



The Galle Medical Journal

Journal of the Galle Medical Association

Volume 21: Number 2, September 2016

Editors; Galle Medical Journal

Sarath Lekamwasam

Eisha Waidyaratne

Editorial Board

Satish K Goonesinghe

HMM Herath

Pasan Hewawasam

Ruwani Hewawasam

Janaka Lenora

Chandima Wickramatilake

Gaya Wijayaratne

Channa Yahathugoda

Editorial Assistant

S Sureka Samanmalie

@ The Galle Medical Journal, 2016 September

The Galle Medical Association

GMA Office

Teaching Hospital Karapitiya

Galle

SRI LANKA

ISSN 1391-7072

Tel/Fax : +94 91 2232560

E-mail : gmathk@gmail.com

gmjgalle@gmail.com

Web Site : www.gma.lk

Online : www.sljol.info/index.php/GMJ

Editorial

E-journals; merits and demerits

Electronic journal (e-journals) is a periodic publication in electronic format made available on the internet or in a CD-ROM. Introduced initially as complementary to paper-based journals (p-journals), e-journals have expanded, exponentially, during the recent past. Some journals are published only in the electronic format while some are published in print form in addition to the electronic form. Despite numerous advantages associated with e-journals, there is a growing concern among academics regarding the quality of the content in some e-journals although this has not been proven adequately.

E-journals are popular due to several reasons. They allow remote and easy access and provide access to multiple users simultaneously. In addition, e-journals can accommodate multimedia information, sounds, original data of the study and supporting documents. They require no physical storage space and can be saved digitally and hence environment friendly. In addition, they can be shared with others easily and some e-journals are interactive.

E-journals are not without limitations. Not all e-journals are of high quality and the review process of some e-journals is questionable. Further, they are not accessible without an internet access. Libraries find it difficult to retrieve them rapidly when required. This may take more time and more working hours.

In a complex situation, it is difficult to make predictions. It is certain that the number of e-journals will expand further. In order to retain the credibility, it is essential for the e-journals to adhere to the accepted principles of review process. Despite these limitations e-journals, however, will survive as they target readers and directly deliver to them bypassing libraries.

Sarath Lekamwasam

Eisha Waidyaratne

Editors / GMJ