# Currency and Relevancy of Reproductive Information Resources: A Focus on Teaching Hospital Medical Libraries in South East Nigeria

# Oluchi CeciliaOkeke¹, (**⋈**)&Edward C. Amadi²

<sup>1</sup> Department of Lib and Info Science, Enugu State University of Science and Technology,

<sup>2</sup> Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Library, Umudike

#### Abstract

Teaching hospital medical libraries exist for rendering information services to health personnel and students studying medical courses. This is because it is very essential for such libraries to provide current and relevant health information resources enlighten the medical personnel thereby keeping them abreast of new developments and researches in the health sector. Two research objectives cum questions and research hypotheses guided the study. It gave an insight on infertility and most likely causes. It also highlighted some of the treatments to combat it and then the information resources as well as the medical librarians' role in combating it. Literature on infertility, medical library and as well measures to combat infertility was also reviewed. A population of 4425 medical library users from the 8 teaching hospital medical libraries in the 5 States of South East zone of Nigeria made up the study. Of the 885 of them sampled using census sampling technique, 618 responded adequately to the instrument. Analysis was made using mean scores and standard deviation. It was revealed that both the federal and state teaching hospital medical libraries provide current and relevant infertility combating information resources to their clients. Recommendations were made based on the findings.

## Keywords

Currency, Relevancy, Infertility, Information, Information Resources

## Corresponding Author (₺)

oluchukwu.okeke@esut.edu.ngD
epartment of Library and
Information Science, Enugu
State University of Science and
Technology

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# Introduction

Medical library which is a general name for all health related libraries is a type of special library. It houses the teaching hospital libraries. Teaching hospital Medical libraries ensure that health-care providers have access to authoritative, accessible, reliable, relevant, accurate and timely published information that enhances the quality of health care. Teaching Medical hospital libraries catalysts for professional activities

of the teaching hospital medical professionals as they aid in the cure of ailments as well as that of health information within the health institution. Librarians are professionally trained to work in medical libraries. These personnel are known as medical librarians. They plan, select, acquire, organize, maintain and disseminate health information resources that relevant to the organizations' day to day activities. The librarians of medical libraries are said to be

specialists since they have core knowledge of the information needs of their parent body. They therefore, play vital role in providing the health care professionals with evidence based information by being well equipped with the necessary skills, tools and resources at the point of care. They as well, provide the

Credit has been given to health education, medical experts researchers in health due to prompt health information provision. These services of the teaching hospital medical library include the provision of current and relevant infertility combating information resources. The increasing use of the internet and new information technologies by medical, nursing, and allied health staff, patients and the community require new strategies, strategic planning, allocation adequate resources, and selection of and evaluation appropriate information resources technologies as opined by Okeke, Eze, Eze and Asogwa (2017). In line with this, the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) (2018) maintained that the medical library should responsible be of keepina records all books. gazettes, journals and magazines; arranging all books, iournals, gazettes and magazines, other materials orderly for easy retrieval; receiving and documenting of items delivery; ordered/donated on auidina users on retrieval information; and listing and keeping of items in archive.

In Nigeria, infertility has long been a cultural concern, where it is generally held that all women should become mothers (in addition to filling other roles in the society), and infertility is seen as a serious social problem for women fulfilling in her marriage. It is seen as the

faculties, residents and the staff, with same evidence, thereby offering best care to the patients as well as support in research and education. All these gave rise to the need and concept of a clinical librarian in this era of evidence based medicine.

woman's problem not minding that the man/husband could have infertility problems as well. This has led to several vices to the woman involved from both the in-laws' family and the society at large.

# **Literature Review**

The available literature was reviewed under infertility and the two variables of currency and relevancy of infertility combating information resources.

# Infertility

Infertility is the inability to conceive a pregnancy or to carry a pregnancy to a life birth. It could be seen as the inability of able bodied-couple to bear children. It happens to both males and females. It is the inability to conceive after one (1) year of regular sexual intercourse. This is due to fertility problem also known as infertility. It affects many couples negatively. Infertility is said to negatively affect 8-14% of couples (Emslie, Grimshaw and Templeton (1993); Bhatti, Fikree and Khan (1999), in Dyer, Abrahams, Hoffman and Van Der Spuy (2002). According to the authors above, it is a major reproductive health problem with regional prevalence rates of 30-40% in Africa. The objective of every marriage in South East Nigeria (Igboland) is to beget children but sometimes couples do not achieve this great objective of marriage. This condition has led to disharmony of so many marriages and even to the

extent of destabilizing homes. In Nigeria, infertility has long been a where cultural concern. generally held that all women should become mothers (in addition to filling other roles in the society), and infertility is seen as a serious social problem for women fulfilling in her marriage. It is seen as the woman's problem not minding that man/husband could infertility problems as well. This has led to several vices to the woman involved from both the in-laws' family and the society at large. For decades, infertility particularly in Southern Nigeria is seen as a careless or reckless lifestyle lived by the woman while a spinster. But • Proper there are other causes of infertility outside carelessness of a woman. Notwithstanding. the teaching hospital medical library provides current and relevant information resources on ways to combat infertility. Some of these ways according to Scott (2015) are the following:

- Vasography: this is the viewing of the male vas deference (sperm carrying tube) so as to detect obstruction.
- Removal of fibroid (Myomectomy): this is the removal of fibroid to allow conception.
- Laparoscopic ovarian drilling: this is the draining of obstruction or fluid in the ovary.
- Transurethral resection of verumontanum: this is the removal of obstruction in the distal part of ejaculatory duct known as verumontanum where seminal duct joins prostatic urethra to increase volume of semen (Scott, 2015).
- Semen analysis: this is a situation where semen is collected from the man after 2-

- 3 days of abstinence from both intercourse and masturbation. This is because shorter longer periods of abstinence could result misrepresentative or negative result. Therefore, provision is not made for sample collection samples may not presented to the clinic within hours  $1\frac{1}{2}$ of production especially when it is taken from home (Ezugwu, 2018). This is a compulsory test in all cases of infertility. This is to enable the assessment of the quantity, mobility and shape of the spermatozoa.
- management of sexually transmitted diseases: sexually transmitted disease has been seen to contribute heavily to infertility. According to PubMed Encyclopedia (2015), sexually transmitted diseases are some of the causes of infertility in both male and female. This is because, when not properly treated, it either causes damage to reproductive organs thereby making it impossible for conception or blocks the woman's fallopian tube permanently. This is why it is dangerous to leave infection in human beings untreated rather should be treated immediately before it causes and havoc wreck to carriers.
- Tubal Embryo Transfer (TET): this is the placement of an embryo to the fallopian tube. In essence, fertilization here is always documented and or done before the placement in the fallopian tube. Mostly gametes here are not from the couple and this hinders many infertile couple from adopting

this. According to Akinloye and Truter (2011), many individuals both professionals and non-professionals do not accept this due to either culture or religious belief.

# Currency of the teaching hospital medical library infertility combating information resources

As an institution whose duties are to save lives, it is wise to have up-todate materials. Not that retrospective materials are useful, but the users of such library should be kept abreast with current information through health acquisition of current information resources and as well imploring current services. This according to Okeke, Eze, Eze and Asogwa (2017), will enable the health workers (medics and paramedics) to be aware of the happenings around them particularly new developments in the field of medicine, diseases outbreak and control of Provision of current materials to these groups of users is paramount. This is because it makes them have the timely knowledge required of as life savers. This supported by Okeke, Eze and Ani (2019), when they opined that provision of up-to-date (current and timely) information resources and services to medical libraries will enhance the utilization of same by users. Aside this, the Medical Library Association (MLA) in Okeke, Eze, Eze and Asogwa (2017), specified that a medical library should ensure sustainable knowledge-based information services which refers to current expert information that are produced externally to the organization/library. These include journals, texts, documents, and databases in print or electronic format; benchmarks, best practices,

guidelines, consensus development statements; research studies; and quality-filtered internet resources.

This according to Umenwa (2010), will make users frequent the library since it offers them the information they want. The authors maintain that since there is a paradigm shift of the current trend from manual packaging and presentation of electronic digitalization of information and the use οf information and communication technology (ICT), there tends to be a broader capacity for utilization of medical library information and services resources researchers and students who are always in need of current medical information. Besides, the change in medicine from discipline-oriented problem-oriented research to research leads to new information of stakeholders needs participants in medical education, practice research and traditional times. This as opined by Ezukwuoke and Okereke (2016), will boost the responsibility thrust on medical libraries to identify the potentially valuable and current information sources to transfer. store and organize for users. Therefore, it is the sole duty of the librarians and medical information scientists to ensure that adequate and current, accurate information materials are given or provided in the medical libraries of the teaching hospitals.

# Relevance of medical information resources (materials) and services

As a special library that has the aim of serving special group of people, it is wise to make its collections relevant to users. By so doing, the fourth law of librarianship which is save the time of the reader as well

as the librarian is always achieved. In order to achieve this, all the librarians must put their knowledge at work. Gwang (2012), in his study states that library and information professionals virtually relevant to the provision of library and information services. Okeke, Eze, Eze and Asogwa (2017), stated that providing relevant and adequate resources and services in medical libraries help in the delivery information actual to information seekers. The authors maintain that providing collection of textbooks, periodicals, etc. with no effective relevant library services to medical library users is not enough. They insist that the librarians of medical libraries must be available to provide convenient access to expert searching. Ezukwuoke and Okereke (2016) opined that medical librarians as number one custodian of provision of relevant, adequate and valuable health care information should track and repackage health information from library collections in appropriate formats thereby making information resources and services accessible to both healthcare providers health services consumers at all levels. Based on this assertion, Madumere, Mbajiorgu and Uwakwe while highlighting information needs, library services technologies assertive supportive measures to the visually students impaired in Nigerian universities, maintained that prompt and relevant information resources and services should be adequately provided to users no matter their user category. In this case, since the libraries medical of teaching hospitals are established to facilitate teaching, research and learning in medical institutions, it is wise therefore for the authorities with the

help of the medical librarian, to provide relevant information resources and services to these libraries so as to facilitate their usage at all levels.

# **Research Objectives**

- 1. To ascertain the extent of currency of infertility combating information resources in teaching hospital medical libraries in South East Nigeria.
- 2. To ascertain the extent of relevancy of infertility combating information resources in teaching hospital medical libraries in South East Nigeria.

# **Research Question**

- 1. How currency are the infertility combating information resources the teaching in hospital medical libraries in South East Nigeria?
- 2. How relevant are infertility combating information teaching resources in the hospital medical libraries in South East Nigeria?

# **Hypothesis**

Ho1: no significant There is difference between the mean of respondents rating federal and state teaching hospital medical libraries on the extent of currency of infertility combating information resources in South East Nigeria.

Ho<sub>2</sub>: There is no significant difference between the mean rating of respondents federal and state teaching hospital medical libraries on the extent of relevancy of infertility combating information resources in South East Nigeria.

# Methodology

This study adopted descriptive survey design. The area of this study is South-East zone of Nigeria which comprised five (5) states. These states are namely: Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu and Imo. The South East zone of Nigeria is located at the southern part of Nigeria. The zone has three federal teaching hospitals and five state teaching hospitals making a total of eight teaching hospitals and they all have their libraries. The population of the study is the 4,425 medical library users in these teaching hospital medical libraries (Statistics Register of the medical libraries under study, 2019). The instrument

collection for data was the questionnaire "Extent titled Currency and Relevancy of Infertility Combating Information Resources in Teaching Hospital Medical Libraries **Questionnaire** (ECRICIRTHMLQ)". The researcher with the help of assistants from the teaching hospital medical libraries under study administered and retrieved the instrument from respondents. 618 copies of the questionnaire suitably were responded and were used for the analysis. The data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics mean value and standard deviation, while t-test statistic was used to test the hypothesis.

**Research Question 1:** To what extent is the currency of infertility combating information resources in teaching hospital medical libraries of the South East Nigeria?

**Table 1:** Mean responses of users on the extent of currency of the available infertility combating information resources in teaching hospital medical libraries under study.

S/N Extent of currency of the available Federal State Average Decis								
S/N	•						_	
	infertility combating information resources	$\overline{X}$	SD	$\overline{X}$	SD	$\overline{X}$	SD	on
1	E-newspaper	2.8	1.1	2.7	1.0	2.8	1.0	НС
		3	6	8	1	1	9	
2	E-audio	3.0	.89	3.0	1.0	3.0	.95	HC
_	E acceptation	2		5	0	4	1.0	
3	E-magazine	3.0 3	1.1 6	2.8 8	1.0 2	2.9 6	1.0 9	HC
4	E-image	2.8	1.1	2.5	.96	2.6	1.0	HC
•	age	0	2	5	.50	8	4	
5	E-book	3.0	1.0	2.7	1.0	2.9	1.0	HC
-		6	9	5	2	1	6	
6	E-journal	2.9 1	1.0 5	2.3	1.1 5	2.6 5	1.1 0	HC
7	Video, Slide and Photo shares	2.7	1.1	2.3	1.2	2.5	1.1	НС
,	video, sinde dila i floto silares	1	3	8	0	5	7	110
8	E-research report	2.5	1.0	2.5	1.1	2.5	1.1	HC
_		8	6	6	9	7	3	
9	E-help and tutorials	3.2 3	.75	2.4 4	1.1 7	2.8 4	.96	HC
10	E-repository	2.7	.97	2.5	1.2	2.6	1.1	НС
10	E-repository	1	.97	0	4	1	1	TIC
11	E-thesis Dissertation	2.9	1.0	2.5	1.1	2.7	1.1	HC
		3	3	0	8	2	1	
12	World wide web	3.1	1.1	2.8	1.0	2.9	1.1	HC
13	E-database	3 2.5	7 .98	5 2.5	3 1.1	9 2.5	0 1.0	НС
13	L-uatabase	2.5 9	.90	0	7	2.5 5	8	TIC
14	CD-ROM	2.4	1.1	2.5	1.0	2.4	1.0	NC
		3	0	0	7	7	9	
15	JStor	2.8	1.0	2.6	1.1	2.7	1.0	HC
16	E Enhamora	8 2.6	2 .97	5 2.4	1 1.0	7 2.5	7 1.0	НС
10	E-Ephemera	6	.97	3	5	2.5 5	1.0	TIC
17	Newspaper	3.0	.80	2.9	1.1		.96	HC
		3		6	1	0		
18	Gynecological Books	3.2	.77	2.9	1.1	3.1	.98	HC
10	Magazino	0 2.4	1.0	9 2.5	8 1.0	0 2.5	1 0	НС
19	Magazine	2.4 0	0	2.5 9	4	2.5	1.0 2	пС
20	Infertility journals	3.0	.94	3.0	.97	3.0	.96	HC
	,,,	8		3		6		
21	Drug books	2.9	1.1	3.1	.98	3.0	1.0	HC
22	Company to all and a linear and a	3	4	7		5	6	
22	Gynecological journals	3.3 0	1.1 4	3.0 4	1.1	3.1 7	1.1 4	HC
23	Fertility videos	3.3	.89	2.8	1.1	3.1	1.0	HC
23	. S. Liney Videos	3	.00	4	9	3	4	
24	Fertility research reports	3.3	.89	2.9	.99	3.1	.94	HC
		3		3		3		

		6	2	7	7	2	5	
	Cluster Mean	2.8	1.0	2.7	1.0	2.8	1.0	НС
		9		4	6	2	3	
35	PubMed	3.2	.99	3.1	1.0	3.2	1.0	НС
54	Web 2.0	2.3	9	2.5	.90	2.4	1.0 0	NC
24	Wah 2 0	7 23	7 1.0	7	00	7	5	NC
33	Databases	2.2	1.1		.93	2.5	1.0	HU
	•	4	6	4	0	4	3	
32	Subject Guides	2.6	1.2	2.8	1.0	2.7	1.1	НС
71	Conference i roceedings	3	3	4	.52	9	3	110
31	Conference Proceedings	6 2.3	3 1.1	8 2.8	3 .92	2 2.5	8 1.0	НС
30	Materials (Ephemera) on STIs	3.0	1.1	2.7	1.2	2.9	1.1	HC
	infections	5		6	3	6	6	
29	Books on sexually transmitted	3.1	.98	2.9	1.1	3.0	1.0	НС
20	journals on discuse control	3.0 4	.52	0	. 50	7	0	110
28	Journals on disease control	6 3.0	0 .92	7 3.1	.98	7 3.0	2 1.0	НС
27	Thesis on fertility	2.2	1.0	2.8	1.0	2.5	1.0	HC
	, ,	8		1	8	0	0	
26	Fertility projects	2.5	_	2.8	1.0	2.7	1.0	НС
25	Fertility drawings and charts	3.1 5	1.0	2.8	1.0	3.0	1.0 4	HC
~-	e and the second	~ -						

**Key**:  $\bar{x}$  – Mean; SD – Standard Deviation Table 1 displays the data driven from the responses of federal and state teaching hospital medical library users on the extent of currency of the available infertility combating information resources.

The table 1 above shows the mean responses of the federal and state teaching hospital medical library users on the extent of currency of the available infertility combating information resources in teaching hospital medical libraries under study. From their responses, one can deduct that the available infertility combating information resources and services in all these teaching hospital medical libraries are highly current. This is because, their mean responses both states, federal and collective exceeded the judgment base of 2.5. We therefore say that the infertility combating

information resources in these teaching hospital medical libraries are highly current. Nevertheless, in the federal some resources teaching hospital medical libraries are not current according to their users CD-ROM, such as Thesis /Dissertation on infertility, among others were seen as not current. For their counterparts in state teaching hospital medical libraries, resources such as E-journal, video, slide and photo shares, among others are seen as not current. This is because their individual mean responses are not up to 2.5, the judgment base.

**Table 2:** An independent t-test analysis of federal and state teaching hospital medical libraries users on the extent of currency of the available infertility resources in south east Nigeria.

Status	N	Mean	SD	Df	t- value	t-Cal	Decision
Federal	288	100.20	35.82	586	1.98	1.10	Accept Ho

5

State 300 96.87 37.39

Result on table 2 above shows the t-test for independent samples assuming equal variance of federal and state teaching hospital medical library users on the extent of currency of the provided infertility combating information resources. Since the t-Cal is less than the t-table, the researcher therefore, accepts the null hypothesis (Ho1) and

states that there is no significant difference in the mean ratio of these users on the extent of currency of infertility combating information resources provided to them.

**Research Question 2:** To what extent is the Relevancy of the Available Infertility Combating Information Resources in the medical libraries?

**Table 3:** Mean responses of the respondents on the extent of relevancy of the available infertility combating information resources in the teaching hospital medical libraries under study.

S/N	Extent of relevancy of the available	Fed	leral	St	ate	Ave	rage	Decisi
	infertility combating information resources	$\overline{X}$	SD	$\overline{X}$	SD	$\overline{X}$	ŠD	on
36	E-newspaper	2.5	.92	2.7	1.31	_	1.1	HR
37	E-audio	3 2.3 8	1.0 5	1 2.8 7	1.14	2 2.6 3	2 1.1 0	HR
38	E-magazine	2.6 9	1.1	2.9 8	1.14		1.1 6	HR
39	E-image	3.0 5	.89	2.9	1.10		.95	HR
40	E-book	3.1 2	1.0 1	2.9 8	1.13		1.0 7	HR
41	E-journal	2.8 8	1.1 6	3.0 0	1.17	2.9 4	1.1 7	HR
42	Video, Slide and Photo shares	2.7 1	1.1 6	3.2 4	1.07	8	1.1 2	HR
43	E-research report	3.1 0	1.1 2	2.9 8	1.05	4	1.0 9	HR
44	E-help and tutorials	2.8	1.1	2.7	1.29	0	1.2	HR
45	E-repository	2.8	1.1	2.7	1.08	3	1.1	HR
46	E-thesis Dissertation	2.3	1.0	2.8	1.20	0	1.1	HR
47 48	World wide web E-database	2.8 1 2.9	1.1 3 1.0	3.2 8 3.0	1.01 1.04	5	1.0 7 1.0	HR
49	CD-ROM	0 2.3	1.0 1 1.1	2 2.7	1.04	6	3 1.1	HR HR
	JStor	9	2 1.0	1 3.0	.93	5 2.7	0 .98	HR
	E-Ephemera	9 2.5	3 .86	2 2.7	1.01	1	.94	HR
52	Newspaper	4 21	1.2	2 3.2	1.00	3 2.7	1.1	HR
53	Gynecological Books	3 3.1	1 .90	8 3.0	.90	1 3.0	1 .90	HR
54	Magazine	3 3.1	1.0	0 3.1	.94	7 3.1	1.0	HR
55	Infertility journals	2 3.2	5 1.0	8 3.4	.84	5 3.3	0 .92	HR
56	Drug books	9 3.1	0 .82	9 3.5	.79	9 3.3	.81	HR
57	Gynecological journals	3 3.2 8	.90	0 3.5 2	.73	2 3.4 0	.82	HR
58	Fertility videos	3.2 9	.90	3.5	.76	3.4 0	1.6 6	HR
59	Fertility research reports	3.1 3	.98	3.4 9	.85	3.3	.92	HR
60	Fertility drawings and charts	3.5	.72	3.0	.80	3.2	.76	HR

		0		8		9		
61	Fertility projects	3.1	.87	3.1	.88	3.1	.88	HR
		2		3		3		
62	Thesis on fertility	3.1	1.1	3.2	.93	3.1	1.0	HR
	•	2	9	4		8	6	
63	Journals on disease control	3.3	.92	3.3	.88	3.3	.90	HR
		0		3		2		
64	Books on sexually transmitted infections	2.8	1.2	3.2	.92	3.0	1.0	HR
		2	3	6		4	8	
65	Materials (Ephemera) on STIs	2.0	.94	3.0	.86	2.5	.90	HR
		0		3		2		
66	Conference Proceedings	3.1	.83	2.7	1.04	2.9	.94	HR
		2		9		6		
67	Subject Guides	2.9	1.0	2.9	1.01	2.9	1.0	HR
		9	7	9		9	4	
68	Databases	2.8	1.0	2.8	1.17	2.8	1.1	HR
		4	7	9		7	2	
69	Web 2.0	2.4	.85	2.7	.66	2.6	.76	HR
		1		9		0		
70	PubMed	3.3	1.1	3.4	.98	3.4	1.0	HR
		6	2	8		2	5	
	Cluster Mean	2.8	1.0	2.9	.99	2.9	1.0	HR
		7	2	9		3	1	

**Key**:  $\bar{x}$  – Mean; SD – Standard Deviation Table 1 displays the data driven from the responses of federal and state teaching hospital medical librarians on the extent of relevancy of the available infertility combating information resources in teaching hospital medical libraries under study.

The table 3 above shows that all the infertility combating information resources listed by the researcher are all highly relevant to the users. This is because, their cluster mean, both state and federal teaching hospital medical libraries are more than 2.5 which serves as the judgment base. These include the einformation resources and information physical resources. the federal Although teaching hospital medical libraries users have lapses in their responses concerning

some resources such as E-audio, Ethesis/Dissertation, CD-ROM, IStor. whereby among others respondents mean said they are not relevant. But their counterparts in teaching state maintained that all the items listed are highly relevant since their mean scores are up to 2.5. Therefore, the researcher deducts that infertility combating information resources in these teaching hospital medical libraries are highly relevant to the users.

**Table 4:** An independent t-test analysis of federal and state teaching hospital medical libraries' users on the extent of relevancy of the available infertility combating information resources in south east Nigeria.

Status	N	Mean	SD	Df	t- value	t-cal	Decisio n
Federal	288	100.31	35.55	586	1.98	1.54	Accept Ho
State	300	104.76	34.67				

Result on table 4 above shows the tfor independent samples assuming equal variance. Stating that the t-Cal is less than the tthe researcher therefore value. accepts the null hypothesis (H<sub>02</sub>) and says that there is no significant difference between the main ratings of the federal and state users of the teaching hospital medical libraries on the relevance of the infertility combating information resources provided.

# **Discussion of findings**

# Extent of currency of infertility combating information resources

On the extent of currency of the infertility combating information resources in the teaching hospital medical libraries, the users who respondents were the of this research question revealed generally all the available provided materials highly current. are Although there are some loop holes in the libraries both the federal and state teaching medical hospital libraries. These resources are CD-ROM. Magazine, Conference Proceeding, Database and Web 2.0 because they have mean scores of below 2.5. In the state teaching hospital medical libraries, the noncurrent resources as indicated by the respondents are e-journal, video, slides and photo shares, e-help and tutorials, and Newspaper, which all have a mean score of less than 2.5. The currency of infertility combating information resources in teaching hospital medical library is necessary as Okeke, Eze, Eze and Asogwa (2017), asserted that a current and authoritative collection of print, electronic and multimedia resources for the provision timely knowledge-based information should be provided in medical libraries by the librarians since it is a plan to provide access to knowledge-based information during times when electronic systems are unavailable.

# Extent of relevancy of the available infertility combating information resources

On the extent of relevancy of the infertility combating information resources in the teaching hospital medical libraries, the responses of the respondents revealed that the infertility combating information resources provided are generally, highly relevant although there are loop holes in the federal teaching hospital medical libraries under study. These are e-audio, e-thesis and dissertation, CD-ROM, ISTOR, Newspaper and Web 2.0 with mean scores of less than 2.5. Their counter parts in the state are alright available that the information resources provided to them are highly relevant. This is good since it is dealing with health particularly on the infertility combating information resources, which according to the United Nations' Foundation (2011)Okeke, Eze and Ani (2019), stated that countless lives are lost due to insufficient access to quality health information. The availability accurate, timely, and analyzed data is directly relevant to the quality of individual's health and healthcare system in general, the delivery of individual care, and the understanding and management of overall health systems. Also on this relevance, Ajayi (2004) in Okeke, Eze and Ani (2019) maintained that in the case of medical libraries, the practitioner. researcher. students and others in allied fields who are the patrons of the library relevant and up-to-date information frequently in education programmes, diagnostic procedures and research in various fields of treatment of various ailments. This is in order because, if relevant and up-to-date infertility combating information resources are not provided to the users by the librarians in charge, their work on health care and infertility eradication will be futile. Supporting their claims, Okeke, Eze and Ani (2019) maintained that a call for proper selection, acquisition and organization of resources in libraries is a necessity. This is because, it is widely believed that the proper organization of the library resources facilitates its use while appropriate materials call for attention wherever they are placed and so does good library resources. It does not need so much awareness to be created before it is utilized.

### Recommendations

- 1. The teaching hospital medical library users should be provided with adequate and current infertility combating information resources since it pertains life so as to tend to save it and not waste it (life) while those that are not current should be adequately replaced with current ones.
- 2. The teaching hospital medical library users should be provided with adequate relevant infertility combating information resources by the medical librarians in order to satisfy their information needs while those that are not relevant should be replaced with relevant ones.

#### Conclusions

The researchers conclude that the management and authorities of these teaching hospital medical libraries as well as their librarians are doing a great job by providing current as well as relevant infertility

combating information resources. However, there is the need to adequately beef up in their provision of infertility combating information resources generally. This make enable the users utilization of same to achieve a reasonable goal of combating infertility in the South East Nigeria.

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