

Title: "THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ÜNAK MEDICAL GROUP TO THE TURKISH MEDICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM: EXPERIENCES AND RECOMMENDATIONS"

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Text of the Abstract :

Today, rapidly increasing information and continuously developing technologies are expanding the scope of medical information in the branch of Medical and Health Sciences. In this information process, Medical and Health Sciences provide educators and professionals accurate, rapid, efficient and economic information, supporting the production, presentation and access to the information available in these disciplines. In Turkey, medical information is supported at a State level with national policies. However, although the history of medical libraries in Turkey goes back to ancient Anatolia, the modern medical library applications which have been adopted since the 1950's have not met with the same degree of State support. On the other hand, a few medical libraries functioning in Medical and Health Sciences have joined forces under the ÜNAK umbrella to contribute to the accumulation of Turkish Medical Information through the establishment of a "Medical Working Group" in 2000. This group works as a locomotive for medical information and medical libraries in Turkey, its goal being to act as a bridge between health professionals, health science publishers and health educators. The Medical Working Group has thus contributed to the realization of many projects on a national scale. Among these projects can be cited the organization of the "Medical Periodicals Symposium" and the "National Medical Library Meetings." Influential in the formation of a "Health Editors Group," the initiative has also helped to create projects such as the "Health Editors Workshops," the Formation and Standards of Turkish Medical Topic Headings," "Turkish Journal Abbreviations," "Creating Discussion Lists at Medical and Health Sciences Libraries. With these achievements, the Medical Working Group can be recognized to have made a difference in the evolution of Medical Information in Turkey.