

"Use of Information Communication Technology in Library of HKE's Society Dr. Maalakaraddy Homoeopathic Medical college and Hospital in Kalaburagi City: A Study"

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INTRODUCTION:

Developments in information and communication technology are occurring at an astonishing rate. In the words of Kofi Annan, speaking at the World Summit on information society, "A technological revolution is transforming society in a profound way. If harnessed and directed properly, information and communication technologies (ICT) have the potential to improve all aspects of our social, economic and cultural life." One of the key developments in health care in the last 25 years is the incursion of ICT (Heath et al., 2003). We believe that ICT in medical education is not only a tool, but a goal; in order to construct a better individual, a better doctor, there have to be a proper aware of the current need to have access to better and more information via electronic way. ICT have changed the ways in which medicine is practiced and taught.

Medical colleges, particularly in the developed countries, have invested heavily in ICT, not only to deliver education, but also to improve the quality of services that health professionals provide. Developing countries like India, (with a scarcity of human resources in the health sector is a serious problem), can be a particular beneficiary of ICT mediated education. Lack of educational institutions and qualified medical educators, poor distribution of facilities and poor access to the latest educational infrastructure are some of the issues to be addressed to improve the quality of medical education in developing countries. Advanced technology can address at least some of this problem (Maharana et al., 2009)

Review of Literature:

Asqari and Haywood (1997) assessed the attitude of Edinburgh University medical students toward computers and found that 86 percent agreed that computer skills will be beneficial to them in their future career, and that 62 percent wanted a structured course in computer use. Another study by Nurjahan and others (2002) was undertaken to obtain a self-reported

assessment of the use of ICT by medical students at the International Medical University, Malaysia. The survey revealed that 27 students (5.7 percent) did not use a computer either in the university or at home. Most students surveyed reported adequate skills at word processing (55 percent), email (78 percent) and web searching (67 percent). The study suggested formal inclusion of ICT instruction in the teaching of undergraduate medicine, to enhance medical students' ability to acquire, appraise, and use information to solve clinical and other problems.

John-Oswald Amekuedee (2005) has analyzed to find out which library processes have been automated in Ghana's three older public university libraries. The study found out that even though the university libraries realize the importance of library automation, they are hampered by lack of funds, lack of support from the university administrations, and lack of skilled staff to embark on automation of all library processes. Haneefa K (2007) presented the results of an investigation in the study "Use of ICT Based Resources and Services in Special Libraries in Kerala, India. The email service was used by the largest percentage of the users. WWW was being used by 60 per cent of the library users. A good no. of users were not satisfied with the application of ICT in the libraries and indicated 'inadequate ICT infrastructure' as their reason for dissatisfaction. Users proposed a variety of measures of formal orientation and training in ICT based resources and services.

Objectives of the study:

- 1) To assess computer awareness and attitude of medical students in Government Medical College towards ICT;
- 2) To investigate the role of ICT in medical education and research;
- 3) To evaluate the use of e-resources by medical students;
- 4) To know the ICT infrastructure available in the medical college;
- 5) To know the medical student problems regarding in the use of ICT.

Scope and limitation of the study

The study is mainly restricted to "Use of Information Communication Technology in Library of Medical Colleges in Kalaburagi City" Karnataka. The present study is an attempt to know the Use of ICT in Library of medical colleges.

Statement of the study

"Use of Information Communication Technology in Library of HKE's Society Dr. Maalakaraddy Homoeopathic Medical college and Hospital in Kalaburagi City: A Study"

Methodology

A survey method of research has been adopted especially structured questionnaire were prepared, anticipating the Use of Information Communication Technology in Library of in HKE's Society Dr. Maalakaraddy Homoeopathic Medical college and Hospital Kalaburagi City A total of 160 structured questionnaires were distributed to users, and 145 were received.

Data collection

1. Gender wise distribution of respondents

GENDER	No Of Respondents	Percentage
Male	85	58.62
Female	60	41.38
Total	145	100%

This table indicates 58% of the respondents are male and remaining 41% of respondents are females.

2. Age wise Distribution of respondents

Age	No Of Respondents	Percentage
20 -25	52	35.86
26-30	40	27.58
31-35	30	20.68
36-40	25	17.24
Total	145	100%

This table shows that 35% of the respondents are age group of 20-25 years and 17% of the respondents are 36 to 40 years of age.

3. Category wise distribution of respondents

Category	No Of Respondents	Percentage
Scheduled Cast	64	44.13
Scheduled Tribe	47	32.42
Others	34	23.45
Total	145	100%

This table reveals 44% of the respondents are Scheduled caste and 23% of the respondents are others.

4. Frequency of Using Library

Frequency	No Of Respondents	Percentage
Frequently	47	32.42
Occasionally	40	27.58
Rarely	35	24.14
Never	23	15.86
Total	145	100%

This table concluded that 32% of the respondents are use library frequently and 15% of the respondents are never use.

5. Purpose of using Library

Purpose of using OPAC	No. Of. Respondents	Percentage
For academic purpose	71	48.96
For updating knowledge	49	33.79
For writing research article	25	17.25
Total	145	100%

This table indicates 48% of the respondents are library using for academic purpose and 17% of the respondents are using writing research articles.

6. ICT facilities recommended by students

ICT facilities	No. Of. Respondents	Percentage
Library website	51	35.17
E-resources	36	24.82
Automation of library	28	19.33
Digital library facilities	30	20.68
Total	145	100%

This table shows that 35% of the respondents recommended ICT facilities in library website and 19% of the respondents are recommended for automation of library.

7. Frequency of computer use

Frequency of computer use	No. Of. Respondents	Percentage
Daily	80	55.17
Weekly	45	31.04
Monthly	20	13.79
Total	145	100:0%

This table reveals 55% of the respondents are daily use computers and 13% of the respondents are monthly use.

8. Frequency of internet use.

Frequency of internet use	No. Of. Respondents	Percentage
At least daily	60	41.37
Weekly	42	28.96
Monthly	28	19.31
Occasionally	15	10.34
Total	145	100:0%

This table concluded that 41% of the respondents are use internet daily and 10% of the respondents use occasionally.

9. Purpose of Internet use.

Purpose of internet use	No. Of. Respondents	Percentage
Literature searching	35	24.13
E-mail	32	22.06
Information for patient	29	20

Reading recommended course work	26	17.93
Chat	23	15.86
Total	145	100:%

This table shows that 24% of the respondents use internet for the purpose of literature searching and 15% of the respondents use for re-chatting.

10. Problems accessing electronic information.

Problems accessing electronic Information.	No. Of. Respondents	Percentage
Inadequate number of PCs	35	24.13
Lack of support from IT staff	20	13.79
ICT not present in syllabus	15	10.34
Lack of time to use	10	6.89
No computer lab	25	17.24
E-resources not available in library	10	6.89
No campus computer network	15	10.34
No Internet connectivity	15	10.34
Total	145	100%

This table indicates that 24% of the respondents are having problem of inadequate number of PCs and 6% of the respondents are e-resources not available in library.

11. Students' knowledge of computers and IT.

Students' knowledge of computers and IT	No Of Respondents	Percentage
MS-Word	35	24.13
Excel	30	20.68
Internet	30	20.68
E-mail	20	13.79
Computerized patient record	30	20.68
Total	145	100:%

This table concluded that 24% of the respondents are having the knowledge of MS –word and 13% of the respondents are having the knowledge of e-mail.

Conclusion

The study revealed that ICT-based instructional tools were not adequately available in the medical colleges, and accessibility of the tools are moderate and still needs be improved. Hence, availability and access to ICT-based instructional tools such as Computer Aided Instruction (CAI), Social Media, and Human Patient Simulation HPS, PowerPoint Slides Microsoft: PP slides, and Medical Videos MV, Multimedia Classrooms Audio Visual Centre, Projectors, and E-Medical journals, and Animation Clips in medicine education will bring about quality and appropriate improvement in training medical students in the medical colleges.

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