

Health Sciences Library Services in Turkey: Koc University Example

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Abstract

A health sciences or medical library aims to assist doctors, health professionals, students, medical researchers and information professionals in finding health-related or scientific information in order to improve healthcare services and develop new diagnosis and treatment processes for diseases. While contributing to these researches, it also helps researchers to search the literature, with information literacy, journal selection, reference management tools, open access, data management and so on. It is one of the important tasks of medical libraries to increase the quality of research outputs by supporting them with trainings. In addition, Medical Faculty Libraries should be able to contribute to the education of Medicine and Health Sciences and develop their collections in a way to support support the learning and teaching needs the faculties, and advance the collection development activities in coordination with the faculty members.

In addition, with the change created by evidence-based medicine in research processes, systematic review and meta-analysis have become important research types and evidence-based practices have been used in all studies. Depending on these developments, health sciences libraries have started to develop some new tasks and services in addition to the above-mentioned tasks in order to support their users in evidence-based research. Since systematic reviews and meta-analyzes require a comprehensive literature review, it was inevitable for librarians to take a role here and they added these as a regular service in the health sciences libraries.

In addition to all these, with the understanding that open science studies gain importance and that this should be spread to all disciplines, various studies have been carried out in the fields of research data, open data and data management in recent years. These studies have also had reflections in the field of health sciences and research data, data management, data storage, etc. Issues such as these have begun to be on the agenda of libraries.

In this study, it will be mentioned what kind of services Koç University Health Sciences Library offers in line with the above-mentioned tasks. Since Koç University HSL is a library located within the hospital affiliated to the university, user profiles vary and include faculty members, students, doctors, nurses and

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hospital staff. For this reason, while supporting the research activities of the university, the library staff also takes part in clinical researches at the hospital frequently.

The main topics of the study are the services provided to the users, the user profile, the trainings provided, how services changed during the pandemic period, and the current work plan.

Keywords: Health Sciences Librarianship, Health Libraries, Library Services



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