

INFLUENCE OF INDIGENOUS MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS AND
LIBRARY COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT ON UTILIZATION
BY MEDICAL AND DENTAL STUDENTS IN NIGERIAN
UNIVERSITIES

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STUDENTS IN NIGERIAN UNIVERSITIES**

BY

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ABSTRACT

The role and influence of publishing in the development of any nation is enormous. However, publishing is not often given much attention when appraising the indices of national development in Nigeria. Though some studies have been conducted on publishing and collection development generally, few have investigated the impact of indigenous library collection development on utilisation. This study, therefore, examined the extent to which indigenous medical publications and collection development influenced their utilisation by medical and dental students in selected colleges of medicine in Nigerian universities.

The descriptive survey research design of *ex-post facto* type was adopted. Purposive random sampling techniques were used to select a total of 1,624 medical and dental students and ten librarians from ten federal universities in Nigeria. Medical and Dental Students Publications Utilisation Questionnaire ($r=0.78$) and Collection Development Structured Interview for Librarians ($r = 0.84$) to establish effective collection development practices. Checklist for Indigenous Medical Books and Journals Collection was used to determine the quality of indigenous medical publications available to each library. Eight research questions were answered and five research hypotheses tested at the 0.05 level of significance. Data were analysed using Pearson Product-Moment Correlation and Multiple regression.

Indigenous publications and collection development significantly influenced utilisation by medical and dental students ($F_{(2, 1621)} = 188.90$; $p<0.05$) and accounted for 18.9% of the variance in the dependent measure. The relative contributions of the independent variables to medical and dental students' utilisation of library publications were: collection development ($\beta=.434$; $t = 18.84$; $p<0.05$) and publications output ($\beta=.002$; $t = 0.10$; $p<0.05$). Collection development has significant positive relationship with library utilisation ($r=.435$; $df = 1623$; $p<.05$), while it has significant negative relationship with publications output ($r=-.240$; $df=1623$; $p<.05$). The indigenous medical publications collection is: medical sciences (85.5%), dentistry (1.65%) and others (13.0%). The highest number of indigenous books in any of the libraries was 201 titles, while only two libraries had seven indigenous books titles. The highest number of journal titles in the libraries was 103 titles and the lowest was one title. Indigenous publications and collection development utilisation were ranked:

textbooks(\bar{x} = 3.31; SD= 0.96), journals (\bar{x} =2.44; SD=0.99), medical databases (\bar{x} =2.37; SD=1.08) and learning resource materials(\bar{x} =2.17;SD=1.02). Constraints of indigenous medical publications and library collection development were: inadequate funding (\bar{x} =3.70; SD=1.88), explosion of publication (\bar{x} =3.16; SD=1.66), inflation (\bar{x} =2.00; SD=1.89), resource allocation (\bar{x} = 2.20; SD= 1.93), book vendors problem (\bar{x} = 2.20; SD= 1.54), lack of knowledge of existence (\bar{x} = 2.10; SD=1.79), and acquisitions policy (\bar{x} = 1.70; SD= 1.49).

Indigenous publications output for medical sciences far exceeded that of dental sciences. The two categories of publication along with collection development positively influenced medical and dental students' utilisation of publications. There is therefore urgent need for regular funding and procurement of books and journals for the libraries to ensure regular collection development. Government should also provide an enabling environment for indigenous publishing to thrive.

Key words: Indigenous medical publications, Collection development, Medical and dental students, Nigerian Universities

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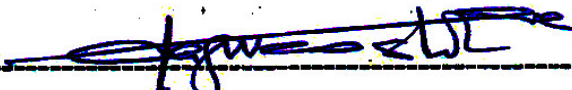
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CERTIFICATION PAGE

This Thesis is the original work approved by the Department of Library, Archival and Information Studies. It was carried out by AHIAOMA IBEGWAM (Matric. No: 56459) in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the Doctor of Philosophy in the Department of Library, Archival and Information Studies, University of Ibadan, Ibadan.

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