

# Use and User Perception of E-Resources in SRC Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya, Chikhli: A Study

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## Abstract

Electronic publishing and electronic resources are attracting users. Many studies shows that libraries were started managing their collection with electronic. The present paper is based on analytical study of use and user perception of electronic resources among faculty members.

**Keywords:** *Electronic Resources, User Perception, technologies, Databases, Consortia*

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

The technology advancement is increasing day by day. These advancement and changing trends have put forward new challenges before Library and information science professionals. Tremendous growth & diversification of knowledge have emerged with multidisciplinary subjects. Information has been identified as one of the vital resources needed for the success in almost every major human endeavour. Collection, organization and dissemination of information with economy and efficiency dampened on the skills and expertise of the librarians. Information is needed in all aspects of society and in all disciplines. Innovative introduction of information and communication technology boosted research activities in every subject areas all over the world. Old technologies of information exchange are being replaced by new technologies and methods. Over the last several years a significant transformation has been noticed in the collection development policies and practices of academic and research libraries. Most of printed resources are giving up before electronic resources and so that today electronic resources are taking place of traditional resources. In fact new generation is demanding for these electronic resources.

The electronic resources have brought up lot of popularity among the researchers. It is only because most of the relevant electronic resources are now available throw the web. Anyone can have access anywhere and from any corner of the world by round the clock i.e.

24x7. May be that is the reason, various government and non government consortiums come in the market in the last decade. Today research libraries and academic libraries are spending lot of money on these electronic resources. Various consortiums are in the market having thousands of online journals and databases, providing services round the clock only for users.

### **E-Resources:**

Electronic resources are those resources which need computer access or any sort of electronic product that deliver a collection of data. It may be text referring to full text databases, electronic journals, image collections and other multimedia products and numerical, graphical or time bound. These may be delivered on CD-ROM on tape via internet and so on. A number of techniques and related standard have been deployed, which allow document to be created and distributed in electronic form by over past some years in order to fulfil the users demand and provide better facilities. The electronic resources have a vast input on the collection of the libraries and these are more useful due to their inherit capabilities for manipulation and searching; provide information access in cheaper to acquiring information resources, saving in storage and maintenance. E- Resources refer to any work encoded and made available for access through the use of computer. It includes both online and electronic data in physical format. The data may be stored at a remote server in electronic form and could be accessed electronically using internet. This policy covers both free internet resources and electronic resources purchased or licensed by the libraries from a commercial source, professional organization, non profit organization or any external institution.

Electronic resources represent an increasingly important component of the collection building activities of libraries. Electronic resources refer to those materials that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile device. They may either be accessed remotely via the Internet or locally.

### **2. SRC Ayurved College at a glance:**

Sunil Ramsingh Chunawale Ayurved Mahavidyalaya is affiliated with Maharashtra Health Science University, Nashik (M.S.). It is situated in one of the district of Maharashtra

at Chikhli, which is established in the year of 2000, providing Ayurved education and Ayurved medicine facilities in the area.

### 3. Previous Studies

There are a number of studies related to the use and user perception of e-resources by the users of various institutions and universities. There are many factors which affect the use of e-resources. The related studies discuss some of these issues. Ibrahim A. M. (2004)<sup>1</sup> reported findings from a survey conducted to measure the use and perception of the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) faculty members of electronic resources. Questionnaires were sent to a sample of 140 faculty members. Responses were received from 125 (89%) faculty members. Analysis confirmed frequency of use of electronic resources was low. Reasons cited were lack of time because of the time needed to focus on teaching; lack of awareness to electronic resources provided by the library; ineffective communication channels, and language barrier. Haridasan and Khan (2009)<sup>2</sup> in their study, 'impact and use of e-resources by social scientists in NASSDOC, India', have identified the acceptance of e-resources in the National Social Science Documentation Centre (NASSDOC) library in New Delhi, and determined their usage, performance, degree of user satisfaction, and barriers faced in the access of e-resources.

### 5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The allied objectives of the study were:

- To examine the attitude of the faculty members towards use of e-resources.
- To assess the contemporary use of electronic information resources by the faculty members.
- To find out the main reason(s) behind the usage of electronic resources by them.
- To identify and analyze the specific factors that promotes or hinders the use of electronic resources.

### 6. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The scope of the present study was restricted to the faculty members of Sunil Ramsingh Chunawale Ayurved College, Chikhli Dist. Buldana (M.S.). There are 34 faculties working in the college of grade Lecturer, Reader and Professor.

## 7. METHODOLOGY

The study was based on survey method. A structured questionnaire was designed to collect data from the faculty members of SRC Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Chikhli keeping in mind the basic objectives of the study. The data was personally collected from the faculty members. Besides, personal interviews were also conducted to assess the problems relating to use of e-resources by the faculty members.

## 8. ANALYSIS OF DATA

Out of 34 questionnaire only 30 (88.24 %) responded with the filled in questionnaire. The questionnaires were edited where necessary. The data collected through the questionnaires was scrutinised, classified, and tabulated for better understanding and clarity. Five point Lickert scale was used i.e poor to excellent, never to Always and not at all to very much options.

### 8.1 Sex Ratio

Sex ratio is the ratio of males and females in a population.

*Table No. 1- Classification of Faculty Member as per Gender*

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Gender</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
1	Male	21	70.00
2	Female	9	30.00

It is confirmed that the present study have out of 30 respondents 21 (70%) were Male and 9 (30%) were female.

### 8.2 Academic Title and Experience

Academic title shows the designation and experience of the faculty staff.

*Table No. 2- Classification of Faculty Member as their Academic Title*

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Academic Title</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
1	Lecturer	14	46.67
2	Reader	9	30.00
3	Professor	7	23.33

**Table No. 3- Classification of Faculty Member as their Professional Experiences**

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Professional Experiences</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
1	Less than 5	12	40.00
2	5 – 10	9	30.00
3	11 – 15	7	23.33
4	16 – 20	1	3.33
5	20+	1	3.33

Table no. 2 confirmed that among all responded faculty members i.e 14 (46.67%) were lecturers and Table no. 3 depicts that maximum faculty members 12 (40%) have less than 5 years experience, and 9(30%) have 5 to 10 years experience. It shows that maximum faculty found having teaching experience of less than 5 years i.e young generation doctors working in the institute.

### 8.3 Purpose to visit library:

Library users have different types of demands and expectation. Every user comes to the library having different purpose. Specially academic and special library users have much more expectations from the library services.

**Table No. 4- Classification of Faculty Member as for what purpose visits the library?**

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>For what purpose you visit the library?</i>	<i>1-5%</i>		<i>6-25%</i>		<i>26-50%</i>		<i>51-75%</i>		<i>76&lt;</i>	
		<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
1	Reading Newspaper	5	16.67	10	33.33	8	26.67	3	10.00	4	13.33
2	Borrowing / returning	5	16.67	4	13.33	9	30.00	9	30.00	3	10.00
3	Study	0	0.00	1	3.33	11	36.67	12	40.00	6	20.00
4	Preparation for lecture	0	0.00	2	6.67	10	33.33	7	23.33	11	36.67
5	Browsing through internet	23	76.67	2	6.67	1	3.33	2	6.67	2	6.67
6	Searching database	25	83.33	2	6.67	2	6.67	1	3.33	0	0.00
7	To browse through new arrivals	14	46.67	6	20.00	4	13.33	5	16.67	1	3.33
8	To search particular reference	8	26.67	6	20.00	5	16.67	4	13.33	7	23.33

Here in the study it find in table no. 4 the main reason of the users to visit the library is to study i.e 12 (40%). The dramatic result found that 23 (76.67%), 25 (83.33%), 14 (46.67) of the faculty members haven't any purpose to visit library for browsing internet, searching database and browsing new arrivals. But in the personal interview with these faculty

members, the main reason behind this was that the college library didn't have any facility for using internet and any type of database subscribed.

#### 8.4 Awareness about Computer Technology

Literacy of computer has become bare necessity for all profession. Knowing this, the present study attempted to ascertain the knowledge of computers of faculty members. This study shows that all the respondents were computer literate, which is a healthy sign for any organization. Also, the study attempted to know about the extent of computer knowledge of faculty members in Table 5.

*Table No. 5- Classification of Faculty Member as their awareness of Computer*

Sr. No.	Do you have knowledge of?	Poor		Fair		Average		Good		Excellent	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Computers	0	0.00	1	3.33	11	36.67	14	46.67	4	13.33
2	Types of computers	4	13.33	1	3.33	10	33.33	12	40.00	3	10.00
3	Operating System	0	0.00	4	13.33	14	46.67	10	33.33	2	6.67
4	Writing Programs	2	6.67	2	6.67	6	20.00	14	46.67	6	20.00
5	Library Software	6	20.00	18	60.00	5	16.67	1	3.33	0	0.00
6	OPACs	8	26.67	12	40.00	9	30.00	1	3.33	0	0.00
7	MARC	20	66.67	5	16.67	2	6.67	3	10.00	0	0.00
8	Database Management	13	43.33	6	20.00	6	20.00	4	13.33	1	3.33
9	Online databases	8	26.67	4	13.33	13	43.33	5	16.67	0	0.00
10	CD-ROMs & DVDs	7	23.33	9	30.00	6	20.00	8	26.67	0	0.00
11	CD-ROM databases	9	30.00	6	20.00	11	36.67	4	13.33	0	0.00
12	Image databases	9	30.00	13	43.33	5	16.67	3	10.00	0	0.00
13	Reference databases	8	26.67	0	0.00	16	53.33	6	20.00	0	0.00

The analysis of Table 5 shows that as high as 14 respondents representing (46.67 %) of total respondents had 'good' computer knowledge. Further the computer knowledge of 11 respondents (36.67%) was average, 14 responded (46.67%) have 'good' knowledge of operating system, 13 (43.33%) having average knowledge about online databases followed 16 (53.33%) found more aware with reference databases.

#### 8.5 Frequency of Internet Use

Internet is known as largest open repository of information for teaching and research. Literature on all the fields of knowledge is available on Internet, which is very useful for

faculty members to enrich their knowledge. The present study attempted to find information on the use of Internet, frequency, purpose and place of Internet use. Regarding frequency of Internet use by the respondents, Table 8

**Table No. 6- Classification of Faculty Member as frequency of Internet use**

Sr. No.	Frequency of Internet Use	No.	%
1	Daily	14	46.67
2	Weekly	0	0.00
3	Monthly	0	0.00
4	Quarterly	0	0.00
5	As per Requirement	16	53.33
6	Never	0	0.00

It is clear from the Table 6 that, all the respondents of the faculty members having the habit of using the internet. Among them about 16 (53.33%) of respondents use the internet as per requirement, followed by 14 users (46.67%) were using the internet for daily.

### 8.6 Awareness on e-resource

With emergence of Information technology, it becomes very easy to store and reuse information in various forms. That's why today electronic resources along with print resources have become an integral part of a library collection. Also, remarkable shifts of choice from print resources to e-resources have taken place by users for information. Accordingly, a large number of e-resources are being acquired by libraries.

**Table No. 7- Classification of Faculty Member as knowledge of following**

Sr. No.	Do you have knowledge of?	Poor		Fair		Average		Good		Excellent	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	E-Books	0	0.00	3	10.00	13	43.33	10	33.33	4	13.33
2	E-Journals	0	0.00	5	16.67	9	30.00	9	30.00	7	23.33
3	E-Magazines	2	6.67	5	16.67	16	53.33	5	16.67	2	6.67
4	E-Audio/Video Lectures	2	6.67	4	13.33	13	43.33	10	33.33	1	3.33
5	E-Databases	4	13.33	3	10.00	15	50.00	8	26.67	0	0.00
6	Institutional Repositories	9	30.00	9	30.00	8	26.67	2	6.67	2	6.67
7	Open Sources	4	13.33	5	16.67	10	33.33	9	30.00	2	6.67

In the present study all responded 30 (100%) faculty members found aware of electronic resources. It is cleared in table no. 7, maximum faculty members having average knowledge

of e-books, electronic journals, e-magazines, E-audio and Video lectures, Databases and Open sources. But 9(30%) faculty members are fairly aware with institutional repository.

### 8.7 Availability of E-Resources

Though the library didn't have subscribed any of the electronic resources and do not have any infrastructure for using internet, the respondents have mentioned that they access Internet and other electronic resources, which are related to the Ayurved medicine at home.

### 8.8 Use of E-resource

*Table No. 8- Classification of Faculty Member as frequency of using E-resources*

Sr No	How frequently do you connect E-resources?	No.	%
1	Daily	12	40.00
2	Once in a week	1	3.33
3	Twice a week	0	0.00
4	Occasionally	17	56.67

*Table No. 9- Classification of Faculty Member as their use of following*

Sr. No.	Have you ever used the following?	Never		Rarely		Sometimes		Frequently		Always	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	E-Books	0	0.00	9	30.00	6	20.00	12	40.00	3	10.00
2	E-Journals	0	0.00	6	20.00	4	13.33	11	36.67	9	30.00
3	E-Magazines	4	13.33	8	26.67	13	43.33	3	10.00	2	6.67
4	E-Audio/Video	3	10.00	6	20.00	7	23.33	11	36.67	3	10.00
5	E-Databases	2	6.67	8	26.67	10	33.33	8	26.67	2	6.67
6	Institutional Repositories	9	30.00	11	36.67	6	20.00	2	6.67	2	6.67
7	Open Sources	5	16.67	2	6.67	7	23.33	14	46.67	2	6.67

Faculty members in table no 10 clears that frequency use of e-books found 12(40%) e-journals 11(36.67%), E-Audio-video lectures 11(36.67%) and open sources 14 (46.67%). 13 (43.33%) faculty members were some times using e-magazines and 10(33.33%) respondents found using e-databases.



### 8.9 Purpose of using e-resources

The main purpose of using e-resources by the faculty members of studied college is teaching (Table 10). It shows that as high as 18 responses, out of 30 representing (60%) indicates the 51 to 75% purpose of using e-resources for teaching.

**Table No. 10- Classification of Faculty Member as purpose to use E-Resources**

Sr No	Please state the purpose for using E-resources?	1-5%		6-25%		26-50%		51-75%		76<	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Teaching	0	0.00	2	6.67	6	20.00	18	60.00	4	13.33
2	Research	0	0.00	6	20.00	14	46.67	7	23.33	3	10.00
3	Publication	2	6.67	15	50.00	5	16.67	5	16.67	3	10.00
4	Self improvement	0	0.00	1	3.33	11	36.67	8	26.67	10	33.33
5	Seminar	7	23.33	12	40.00	7	23.33	4	13.33	0	0.00

### 8.10 Problems accessing E-resources

There are number of problems which become hurdles for the users to use e-resources. This study makes to understand the problem, which faculty members were facing to use e-resources.

**Table No. 10- Classification of Faculty Members facing problems accessing E-Resources**

Sr no	What difficulties do you face in accessing the information in the E-resources?	Not at All		Not Really		Undecided		Somewhat		Very Much	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	Language barriers	20	66.67	7	23.33	2	6.67	0	0.00	1	3.33
2	Broken links	2	6.67	8	26.67	15	50.00	4	13.33	1	3.33
3	Instability of networks	5	16.67	2	6.67	15	50.00	7	23.33	1	3.33
4	Information overload	2	6.67	7	23.33	11	36.67	9	30.00	1	3.33
5	Password	1	3.33	1	3.33	15	50.00	8	26.67	5	16.67

In table no 10, efforts were made to know the problem of which faculty members are facing while using electronic resources but not a clear opinions or result were identified. Maximum of faculty members mentioned undecided responses to all option and didn't give any other clarification.

## 9. MAJOR FINDINGS:

- Most of the faculty members have average knowledge of computer technology.
- Average 56 % of faculty members are using internet as per their requirement where 44% found using regularly.
- Central library didn't have any subscription for electronic resources and infrastructure for using internet.
- Faculty members are very much interested in using electronic resources.
- All of the faculty members were using electronic resource at their residence.
- E-books, E-journals, E-reference sources, E-Audio-Video Lectures and open source information are frequently used tools by faculty members.
- 30% of the respondents have poor knowledge of institutional repository.
- Most of the faculty member i.e 60% respondents use electronic resources for teaching, research purpose and self improvement is also a reason to use electronic resources.
- Password is the main problem to use unsubscribed electronic resources.

## SUGGESTION:

- Infrastructure facilities such as extension of LAN connection with all departments, procurement of CD mirror server, etc. should be developed.
- Besides e-journals and e-database, e-books and other e-resources (both online and offline) should be acquired by the Central Library.
- Library should have to increase their infrastructure regarding internet uses in the library.
- Study on the use and usability of e-resources by the faculty members needs to be made on regular basis.
- The speed of Internet needs to be increased for quick access to the available e-resources.
- Central Library has to create more awareness on e-resources.
- Library needs to arrange various orientation and training programs for faculty members for the optimum use of available e-resources.

## 7. CONCLUSION

The study reveals that the faculty members of Sunil Ramsingh Chunawale Ayurved Mahavidyalay, chikhli are using the available e-resources satisfactorily at their own residence. To update the knowledge of the faculty members i.e doctors in their field, there is enough scope for Central Library to develop its infrastructural facilities for accessing e-resources, procurement of more e-resources as per requirement, motivating users for assessing open source e-resources, etc.

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