

# E-Resources: The Final Year MBBS Students of Raichur Institute of Medical Science, Raichur: A Study

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## Abstract:

As technology rapidly develops, most of the educational activities too developed among that E-Resources is playing a vital role in the development of knowledge/information. That is the period when students, research scholars, professionals, and others were in a critical situation to acquire updated information, but it has completely changed with the help of e-resources. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the impact on access to and use of e-resources. And to look into challenges that are faced while accessing e-resources. The study is purely based on primary data that is collected from students of the Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur. This research finally concluded with suitable findings and suggestions.

**Keywords:** E-Resources, use, Access, Impact and Challenges

## Introduction:

As the heart of a learning community, academic libraries do more than just store knowledge for the institution. They also gather, organize, and share information to help students and researchers in their work. The university library through its reading materials and services help in the successful conduct of research programmes of the university. In this context, among all the reading materials, journals are playing an important role in informing the latest research findings and avoiding the duplication of research work. The journals are available in print as well as in electronic format.

E-journals form one of the latest products. They have overcome the geographical limitation associated with print media. Further, the distribution time between product publication and its delivery has been drastically reduced. An e-journal, as its name implies, is a serial containing scholarly communication and articles issued periodically in electronic form by employing computers. Universities libraries are subscribing to e-journals and spending money on them. It is extremely important to show the accountability for the subscription of e-journals and the feedback from the end-users. It is also necessary to know to what extent the users are aware of these resources and to what extent they are using these resources so that necessary steps can be undertaken to maximize the use of e-journals and to develop need-based acquisition policy.

Electronic journals have evolved from early online publications in the 1990s to a vast array of digital resources today. They offer instant access, search ability, and multimedia content, transforming how researchers access and share information, and significantly enhancing collaboration and dissemination in the academic community.

**Literature Review:**

- **Mahadev S. et. al [2024]** “Awareness and Use of E-Resources among B.Ed. Students in Shrimahaveera College of Education, Hunsur” The usage of e-resources such as e-books, e-journals, databases, and reports by B.Ed. students at Shri Mahaveera College of Education, Hunsur, is the main subject of this study, which examines the role of information and communication technology (ICT) in knowledge exchange and dissemination. The sample for the survey-based article was chosen at random in order to gather data. According to a poll of 110 students, 83.33% of them accessed e-resources via cellphones, with 44.44% choosing e-journals and 88.89% preferring e-books. Understanding awareness, frequency, purpose, rationale, and issues while using e-resources for information requirements is the goal of the study.
- **Puneeth B M [2022]** “Awareness And Use of E-Resources by the Library Users in University of Agricultural Sciences Gkvk, Bangalore: a case study” According to this study, the majority of respondents—84, or 76.4%—visit the library for academic purposes; 45, or 40.9%, are aware of and utilize the e-resources offered by the GKVK Library; 94, or 85.5%, use Krishikosh e-theses; and 60, or 54.5%, use CeRa databases. Of the respondents, 36 (32.7%) believe that the biggest issue with accessing e-resources is irrelevant information on the Internet, while 32 (29.1%) say that the biggest issue is a lack of system speed and network capacity. The study suggested that in order for the students to use e-resources for learning and meet their educational objectives, they need to participate in a variety of user awareness/orientation and training programs.
- **M D Soleman Pharcy [2020]** “Awareness and Use of E-Journals by the Research Scholars of Pondicherry University: A Survey” According to this study, the majority of respondents—84, or 76.4%—visit the library for academic purposes; 45, or 40.9%, are aware of and utilize the e-resources offered by the GKVK Library; 94, or 85.5%, use Krishikosh e-theses; and 60, or 54.5%, use CeRa databases. Of the respondents, 36 (32.7%) believe that the biggest issue with accessing e-resources is irrelevant information on the Internet, while 32 (29.1%) say that the biggest issue is a lack of system speed and network capacity. The study suggested that in order for the students to use e-resources for learning and meet their educational objectives, they need participate in a variety of user awareness/orientation and training programs.
- **N. Sivakami. et.al [2019]** “Awareness on E-Resources Usage Among Engineering College Faculties in Erode District, Tamil Nadu: A Study”, in this paper the researcher attempt to survey the awareness on e-resources usage among Engineering College Faculties in Erode District. Population for the study faculty members; 354 Assistant Professors, 272 Associate Professors and 250 Professors were selected as sample. Major findings are majority of the Assistant Professors access the E-Resources for teaching and research purpose and majority of the Assistant Professors 102 (43.2) Associate Professors 74 (31.4) and Professors 60 (25.4) are using E-Journals for accessing the E-Resources, and the researcher aimed get the results of to find out the purposes for using e-resources, to observe the types of e-resources by faculty members and to find out the faculty frequency to access e-resources. The researcher focused on engineering colleges for their paper, if they would focus on other colleges like MBA, M.com and M.Sc. my chances of getting more affective results.
- **Kuldeep Singh [2019]** “Awareness and Use of E-Resources among the Users of Library of Punjabi University Patiala: A Case Study”, in this paper the researcher focused on to know the awareness and usage of e resources by the users of library, to know the frequency and purpose of using e-resources by the users, to identify the reasons and challenges associated with the users’ usage of e-resources and

to suggest suitable recommendations to improve the facilities and services related to the usage of e-resources. The study highlights issues students face when using e-resources and their satisfaction levels. It suggests the need for a personalized library database, better internet connectivity and speed, improved infrastructure, and more e-resources subscriptions to meet student needs. This study is limited to only 120 respondents from only Bhai Kahn Singh Nabha Library of Punjabi University Patiala hence, there is need to focus on other universities for more accurate results.

From the above literature review it is clear that, most of the studies were focused on a particular College, University and Area. As observed the current scenario information seekers were depending on the online technology hence, there is need to explore Use of e-resources by the MBBS final year students of Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences.

**Objectives of the Study**

- To analyze the purpose of E-Resources by Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences students.
- To identify the Methods RIMS Students Use to Access E- Resources.
- To explore the Impact of E- Resources in Enhancing Clinical Education and Practice.
- To identify the Challenges and Technical Obstacles Faced by respondents while using the Electronic Resources.

**Methodology of the Study**

The study is based on the primary and secondary data. The secondary data used for the literature review of e-resources which were collected from various journals, articles, newspapers and other published information and primary data is used for the analyses purpose which were collected from MBBS final year students of Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences. Data compiled through structured questionnaire arranged into order of tabulation in number and percentage.

**Scope and Limitations of the Study**

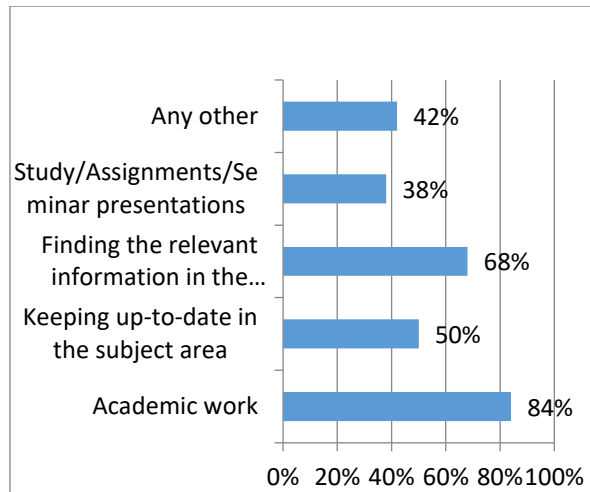
Due to shortage of time and other reasons this study suffering from some limitations. Those limitations are mentioned as under:

- This study is limited to only all MBBS final year students of Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences.
- This study limited to E-Resources
- This study restricted to 50 respondents

**Data Analysis and Results**

• **Purpose of E-Resources**

| Purpose for e-resources  | Responses |            |
|--|-----------|------------|
|  | Frequency | Percentage |
| Academic work  | 42        | 84         |
| Keeping up-to-date in the subject area                         | 25        | 50         |
| Finding the relevant information in the area of specialization | 34        | 68         |
| Study/Assignments/Seminar presentations                        | 19        | 38         |
| Any other  | 21        | 42         |

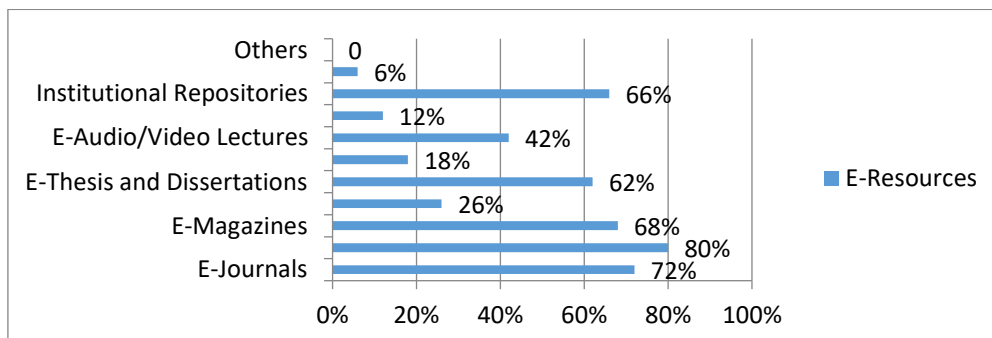


Source: Primary Data

Describes the purposes for using e-resources based on the distribution of the respondents. Out of the 50 respondents, the majority preferred using e-resources for academic work, with 42 (84%). This is followed by 34 (68%) who preferred using e-resources to find relevant information in their area of specialization. Additionally, 25 (50%) preferred using e-resources to keep up-to-date in their subject area, and 21 (42%) preferred using e-resources for other purposes like Research work, Journal etc . Lastly, 19 (38%) of the respondents preferred using e-resources for study, assignments, or seminar presentations.

• Awareness of E-Resources

| E-Resources                 | Responses |            |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|
|                             | Frequency | Percentage |
| E-Journals                  | 36        | 72         |
| E-Books                     | 40        | 80         |
| E-Magazines                 | 34        | 68         |
| E-Conference Proceedings    | 13        | 26         |
| E-Thesis and Dissertations  | 31        | 62         |
| E-Bibliographical Databases | 12        | 24         |
| E-Audio/Video Lectures      | 21        | 42         |
| CD-ROM Databases            | 6         | 12         |
| Institutional Repositories  | 33        | 66         |

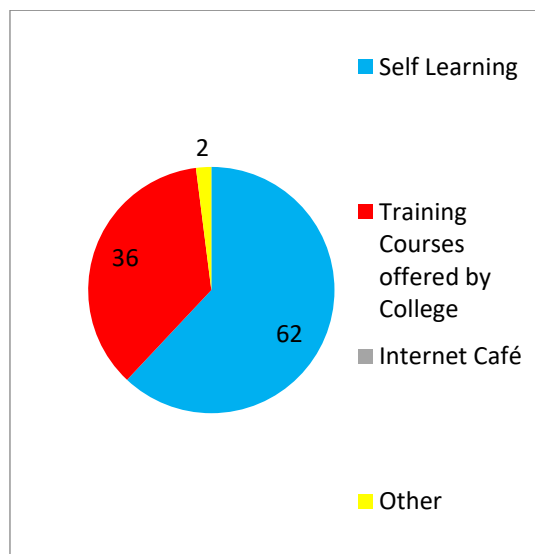


Source: Primary Data

Describes the awareness of e-resources among the respondents. Out of the 50 respondents, the majority are aware of e-books, with 40 (80%), followed by 36 (72%) who are aware of and use e-journals. Additionally, 34 (68%) are aware of and use e-magazines, 33 (66%) are aware of and use institutional repositories, and 31 (62%) are aware of and use e-theses and dissertations. Furthermore, 21 (42%) are aware of and use e-audio/video lectures, 13 (26%) are aware of and use e-conference proceedings, 12 (24%) are aware of and use e-bibliographical databases, and 6 (12%) are aware of and use CD-ROM databases.

• **Methods followed to Learn the Internet & Computer Literacy**

| Level of Internet & Computer iLiteracy | Responses |            |
|--|-----------|------------|
|  | Frequency | Percentage |
| Self-Learnng                           | 31        | 62         |
| Training Courses offered by College    | 18        | 36         |
| Other                                  | 1         | 2          |



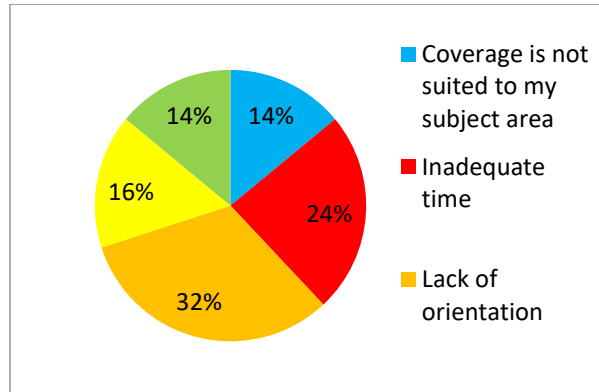
Source: Primary Data

Describes the methods used by respondents to learn about Internet and computer literacy. Out of the 50 respondents, the majority used self-learning methods, with 31 (62%) opting for this approach. This is followed by 18 (36%) who attended training courses offered by the college. Additionally, 1 (2%) of the respondents reported using other methods like reference service, Friends, and expert person.

• **Problems Faced while Accessing E-Resources**

| Problems faced while accessing E-Resources | Responses |            |
|--|-----------|------------|
|  | Frequency | Percentage |
| Coverage is not suited to my subject area  | 7         | 14         |
| Inadequate time                            | 12        | 24         |
| Lack of orientation                        | 16        | 32         |

|                         |   |    |
|-------------------------|---|----|
| Speed of access is slow | 8 | 16 |
| Too much time consuming | 7 | 14 |

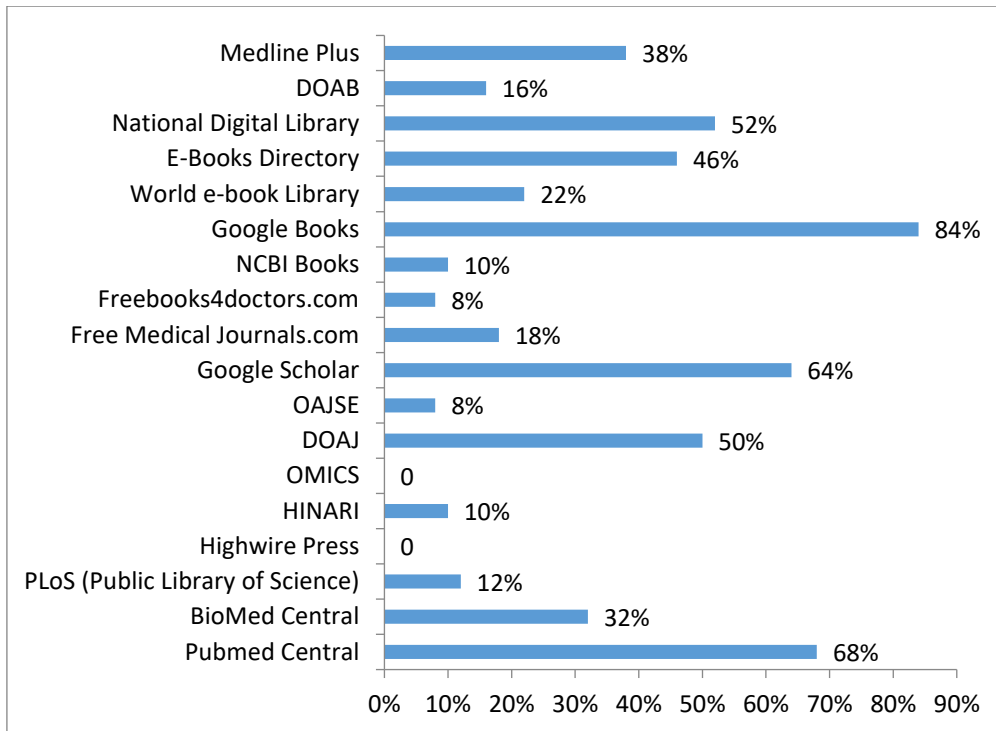


Source: Primary Data

Describes the problems faced while accessing e-resources among the respondents. Out of the 50 respondents, the majority reported a lack of orientation as a problem, with 16 (32%). This is followed by 12 (24%) who cited inadequate time as an issue, and 8 (16%) who mentioned that slow access speeds were problematic. Additionally, 7 (14%) reported that the coverage was not suited to their subject area, and another 7 (14%) indicated that accessing e-resources was too time-consuming.

• Awareness of Databases for Open Access Resources

| Free and Open access databases   | Responses |            |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|
|                                  | Frequency | Percentage |
| Pubmed Central                   | 34        | 68         |
| BioMed Central                   | 16        | 32         |
| PLoS (Public Library of Science) | 6         | 12         |
| Highwire Press                   | 0         | 0          |
| HINARI                           | 5         | 10         |
| OMICS                            | 0         | 0          |
| DOAJ                             | 25        | 50         |
| OAJSE                            | 4         | 8          |
| Google Scholar                   | 32        | 64         |
| Free Medical Journals.com        | 9         | 18         |
| Freebooks4doctors.com            | 4         | 8          |
| NCBI Books                       | 5         | 10         |
| Google Books                     | 42        | 84         |
| World e-book Library             | 11        | 22         |
| E-Books Directory                | 23        | 46         |
| National Digital Library         | 26        | 52         |
| DOAB                             | 8         | 16         |
| Medline Plus                     | 19        | 38         |

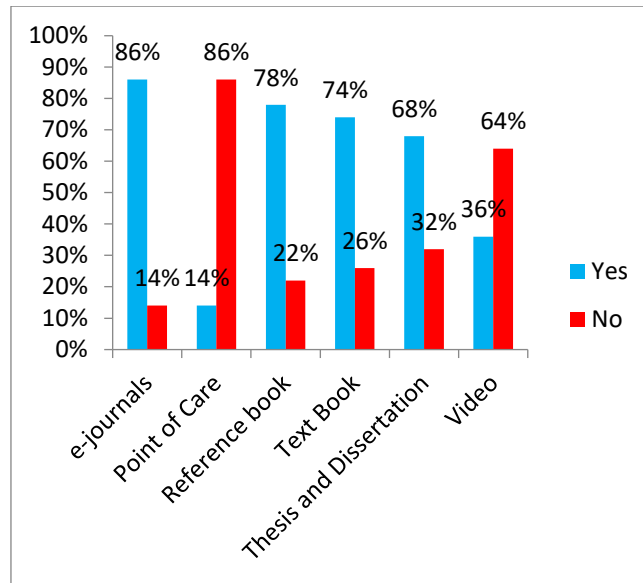


Source: Primary Data

It provides information about the awareness and use of open access resources in medical subjects. Among the respondents, 34 (68%) are aware of PubMed Central, followed by 16 (32%) who are aware of BioMed Central. Additionally, 6 (12%) are aware of PLoS (Public Library of Science), while none are aware of HighWire Press. Furthermore, 5 (10%) are aware of HINARI, and none are aware of OMICS. In terms of other resources, 25 (50%) are aware of DOAJ, 4 (8%) are aware of OAJSE, and 32 (64%) are aware of Google Scholar. Additionally, 9 (18%) are aware of Free Medical Journals.com, 4 (8%) are aware of Freebooks4doctors.com, and 5 (10%) are aware of NCBI Books. Moreover, 42 (84%) are aware of Google Books, 11 (22%) are aware of World e-Book Library, 23 (46%) are aware of E-Books Directory, 26 (52%) are aware of the National Digital Library, 8 (16%) are aware of DOAB, and 19 (38%) are aware of Medline Plus.

• Use of Medical Electronic Databases Subscribed from HELINET Consortium

| HELINET Consortium      | Responses |    |           |    |
|-------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|----|
|                         | Using     | %  | Not Using | %  |
| e-journals              | 43        | 86 | 7         | 14 |
| Point of Care           | 7         | 14 | 43        | 86 |
| Reference book          | 39        | 78 | 11        | 22 |
| Text Book               | 37        | 74 | 13        | 26 |
| Thesis and Dissertation | 34        | 68 | 16        | 32 |
| Video                   | 18        | 36 | 32        | 64 |
|                         | 178       | 59 | 122       | 41 |



Source: Primary Data

Describes the use of medical electronic databases subscribed from the HELINET Consortium among the respondents. Out of the 50 respondents, the majority use e-journals subscribed from the HELINET Consortium, with 43 (86%), while 7 (14%) do not use them. This is followed by 39 (78%) of the respondents who use reference books, while 11 (22%) do not. Additionally, 37 (74%) of the respondents use textbooks, and 13 (26%) do not. Furthermore, 34 (68%) of the respondents use theses and dissertations, while 16 (32%) do not. Also, 18 (36%) of the respondents use videos, while 32 (64%) do not. Lastly, only 7 (14%) of the respondents use the reference books, while 43 (86%) do not.

### Findings and Suggestions

- The study conducted on medical students usage of e-resources hence the majority of responses were found using academic purpose only.
- As per the study students have lack of orientation regarding accessing e-resources hence, there is need to arrange orientation programs regarding access in e-resources in the Institute of Medical Science, Raichur.
- No students don't have aware about High wire press & OMICS open access database hence, college need to arrange hands and training programs related to open access databases.
- The medical electronic databases subscribed from HELINET Consortium 59% of students are using. it denotes that HELINET Consortium is approaching in good way, hence college need to continue subscription from the HELINET Consortium.
- Awareness regarding e-resources is good particularly students are aware about e-books because these are easy to access and most of the students frequently using e-books for their studies. Libraries have to subscribe more databases to provide more e-books to make students more reliable to use.

### Conclusion:

As above study on Awareness of E-resources by final year MBBS Students of Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur. Information is a key resource for medical users for various reasons. The medical users are mostly depending on e-Resources, particularly e-Journals. Due to developments taking place in



information and communication technology, information is available in various electronic formats. The growth of electronic resources in medical and related subjects is quite significant. Orientation sessions needed to bring awareness and use of e-resources also has to develop other databases like High wire & OMICS etc... HELNET consortium is doing well in Medical field and students were using subscribed e-resources from it efficiently.

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