

Shared education programs for the efficient use of common online resources

Authors:

Moreno Curti (1),
Luisa Fruttini (2),
Saba Motta (3),
Franco Toni (4),
Funda Topuz (1),
Catherine Klersy (1)

Affiliations:

- (1) San Matteo Hospital Foundation, IRCCS, Pavia, Italy
(2) Umbria and Marche Regions Veterinary Public Health and Research Institute, Perugia, Italy
(3) C. Besta Neurological Hospital Foundation, IRCCS, Milan, Italy
(4) The Italian National Institute of Health (ISS), Rome, Italy

Correspondence:

curtim@smatteo.pv.it

Web Info: www.bibliosan.it

General Framework:

Bibliosan is the Italian biomedical library network referring to the Ministry of Health and including to this date 56 institutions. The Ministry endorsed and funded a program to share on-line a consistent amount of scientific resources between the participating institutions and make them available to their respective researchers.

The network allows the access to more than 5.000 purchased electronic on-line journals, databases such as Cochrane Library, BestPractice and Web of Science. It offers means of sharing and exchanging documents, utilities for the remote access to all resources, and also bibliographic reference database software.

It would be useless to keep up with the high quality of work and commitment required to realize Bibliosan if all the available resources were not adequately promoted on a large scale among researchers, while simultaneously developing instruments to measure their use. For all the above mentioned reasons, one of the main objectives that Bibliosan put forth right from its birth and still considers as one of its main ambitions and priorities, is that of promoting the acquired resources and that of active formation at all levels: to librarians, and directly or through the latter, to end-users.

Educational program:

With an aggressive policy thus oriented, numerous formative initiatives (Table 1) have been undertaken along different roads and by means of various tools provided by librarians, by computer science, by editors and by service providers: traditional lectures including continuing medical education (CME), courses recorded on DVDs and distributed to end-users, webinars and on-line tutorials, courses for librarians and courses for end-users; but also information provided on the web, printed pamphlets, posters and bookmarks.

Training topics:

- Database inquiry (Pubmed, Wos, Cochrane Library, BestPractice, Jcr, etc.)
- Consultation of available resource catalogues
- On-line journal consultation (Full-text, Rss, Alert, etc.)
- Bibliographic administrative tool use: RefWorks
- Document Delivery system use: Nilde (Network Inter-Library Document Delivery)
- Access to resources through remote via CLAS (Cilea Library Access Service)

Table 1: educational events in Bibliosan 2008-2010

	Educational events (CME)	n. pupils	CME credits	Institutions involved
2008	39 (27)	1.221	228	16
2009	63 (23)	1.746	179	20
2010	68 (17)	1.554	119,5	29

Table 2: journal consultation and resource use in Bibliosan 2008-2010

	2008	2009	2010
PDFs downloaded	1.511.355	1.976.620	2.022.103
RefWorks users	1.031	1.383	1.558
Nilde users	1.963	2.969	3.738
Clas users	1.858	2.513	3.042

Results:

In three years, our educational program has involved more than half the institutions pertaining to Bibliosan. In tab.2, findings of the overall utilization of the main resources and of the main tools available in our system are presented. The use of resources was compared between groups of intensity of education (n. of courses carried out in each institution). Results of this analysis (see graphs) show significant association between the use of the resources and the educational training that has taken place in every single institution.

Conclusions:

Education increased users of bibliographic utilities over years thus promoting the access to bibliographic resources.

