

Effect of Information Literacy Skills of Health Professionals on their Academic Activities

Hettiarachchi, H.P.R.W.^{1*} and Samaradiwakara, M²

¹Library, Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka

²University of Sri Jayawardenapura, Sri Lanka

*rohinihettiarachchi396@gmail.com

Abstract

The library is one of the critical centers for disseminating health information and knowledge in the Ministry of Health and the public sector. All Health professionals are users of the library. It's observed that the users waste much time identifying and exploring information on their academic activities and their effects on their educational activities. The aim is to examine the impact of information literacy skills on the scholarly activities of health professionals. Specific objectives are to identify the demographic distribution of health professionals, determine factors affecting their identifying and exploring their information needs, and examine the relationship between information literacy skills and academic activities. The Research design is quantitative. The strategy is to survey as a case study at the Library of the Ministry of Health on health professionals attached to the Ministry. A structured questionnaire is a tool. The study population is library users are 60; the sample size is 52, and a single approach to collect survey data from the library's users—a response rate of 96%. Most of the respondents, 54%, are male. The majority of results are as follows: 50%access information for three academic activities,68%used two techniques of search information.38%used two ways of information literacy skills to identify information needs. 38% four ways of IL skills to explore information needs,50% of respondents (most health professionals) have the problem of wasting time searching for information. Efforts should be made to coordinate more information literacy training programs followed by practical sessions with the collaboration of the librarian to improve their information literacy skills.

Keywords: *Information Literacy, Health Professionals, Academic Activities.*