



## Conglomeration of all the Published Article Titles from Different Journals into their Respective Speciality Association Site – an Opinion-Based Pilot Study on Faculty and Postgraduates in Khammam, Telangana

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### Abstract

**Background:** India is one of the 15th largest research publication producers (as per the Economic times December 18, 2019), and now accounts for 5.31 per cent of the total world publications. Therefore, finding relevant articles from various sites may take a great deal of time. However, conglomeration (or) collecting the titles of all published articles, short surveys and dissertations from various journals and dental specialities into their respective association sites can help future young researchers by reducing search time and quick access to relevant information. The study aims to assess the opinion of/on the conglomeration of all published titles of articles and short surveys from various journals and dissertation title names are one-stop search for further research.

**Methodology:** A descriptive cross-sectional survey was conducted using a self-administered questionnaire among 44 faculty and 66 postgraduate students from various dental specialities in Mamata dental college, Khammam, Telangana. The study was conducted in August 2022 for 3 days. The results were analysed by descriptive statistics and Chi-square test using SPSS version 14. All tests were set at a 0.05 significance level.

**Results:** The results of this study indicate that most of the faculty members and students prefer the conglomeration of all the published article titles from different journals into their respective Speciality Association sites as they can be easily accessed.

**Conclusion:** From the present pilot study, it can be concluded that the faculty and postgraduates both share a similar opinion on/of the conglomeration of published articles to make further research process facile and easier

**Keywords:** Research Publications; Conglomeration; Association Sites; Research Facilitation; Academic Databases; Access to Information

## Introduction

Research is crucial for advancing knowledge and solving complex problems. It drives innovation, informs decision-making, and contributes to improvements in various fields, ultimately benefiting society as a whole. The exponential growth of academic publications, particularly in fields like dentistry, has led to information overload for researchers [1]. As India is one among the 15 largest publication producers, finding relevant articles may take a great deal of time [2].

To address this issue, the concept of consolidating published titles, surveys, and dissertations from various dental journals and specialties into their respective association sites has emerged. This approach aims to simplify the research process by providing a centralized platform for accessing and searching all relevant literature. By combining data from web databases, journal archives, and institutional repositories, this strategy seeks to provide a more comprehensive view of the research environment [3].

The primary objective of this study is to gather feedback from dental faculty and postgraduate students. However, with the collection of all published titles of articles and short surveys from various journals and dissertation title names from various colleges into their respective association sites help the future research by reduction in search time and quick access to relevant information. Hence the conglomeration of all published titles of articles and short surveys from various journals and dissertation title names is one stop search for our research.

## Materials and Methods

A descriptive cross sectional questionnaire-based Pilot study was conducted among faculty and postgraduate students from various dental specialties in a tertiary care teaching hospital, Khammam, Telangana. The study was conducted in August 2022 for 3 days, involving a total of 110 subjects (44 teachers and 66 postgraduates). Data was collected using a 15-item self-assessed, close-ended questionnaire which consists of demographic information, existing literature search practices, challenges faced during literature searches, and opinions on merging article titles and virtual conglomeration. The questionnaire was pre-tested on a group of respondents to ensure quality and accuracy. Data analysis employed descriptive statistics and Chi-square tests to identify significant variations across specialties or demographics. SPSS version 22 was used for all analyses, with  $p < 0.05$  considered the level of significance.

## Results

The study, which included 110 participants (66.36% female, mean age 32.19), provided important insights into the literature search practices of dental practitioners. The majority of responses were postgraduates (60.91%). 80% indicated frequent use of on-line resources, however 72.73% struggled to discover relevant materials. Google Scholar (33.64%) and PubMed (57.27%) were the top sources. Accessing paid websites (65.45%) and finding specialised information (60.00%) were the most difficult challenges. The majority of respondents (98.18%) found conglomeration beneficial for shortening search times. Postgraduates spent more time on literature searches than faculty, with no significant gender differences observed.

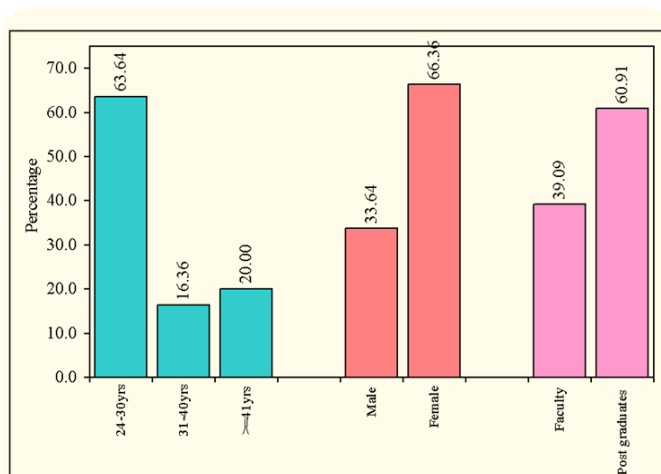


Figure 1: Demographic profile of respondents.

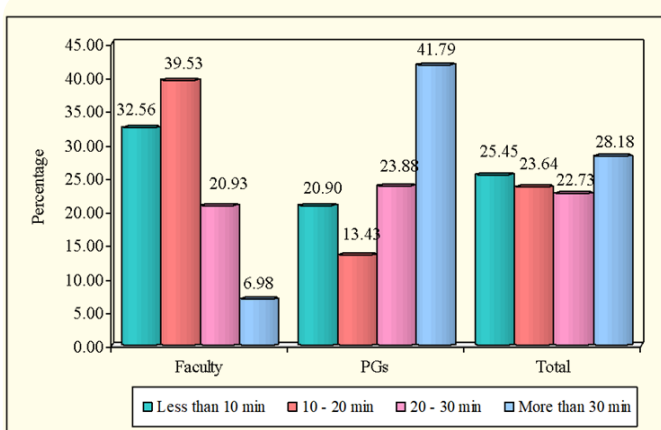


Figure 2: Comparison of faculty and postgraduates with What is the average time taken to find articles related to your topic?

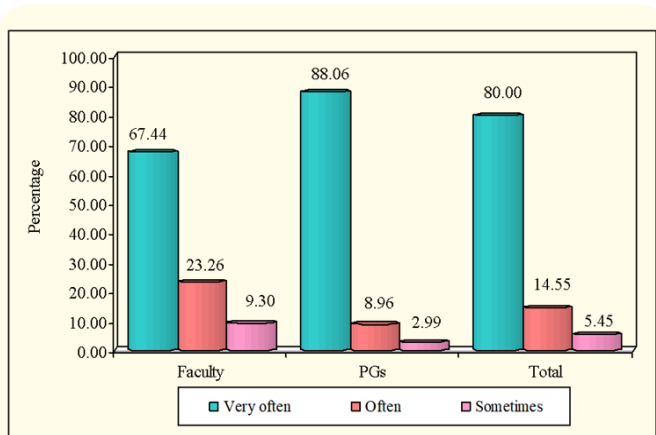


Figure 3: Comparison of faculty and post graduates with How often do you use online resources to find research papers?

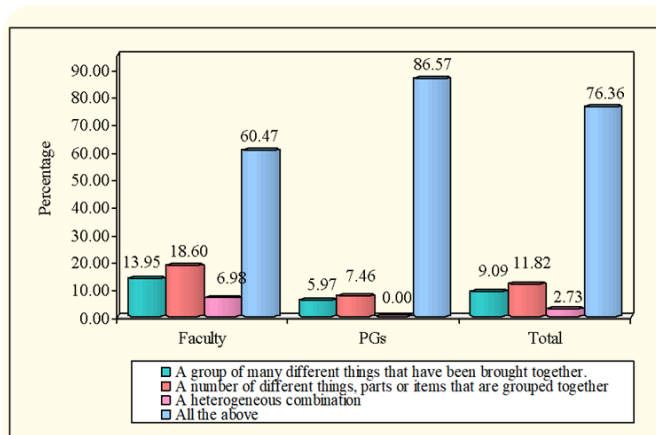


Figure 6: Comparison of faculty and post graduates with What is a conglomeration?

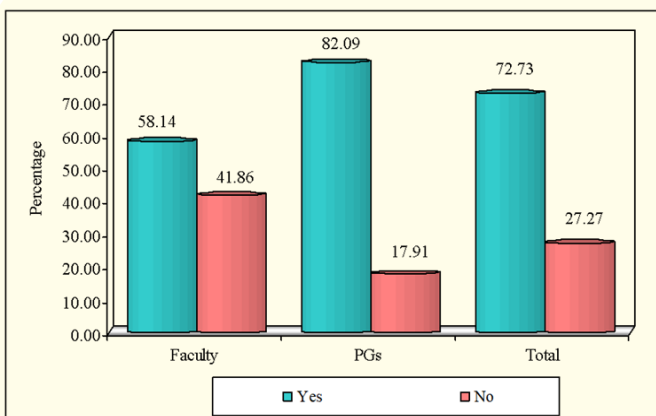


Figure 4: Comparison of faculty and post graduates with Finding relevant articles takes a great deal of time.

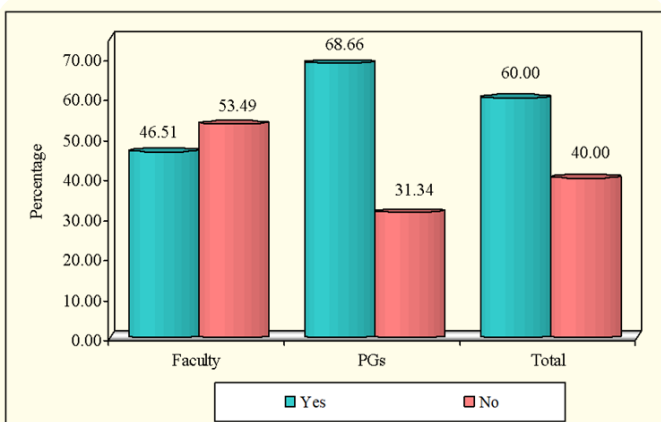


Figure 5: Comparison of faculty and post graduates with Do you find it hard to find specific information?

Demographic profile	No of respondents	% Of respondents
Age groups		
24-30yrs	70	63.64
31-40yrs	18	16.36
>=41yrs	22	20.00
Mean age	32.19	
SD age	8.60	
Gender		
Male	37	33.64
Female	73	66.36
Specialty		
Faculty	43	39.09
Post graduates	67	60.91
Total	110	100.00

Table 1: Demographic profile of respondents.

### Discussion

The current pilot study highlights significant challenges that dental faculty and postgraduate students face when accessing articles from paid websites, as well as the time-consuming nature of literature searches which is similar to the previous study conducted by Jingfeng Xia [4], et al, 2007; Aharony [5], et al, 2013 on barriers posed by subscription-based journals and information overload. Respondents highly support conglomerating article titles into specialised association sites to streamline research access, noting potential benefits such as shorter search times and increased in-

Questions	Faculty	%	PGs	%	Total	%	Chi-square	p-value
What is the average time taken to find articles related to your topic?								
Less than 10 min	14	32.56	14	20.90	28	25.45	20.3130	0.0001*
10 - 20 min	17	39.53	9	13.43	26	23.64		
20 - 30 min	9	20.93	16	23.88	25	22.73		
More than 30 min	3	6.98	28	41.79	31	28.18		
How often do you use online resources to find research papers?								
Very often	29	67.44	59	88.06	88	80.00	6.9900	0.0300*
Often	10	23.26	6	8.96	16	14.55		
Sometimes	4	9.30	2	2.99	6	5.45		
Finding relevant articles takes a great deal of time.								
Yes	25	58.14	55	82.09	80	72.73	7.5740	0.0060*
No	18	41.86	12	17.91	30	27.27		
Which website do you prefer mostly to find research papers?								
Google Scholar	13	30.23	24	35.82	37	33.64	0.7520	0.6870
Pubmed	25	58.14	38	56.72	63	57.27		
Sci-hub	5	11.63	5	7.46	10	9.09		
What kind of problems do you face while searching for the literature?								
Difficulty of deriving articles from paid websites	28	65.12	44	65.67	72	65.45	2.2480	0.5220
Difficult to derive data for required research	8	18.60	10	14.93	18	16.36		
Time-consuming	5	11.63	5	7.46	10	9.09		
Others	2	4.65	8	11.94	10	9.09		
Do you find it hard to find specific information?								
Yes	20	46.51	46	68.66	66	60.00	5.3520	0.0210*
no	23	53.49	21	31.34	44	40.00		
Do you think it is easy to search titles in one search engine instead of searching on different websites?								
Yes	29	67.44	50	74.63	79	71.82	0.6680	0.4140
No	14	32.56	17	25.37	31	28.18		
What is a conglomeration?								
A group of many different things that have been brought together.	6	13.95	4	5.97	10	9.09	11.5990	0.0090*
A number of different things, parts or items that are grouped together	8	18.60	5	7.46	13	11.82		
A heterogeneous combination	3	6.98	0	0.00	3	2.73		
All the above	26	60.47	58	86.57	84	76.36		
Conglomeration of all published titles of articles, dissertations, and any other publications done by staff and postgraduate students in your respective Association site is beneficial?								
Yes	41	93.02	67	100.00	108	98.18	3.1740	0.0750

No	2	4.65	0	0.00	2	1.82		
Who do you think is more beneficial by the conglomeration of all published articles from various journals?								
Postgraduate students	2	4.65	9	13.43	11	10.00	4.4070	0.2210
Faculty	0	0.00	1	1.49	1	0.91		
Researchers	1	2.33	0	0.00	1	0.91		
All the above	40	93.02	57	85.07	97	88.18		
What do you think is the most important aspect of a conglomeration of articles?								
Diversity of user needs	1	2.33	3	4.48	4	3.64	3.1970	0.3620
Reduction in search time	1	2.33	0	0.00	1	0.91		
To get new research ideas	0	0.00	2	2.99	2	1.82		
All the above	41	95.35	62	92.54	103	93.64		
Can the conglomeration of articles from various journals in your Association site								
Yes	42	97.67	67	100.00	109	99.09	1.5720	0.2100
No	1	2.33	0	0.00	1	0.91		
According to you, will The conglomeration of articles help in locating the relevant literature in your specialities?								
Yes	37	86.05	73	108.96	110	100.00	.	.
No	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00		
Will The use of this conglomeration of articles help researchers to know								
Yes	43	100.00	65	97.01	108	98.18	1.3070	0.2530
No	0	0.00	2	2.99	2	1.82		
Total	43	100.00	67	100.00	110	100.00		

**Table 2:** Comparison of faculty and postgraduates with responses in each question.

\*p < 0.05.

formation retrieval efficiency. While both groups support conglomeration, there are disparities in their search techniques, with postgraduates reporting longer searches, most likely due to their inexperience.

### Benefits of conglomeration

Combining dental literature into a centralized database offers significant benefits, including quick access to relevant information, reduced search time, and easier tracking of trending topics. This approach, supported by previous research on centralized databases, can enhance research efficiency and potentially encourage more diverse studies by preventing repetitive topic selection [6]. However, successful implementation requires careful consideration of practical aspects like database design, user-friendly navigation, and comprehensive content coverage. Achieving this

will necessitate collaboration between academic institutions, publishers, and specialty associations. Ultimately, while this approach has the potential to revolutionize dental research and education, its success hinges on thoughtful planning and execution to create a truly valuable resource for the dental community.

### Limitations and future research

This pilot study has several limitations, including a relatively small sample size and its restriction to a single institution. Future research should include a larger and more diverse sample to validate the findings and explore the generalizability of the results. Additionally, further studies could investigate the long-term impact of conglomeration on research productivity and quality across different specialties.

## Conclusion

The study concludes that there is a strong preference among faculty and postgraduate students for the conglomeration of published article titles into their respective specialty association sites. This approach is perceived as beneficial in simplifying and streamlining the research process, reducing search time, and improving access to relevant information. The findings suggest that implementing a centralized database for dental specialties can significantly enhance research efficiency and collaboration.

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