Consortium Related To Health Science

Mangal A. Yadav, Assistant Librarian, MIDSR Dental College, Vishwanathpuram, Latur (M.S.), India.

Abstract

A library consortium is the sharing of resources among the participant’s libraries. There are different consortiums which are run by government organizations and private agencies which are related to health professionals. The consortium helps the researchers to search full-text online resource or articles instantly by title, subject, publication, country or other fields of interest.

Consortium:

A consortium is an association of two or more individuals, companies, organizations or government with the objective of participating in a common activity or pooling their resources for achieving a common goal. A library consortium is the sharing of resources among the participant’s libraries.

There are different consortiums which are run by government organizations and private agencies such as ERMED, DELNET, HELINET, UGC Infonet, MedIND, J-gate, HINARI, MUHS digital library consortia, NTRMEDNET, Elsevier etc which are related to health professionals. The details are as follows…

1. ERMED:

National Medical Library’s Electronic Resources in Medicine (ERMED) Consortium is initiated by Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) & The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) in 2008. Initially 39 centrally funded Government Institutions including 10 DGHS libraries, 28 ICMR Libraries and AIIMS library were the core members. The Consortium is being coordinated through it’s headquarter set up at the National Medical Library, New-Delhi.

Author for correspondence:
Mrs. Mangal A. Yadav,
Assistant Librarian, MIDSR Dental College,
Vishwanathpuram, Latur (M.S.), India.
National Medical Library (NML) started ERMED e-journal consortium in 2008 with 40 members including 28 ICMR, 10 DGHS, AIIMS and NTR Health University, Vijaywada, Andhra Pradesh. It provides electronic journals from 5 different publishers, which includes 1515 medical journals. In 2009 the ERMED members increased from 40 to 72 Government Medical Colleges/Institutes across the country. At present ERMED is providing over 1600 medical journals from 9 leading medical journal publishers such as American academy of Pediatrics, BMJ publishing, Cambridge University press, Lippincott, William Wilkins, Oxford university press etc.

2. DELNET:

DELNET was started by International Centre Library in January 1988. It was initially supported by the National Information System for Science and Technology (NISSAT), Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Government of India. It was subsequently supported by the National Informatics Centre, Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, and Ministry of Culture Government of India. DELNET includes selected list of journals covering all streams of Medical Science, which helps the researchers to search full-text online resource or articles instantly by title, subject, publication, country or other fields. It also useful to search surveys, audio-visual reviews, case notes, case studies, chronologies, charts, definitions, discussions and many more specific areas for focused study and research. It covers 1907 total titles with 938 Current Full-Text, 353 Full-Text and 616 Abstracts.

3. HELINET:

HELINET is Health Science Library and Information Network. It is the first consortia in the country. The consortium was started to improve the quality of education and research in the Health Science institutions. Before the launch of this consortium, access to foreign medical journals by each college was limited to around 100. HELINET has made it possible for each college to access and share the contents in more than 600 journals. The annual institutional membership fees varies faculty wise from Rs. 25000/- to 1,00,000/-. For medical college it is Rs. 100000/-

4. UGC Infonet Digital Library Consortium:

The UGC INFONET Digital Library Consortium is major initiative of University Grants Commission (UGC) to bring qualitative change in academic libraries in India. It was formally launched in December, 2003 by Honourable Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, the President of India, It is a national initiative for providing access to scholarly electronic resources including full-text and bibliographic databases in all subjects. This Consortium provides current as well as archival access to more than 5,000 core and peer-reviewed journals and nine bibliographic databases in different disciplines from 23 publishers and aggregators. The access to all major e-resources was given 50 universities in first phase in the year 2004. It has now been
extended to 157 universities in three different phases. At present this consortia is covering 200 universities with 2011 journals in health sciences which includes subjects like Biochemistry, Genetics & Molecular Biology, Immunology & Microbiology etc.

5. medIND:

med IND was developed by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) & National Informatics Centre( NIC) in 1986. It contains 40 biomedical journals with back volumes and includes journals from NML, Science, NEJM, Lancet, Nature etc. ICMR subscribing these e-journals in a consortia mode to all ICMR institutes.

6. J-gate :

J – gate was launched in 2001 by Informatics India with 7739 journals. At present it is largest e-Journal portal includes 28,000+ academic, research and industry journals, indexing more than 3.0 million articles a year with dynamic links to full-text. Open J-Gate is an exclusive subset of J-Gate dedicated to 7,800+ open access journals. This is available free for the scholarly and academic community.

7. HINARI :

HINARI was launched by World Health Organization (WHO) in January 2002, with some 1500 journals from 6 major publishers such as Blackwell, Elsevier Science, the Harcourt Worldwide STM Group, Wolters Kluwer International Health & Science, Springer Verlag and John Wiley, accessible for low income countries only. Today more than 150 publisher partners are offering more than 15,000 information resources; up to 11,400 journals in 30 different languages, up to 18,500 e-books are available to health institutions in more than 100 countries.

8. MUHS Digital Library Consortia:

Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik launched MUHS digital library consortium on 14th Nov. 2005 to provide full text e-resources to all institutions affiliated to the university. All colleges related to health sciences including medical, dental, ayurvedic, homeopathic, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, unani etc (except pharmacy) are under the umbrella of Maharashtra University of Health Sciences. All institutions and medical colleges are expected to have a digital library to facilitate use of these consortia for teaching-learning and research. This consortium consists of over 1600 medical journals, magazines, newsletters, bulletins etc. The university intends to run this project on “No profit- No loss” basis.

9. NTR MEDNET:

NTR MEDNET is digital library consortium of NTR University of Health Sciences, Vijayvada, Andhra Pradesh. This consortium provides 1987 journals and 90 reference books from 10 different publishers. These e-resources are provides to all affiliated colleges of NTR University.
10. Consortia of private agencies:

Elsevier is a world-leading publisher of scientific, technical and medical information products and services. Elsevier works in partnership with the global science and health communities to publish more than 2,000 journals, including The Lancet and Cell and nearly 20,000 book titles.

References:

1. http://www.nmlermed.in
2. http://www.delnet.nic.in
3. www.rguhs.ac.in/
4. www.muhs.ac.in
5. http://www.inflibnet.ac.in
6. www.ugc.ac.in
10. http://www.nature.com
12. http://www.ntrmednet.edu.in