

A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY ON LIBRARY USE BY MEDICAL STUDENTS AND FACULTY IN GOVT.MEDICAL COLLEGE, TRIVANDRUM 2003

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Abstract

We conducted a survey of a random sample of students and faculty of Medical College, Trivandrum, during the period April-May 2007.

Aim: To determine the nature and extent of usage of medical college library.

Rationale: Though formal education draws more attention, education in its real sense starts through informal self-learning. It has been observed that teachers and medical students rely mostly on text books and traditional didactic lectures. As medical science is a continuously advancing discipline, use of medical library, both by the students as well as the teachers, is an important means for enhancing knowledge and skills.

Study Design: Cross-sectional study.

Study Setting: Medical College, Trivandrum

Participants: Undergraduate students, house surgeons and faculty of the various departments of Medical College, Trivandrum.

Methodology: Data collection using semi-structured questionnaires.

Results :

1. Majority of the faculty and students use the library rarely, spending 1-2 hours at each visit. This shows that library usage in our college is minimal.
2. Age, sex and educational background do not influence the library use significantly.