of puducherry in collection of library information for various library purposes.
 - iv) To know the extent of dependence of medical professionals of medical colleges on various sources of information for getting the relevant required information.
 - v) To analyse the extent of use of library facilities and services made by libraries of medical colleges.
 - vi) To find out the respondents 'views on advantages of utilizing the library of their own colleges.
 - vii) To assess the extent of information sharing behaviour among the medical professionals of selected colleges
 - viii) To examine the medical professionals ,views on utility of attending conferences seminars ,etc.
 - ix) To Trace the extent professionals Activities and achievements among the medical professionals of selected colleges.

- x) To Know the extent of respondents ,satisfaction with information sources available in their own college libraries.
- xi) To find out the gaps in the information use pattern of medical professionals and gaps in dissemination of information by the library management.

IV. METHODOLOGY

This study attempts to examine the information needs and information seeking behaviors of medical professionals by making an experiments of medical colleges in union territory of Puducherry and its traces out the information seeking behaviours and information needs of medical professionals in terms of exploratory approach .It is primarily a fact-finding venture. The identified facts are cross-tabulated with the college background, educational and gender background of the respondents. Thus it gives analytical orientation to this study and the design of this study is partly exploratory in nature and partly analytical in nature.

.V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data presented in table 5.1.indicate the college wise distribution of respondents , duration of library visits It could be noted that out of the 693 respondents 44.87 percent of them make library visit more than once in a week .followed by once in week(21.21%): once in a fortnight (19.33%) and once in a month (14.51%). The majority of the respondents of JIPMER (50.57%),AVMC(49.33%), and MGMCRI(44.87%) make library visit more than once in a week.

It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that the majority of the respondents make library visit more than once in week .The visit of the medical professionals to the library is quite remarkable in JIPMER ,AVMC and MGMCRI .It is quite discouraging of the medical professionals in VMMC due to Possession of inadequate library materials and other infrastructural facilities.

Table 5.1

Education –Wise Distribution of respondents 'Duration of library visits.

Educational status	More than once in a week	Once in a week	Once in fortnight	Once in a month	Grand total
Under graduate	76 (38.77)	56 (28.57)	32 (16.32)	32 (16.72)	196
Post graduate Diploma	26 (37.14)	12 (12.14)	10 (14.28)	22 (31.42)	70
Post graduate	186 (43.55)	174 (4.74)	50 (11.70)	17 (3.98)	427
Total	288 (41.55)	242 (34.92)	92 (13.27)	71 (10.24)	693

A Study of data in table 5.2 indicate the education wise distribution of medical professionals' library visit behavior.

The Post Graduate level educated medical professionals occupy the first position (43.55%) with respect to their visit more than once in week and Post graduate Diploma level medical professionals considerably (37.14%) make library visit more than once in a week. The Under graduate level educated Medical Professionals come and utilize the library (38.77%) more than once in week.

It is clear from the above discussion the library visit behavior is quit remarkable among the Post graduate level educated medical professionals since they incline to publish more number of research papers. The library visit behavior is considerable among the post graduate diploma level educated medical professionals and it is not up to the mark among the undergraduate level educated medical professionals. Hence there is a correspondence between level of education and library visit behavior of the medical professionals. It could be noted that higher level of education ,higher the library visit behavior vice versa.

Table 5.2

Gender-wise respondents 'Duration of library visits.

Gender	More than once in week	Once in a week	Once in a fort night	Once in a month	Grand total
Male	265 (59.81)	40 (9.34)	75 (17.52)	48 (11.21)	428
Female	87 (32.83)	68 (25.66)	46 (17.35)	64 (24.15)	265
Total	352 (50.79)	108 (15.58)	121 (17.46)	112 (16.16)	693

A study of data in a table 5.3 indicates the gender wise distribution of respondents ' library visit behavior. It could be noted that more than a half (59.81%) of the male medical professionals make library visit more than once in a week. Whereas the (24.15%) of the Female Medical Professionals make library visit in Once in a month .It is clear from the above discussion that many male medical professionals make more number of visits than the female medical professionals. The male medical Professionals have less domestic works this enabled them to make more number of library visits whereas ,female medical professionals have to look after their household activities.

Table 5.3 Chi –square summary result

Variables	Chi-square calculated value	Degrees of freedom	Chi-square table value
Institution vs quantum of time utilization	172.5	24	51.18
Education vs quantum of time utilization	145.324	6	22.46
Sex vs quantum of time utilization	70.892	3	16.27

*Significant at 1 percent level.

Table 5.4
college wise Respondents' Quantum of Time Utilization Pattern in Library

College	11-20 hours per week	7-10 Hours per week	4-6 hours per week	Less than 4 hours per week	Grand Total
AVMC	22 (29.33)	18 (24.00)	17 (22.66)	9 (12.00)	75
MGMCRI	28 (35.89)	26 (33.33)	22 (28.20)	11 (14.10)	78
PIMS	44 (61.11)	29 (94.27)	15 (20.83)	10 (13.88)	72
SLIMS	21 (31.34)	20 (29.85)	14 (20.89)	12 (17.91)	67
SVMCH&RC	19 (23.45)	18 (22.22)	21 (25.92)	24 (29.62)	81
JIPMER	36 (41.37)	31 (35.63)	15 (17.24)	11 (14.49)	87
IGMCRI	31 (39.74)	21 (26.63)	15 (19.23)	10 (12.82)	78
SMVMC	18 (22.22)	22 (27.16)	12 (14.81)	9 (11.11)	81
VMMC	18 (24.32)	17 (22.97)	16 (21.62)	11 (14.86)	74
Total	237 (34.19)	202 (29.14)	147 (21.21)	107 (15.44)	693

Data presented in table 5.4 indicate the college wise distribution of respondents' quantum of time utilization in their Libraries. It could be noted that out of the total 693 respondents, 34.19% of them spend 11-20 hours per week in search library Information and (15.44%) of medical professionals spend less than 4 hours per week in search of library materials.

Out of the total respondents 34.19 percent of them spend 11-20 hours per week in their libraries in search of research information. This type of habit mainly observed among the medical professionals in PIMS(61.11%) and JIPMER(41.37%)

Of the total respondents ,21.21 percent of them about 4-6 hours per week in their libraries in search of library information .Moreover 15.44 percent of the total respondents spend less than 4 hours per week in their libraries in search of library information. The majority of the Medical Professionals of AVCH&RC (29.62%) come under the category of spending less than 4 hours per week .

The chi-square test is applied for further discussion. The computed square value is 172.5 which is much greater than in tabulated value at 1 percent level of significance .Hence the difference in college background is statically identified as significant with respect to respondents ,quantum of time utilization in their libraries in search of research information. It could be noted that the medical professionals of premier institutions spend more time on availing the benefits of library services and facilities in

relation to low level Colleges.It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that 11.20 hours of time utilization per week takes first in order of reporting ,less than 4 hours per week was last.

Table 5.5
The Medical Professionals of VMMC lag behind the other in respect of quantum of time utilization in their libraries.

Educational status	16-20 hours per week	7-10 hours per week	4-6 hours per week	Less than 4 hours per week	Grand total
Under graduate	77 (39.28)	35 (17.85)	35 (17.85)	49 (25.00)	196
P G Diploma	38 (54.28)	12 (17.14)	9 (12.85)	11 (15.71)	70
Post Graduate	173 (40.51)	110 (25.76)	68 (15.92)	76 (17.79)	427
Total	288 (41.55)	157 (22.65)	112 (16.16)	136 (19.62)	693

Table 5.5 presents data on the education wise distribution of respondents quantum of time utilization per week in their libraries .It could be noted that more than a half 54.28% of the Post graduate Diploma degree level medical professionals spend 11-20 hours per week in respect of availing the benefit of library services and facilities .The majority (40.51%) of the Post Graduate level of educated medical professionals spend about 11-20 hours per week in their libraries in satisfying their information needs and 39.28% under graduate medical professionals spend 11.20 hours per week.

In the education wise respondents quantum of time utilization pattern of library ,the Under Graduate level of the medical professionals (39.28%) spend 11.20 hours per week in last position in tabular value. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that there is correspondence between educational status of medical professionals and their quantum of time utilization in their library. It is observed that higher level of education ,higher the quantum of time utilization pattern of library .It is evident that Post Graduate Diploma educated medical professionals occupy the first position in 11-20 hours per week and below level in Under graduate.

Data presented in table5. 6 indicate the gender wise respondents 'quantum of time utilization in the library of their own institution. The male medical professionals predominate the time utilization of 11-20 hours per week (52.80%) and also 7-10 hours per week (25.93%) in the library of their own in institution. Whereas the female medical professionals mainly spend less in 4 hours per week (15.09%) and 4-6 hours per week in (23.01%) , their libraries in search of information.

Hence the gender difference is statically identified as significant with respect of response quantum of time utilization in search of library information. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that male medical professionals relatively spend more time on availing the benefits of library services and facilities than that of female medical professionals. The reason is female medical professionals perform dual-role is the professional role and the other is housewife role. This situation does not permit them to spend more time in their library.

Data presented in table 5.7 indicate the college wise Respondents' Nature and type of required information and their extent of dependence. It could be noted that out of the total 693 respondents, 26.83 percent of them highly require the previous related information, 29.87 percent of them need it frequently, 21.93 percent of them it occasionally and rest 21.35 percent of them require it rarely. The majority of the medical professionals of JIPMER (41.37%), MGMCRI (37.17%) and PIMS (37.50%) required it highly.

Out of the total 693 respondents, 32.61 percent of them require information relating to computer programmes and model building highly, 28.57 percent of them need it frequently, 21.64 percent of them want it occasionally, and rest of them require it rarely. Among the medical professionals of JIPMER (43.67%) and PIMS (44.44%) require this information highly. It is frequently required among the respondents of SLIMS (34.22%) and occasionally required by AVMC (25.33%). However most of the medical professionals (34.56%) of SVMC need it rarely. Out of the 693 respondents, 31.45 percent of them require information relating to lab procedure highly, 26.83 percent of them need it frequently, 20.92 percent of them want it occasionally, and the rest 20.77 percent of them require it rarely.

Out of the total 693 respondents 27.99 percent of them show a high level of requiring information relating to government decision on medical science, and funding, 30.30 percent of them need it frequently, 22.22 percent of them want it occasionally, and the rest of them require it rarely. The majority of the respondents of IGMCRI (47.43%) and PIMS (38.88%) need information highly and medical professionals of AVMC (37.33%) and MGMCRI (34.61%) want it frequently.

Of the total 693 respondents, 31.60 percent of them need high level of information relating to medical science, 27.70 percent of them want it frequently, 14.57 percent of them it occasionally and rest 16.01 percent of them demand it rarely. Out of the total 693, 36.50 percent of them need highly of information related to standard, patent and specifications, 22.65 percent of them need it frequently, 25.97 percent of them need it occasionally and rest of them rarely. In this regard PIMS 44.44 percent of them need it highly.

Of the total 693 respondents, 39.53 percent of them show a high level of information requirement related to review of literature, 28.86 percent of them need it

frequently, 19.33 percent of them want it occasionally and rest of them require it rarely. The majority of medical professionals of JIPMER (43.67%) and majority of the medical professionals of SLIMS (52.23%) require it frequently, VMMC (27.02%) need it occasionally and rest of them rarely.

Out of the 693 respondents, 37.37 percent of the exhibit high level of requirement of information relating to methods, process, and procedures, 22.94 percent of them need it frequently, 19.91 percent want it occasionally and rest the 19.76 percent of them demand it rarely. The medical professionals of JIPMER (48.27%) and MGMCRI (42.30%) mainly need this information highly and it is frequently in the case of medical professionals VMMC and SMVMC and SVMC want it occasional use. AVMC medical professionals need it in rare situations.

Out of total 693 respondents 33.47 percent of them are in need of a high level of information relating to current development, 27.12 percent of them want it frequently, 18.03 percent of them need it occasionally, and it is a rare requirement in the case of 21.35 percent of the respondents. The majority of the respondents of JIPMER (41.37%) and PIMS (41.66%) require high level of information, MGMCRI (30.76%) and SVMC (32.09%) require frequently the information relating to current developments, whereas the majority of the respondents of IGMCRI need this information in rare situations.

The chi-square test is applied for further discussion. The computed chi-square value is 120.4 which is greater than its tabulated value at 1 percent level of significance. Hence the difference in institutional background is statically identified as significant with respect to respondents' extent of requirements of library information related to previous works. A similar result has been observed with respect to medical professionals, extent of requirement of library information related to computer programmes and model building, lab procedure, government decision on science and technology policy of funding, scientific and technical news, standard, patent and specifications review of literature, theoretical scientific and technical information, methods, process, and procedures, product and equipments and current developments.

VI. CONCLUSION

The medical professionals of Sri Manakula Vinayaka Medical College lag behind others in respect of utilization of library facility and services. This is mainly due to inadequate library facilities. Hence, there is a need to increase the library facility of VMMC. The medical professionals of Vinayaka Missions Medical College are less satisfied with the service of CD-ROM facility, Journal and periodical circulation, reference service, and bibliographical service. Hence the library of VMMC should increase service of these information through acquisition of more documents.

The under graduate medical professionals are less satisfied with their library services of reference service, Bibliographical service, current awareness service (CAS) and journal and periodical circulation. Hence the library management should extent these facilities by way of allocation more funds and acquiring more facilities. The medical professional of Sri Lakshmi Narayana Medical Science are less satisfied library service of articles in journals ,news paper, Government documents, Dissertation, survey reports and book review .Hence the library management should extent these facilities through acquisition of more of these source of information. The medical professionals of JIPMER shows mainly the highest participation in seminars ,conferences and workshop due their central government policy. Hence the other private medical colleges should provide facility to participation. The female medical professionals of medical college of Puducherry show mainly the weakest motivation in their research Endeavour. Hence they should be properly motivated by extending more facilities and amenities. The female medical professionals lag behind male medical professionals in writing and publishing research papers. Hence the female medical professionals should be motivated to enhance their research Endeavour.

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Author Profile

Mr.Sambath B.Sc., M.A., M.L.I.S., M.Phil., Pursuing Ph.D at Vinayaka Missions Research Foundation,(Deemed to be University),Salem. He is currently working as a Chief Librarian in Aarupadai Veedu Medical College& Hospital, Puducherry, Previously worked as deputy librarian at VMKV medical college &Hospital Salem. He has 25 years of working experience in medical college library. He has published many articles under various titles in refereed journals both National and International. He has presented 3 papers in various conferences and seminars. He has attended various workshop and faculty development programmes.

