Internet versus library book as a source of academic information among nursing students

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Abstract:

Background: Internet is increasingly being used worldwide in imparting information and improving its delivery especially in nursing education filed. Subjects and Methods: the aim of the study was to assess the internet versus library book as a source of academic information among nursing students. Descriptive / comparative design was utilized. A convenience sample of 317nursing students from four female nursing colleges at different educational levels were recruited. Four tools developed by the researchers were utilized to collect data: (1) Socio-demographic tool, (2) The internet versus library book utilization questionnaire, (3) The benefit of internet usage versus library book usage questionnaire, (4) The internet and library usage problems questionnaire. Results: The study results revealed that; the studied sample used the internet more than library book for the educational purposes; the benefits of using internet were it had an updated information, it presented the information in different forms, and easy access, on the other hand library book provides evident and relevant information. Also the results revealed that the major problem regarding internet usage was it stole time, while for library book use, it needed much more assistance to search. Conclusion & Recommendation: the students prefer to use internet rather than library book as a source of academic information, therefore, it is recommended to pay attention for the academic staff not only to use the internet to prepare their lectures and educational media, but also to provide reliable and evident web sites for the students as an essential references.

Key words: Internet, Academic information, University student, Library book.