

Significance of RGUHS Digital Library & HELINET Consortium in the Growth of Medical Knowledge, Literature and Access

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Introduction:

Knowledge is power: Knowledge is defined as "justified true belief." Knowledge includes facts, information, descriptions or skills acquired through experience or education. It can refer to the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject. It can be implicit (as with practical skill or expertise) or explicit (as with the theoretical understanding of a subject); it can be more or less formal or systematic. Ultimate purpose of science is to contribute to the well-being of humanity. The sources for finding journal impact factors and other tools which will help to measure a journal's credibility and influence.

Medical Knowledge

The word medicine is derived from the Latin 'ars medicina' meaning the art of healing. Medicine is the field of applied science related to the art of healing by diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease. It encompasses a variety of health care practices evolved to maintain and restore health by the prevention and treatment of illness in human beings. Contemporary medicine applies health science, biomedical research, and medical technology to diagnose and treat injury and disease. Typically through medication or surgery, but also through therapies as diverse as psychotherapy, external splints & traction, prostheses, biologics, ionizing radiation and others.

Medical Literature

Medical literature refers to articles in journals and texts in books devoted to the field of medicine. Contemporary and historic views regarding diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of medical conditions have been documented for thousands of years. The Edwin Smith papyrus is the first known medical treatise.

Exponential increase of Knowledge is estimated that the doubling time of medical knowledge in 1950 was 50 years; in 1980 - 7 years; and in 2010 - 3.5 years. In 2020 it is projected to be 0.2 years—just 73 days.

Medical journals - in 1665 the Royal Society in England published one of the first 2 scientific journals in the world. They are "Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society" and "Journal des Scavants" (Scholars) which appeared in France the same year. From these 2 journals are descended the many thousands of scientific periodicals today, including all those devoted to the biomedical sciences and medicine, whether they be in print or newer media such as on CD or the Internet. The original purpose of scientific and medical journals was to permit scientists and physicians to communicate with one another. A newer aim is to permit scientists and physicians to communicate with people who may not be trained as scientists or physicians -- to communicate with the world at large.

Online Journals / E-journals

Electronic journals also known as e-journals. E-journals and electronic serials are scholarly journals or intellectual magazines that can be accessed via electronic transmission. In practice this means that they are usually published on the Web. They are a specialized form of electronic document. They have the purpose of providing material for academic research and study, and they are formatted approximately like journal articles in traditional printed journals. Being in electronic form, articles sometimes contain metadata that can be entered into specialized databases, such as DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) or OAIS (Open Archival Information System) as well as the databases and search-engines for the academic discipline concerned. Some electronic journals are online-only journals; some are online versions of printed journals, and some consist of the online equivalent of a printed journal, but with additional online-only (sometimes video and interactive media) material. Most electronic journals are published in HTML and / or PDF formats, but some are available in only one of the two formats. Small minorities publish in DOC, and a few are starting to add MP3 audio. Some early electronic journals were first published in ASCII

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(American Standard Code for Information Interchange) text, and some informally published ones continue in that format. Most commercial journals are subscription-based, or allow pay-per-view access. Many universities subscribe in bulk to packages of electronic journals, so as to provide access to them to their students and faculty for e.g., HELINET. It is generally also possible for individuals to purchase an annual subscription to a journal, via the original publisher. An increasing number of e-journals are now available as open access journals, requiring no subscription and offering free full-text articles and reviews to all. Individual articles from electronic journals will also be found online for free in an ad-hoc manner: in working paper archives; on personal home pages; & in the collections held in institutional repositories & subject repositories. Some commercial journals do find ways to offer free materials. They may offer their initial issue or issues free, and then charge thereafter. Some give away their book reviews section for free. Others offer the first few pages of each article for free.

RGUHS Digital Library

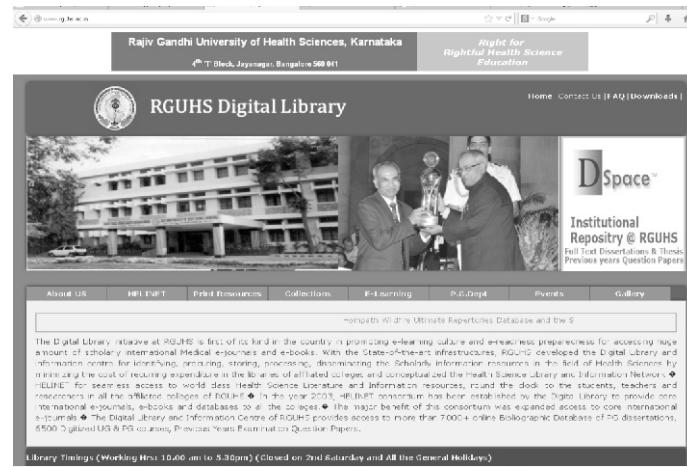
RGUHS has given an impetus since its inception for the digital library initiatives and established the world class Health Science Library and Information Network popularly known as HELINET, which is first of its kind in the country. HELINET Consortium is a conglomeration of owning, sharing and accessing essential medical literature of core scholarly international e-journals, e-books and databases by all the colleges under this digital library network round-the-clock. As of now, 38,16,924 scientific articles have been downloaded by the research scholars and academic community in the pursuit of their higher learning and research from various affiliated institutions of this university. The Digital Library also provides access to about 18,000 Dissertations & Thesis, 8000 Previous Year Question Papers, ETD template for electronic submission of Dissertations & Thesis and e-

Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka		Right for Rightful Health Science Education		
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Chancellor	Pro-Chancellor	Vice-Chancellor		
H.E. Sri Hane Raj Dharmraj	Dr. Sharangadeva Rudrappa Patil	Dr. Sripurush K. S.		
Welcome to RGUHS Online...				
Examination Section				
Examination Results				
DCI Screening Test-January 2014				
PGET-2013 [Medical & Dental]				
AHPNP - 2013 [Ayurveda, Homeopathy, Pharmacy, Nursing, Physiotherapy]				
UG Admission - 2013 (B.Sc.Nursing, BPT and BPO)				
PG Super Speciality Entrance Test - 2013				
Application Forms				
Online Teachers Database Management System				
Online Admission Student Information System				
Online I.A. / Practical / Theory Marks				
Right To Information Act				
				
Vice-Chancellor's Page				
Colleges				
Affiliation / Admission				
Digital Library				
Dept. of Curriculum Development				
Dept. of Research and Development [Ph D programmes]				
Finance Section				
Notifications/Circulars				
Authority Section				
Senate Election - 2012				
Election to Syndicate - 2013				
Convocation 2013				
Sports/NSS				
Prasarakang				
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learning module for self learning of accessing e-resources.

The Digital Library is also offering the academic degrees of Post Graduate Diploma as well as Ph.D. program in Health Science Librarianship.

The academic need of under graduate students have been taken at priority and provided them huge number of e-textbooks and e-reference books along with good number of video collection under HELINET Consortium. Currently, 600+ e-journals, 5198 e-books, 1975 videos and 4 databases are being provided under HELINET Consortium round the clock access to all the students and teachers across all the 600+ health science institutions affiliated to RGUHS.



Impact of HELINET

- Increased Awareness - As HELINET approached the point of renewal there were demands by users to add more journals to the e-Journal basket of HELINET.
- Catalyzing Effect - The popularity of HELINET consortium of medical colleges had its impact on other groups and RGUHS expanded HELINET consortium to other health science disciplines such as dental, pharmacy, nursing, physiotherapy etc., from January 2005 onwards.

Benefits of HELINET Consortium

Moreover, the member colleges can get all time access to the current journals as well as archives i.e. the back-volumes of journals for a period of 9-10 years. The University has already spent Rs. 2 crores for establishing the consortium on a cooperative e-access model and has set up digital library infrastructure for managing and providing access to e-content. About a million of scientific articles are being downloaded annually by our academic community, which is a healthy recovery of investments and enhancement of academic standards empowering knowledge and skills.

For the purpose, HELINET Consortium sources e-journals from multiple aggregators. For full-text it is subscribing the Elsevier's Science-Direct, BMJ, Springer etc., Currently 650 member participants are enjoying the sharing benefits in terms of lower subscription rates and better terms of agreement with the publishers. Moreover, the consortium would also provide technical help and arrange for in-house training for optimal usage of resources subscribed.

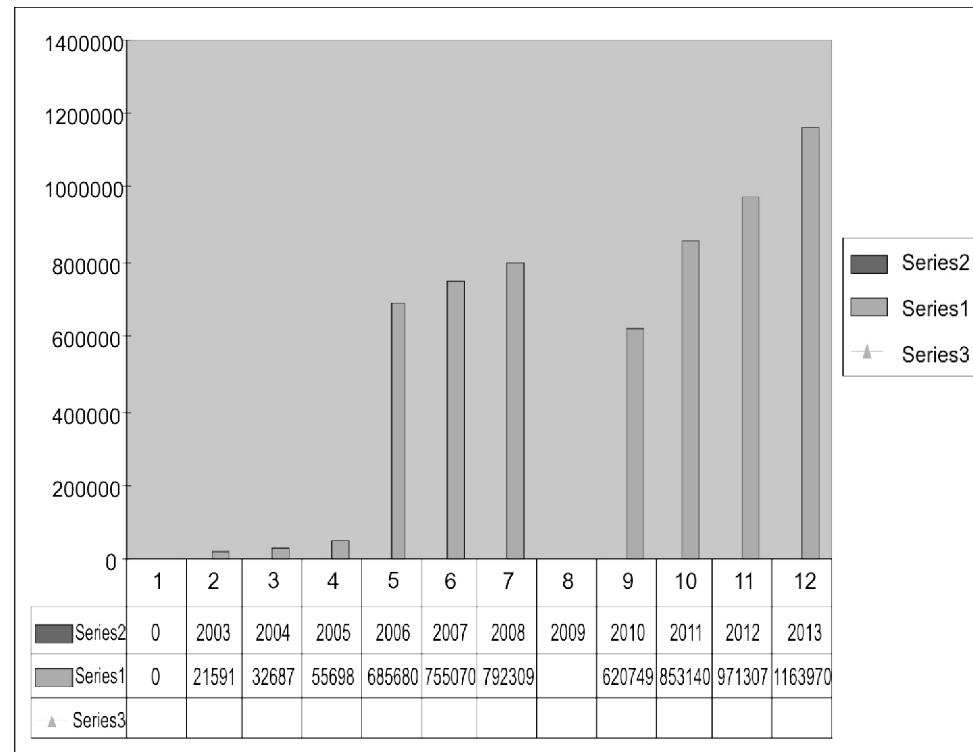
E-Content Available @ HELINET Consortium - 2014

E-journals	
• Science Direct	150
• LWW	119
• Wiley-Blackwell	26
• BMJ	23
• OUP	10
Sub Total	328
E-Books	
• Jaypee Digital	1377
• Springer	3403
• LWW	318
• E-brary	100
Sub Total	5198
Videos	
• Jaypee Digital	1975
Databases	
• MD Consult	1
• LNPS	1
• IPA	1
• Hompath	1
Sub Total	4
Grand Total of Subscribed Content under HELINET Consortium	7505

HELINET Usage

The usage report of the number of full text articles downloaded from the scholarly international e-journals, e-books and databases subscribed under the HELINET Consortium during 2003 to 2013 by the students, teachers and research scholars of the affiliated colleges under Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences is indicated hereunder:

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Full Text Downloaded
1	2003	21591
2	2004	32687
3	2005	55698
4	2006	685680
5	2007	755070
6	2008	792309
7	2010	620749
8	2011	853140
9	2012	971307
10	2013	1163970



Conclusion

HELINET has gained the attention of other Health Science Universities in the country. As its effort mature within RGUHS, HELINET will launch its HELENET Extended version to other Universities and Health Science institutions in the academic sector. The goal is to make HELINET a national consortium for health science education and research sector. HELINET Consortium is really helping the researchers, faculties and the students to retrieve the information and save their time. It benefits

the libraries to procure more electronic resources in the library with limited library budget and this is what the libraries require in the present scenario. HELINET could be to build archival collection of important scholarly journal literature and to fill the gap in the library collections of journal back volumes and also help to reduce long term capital costs associated with storage.

HELINET Consortium has gained momentum to spread the benefits across all the Health Science Universities in India.

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