

Emerging Acquisition Trends in Health Science Libraries: a Framework

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Health science libraries are currently experiencing a shift in acquisition strategies, driven by advancements in technology, evolving user needs, and budgetary constraints. This study explores the modern trends in acquiring information resources in health science libraries, focusing on how libraries are adapting to new demands from students, clinicians, and researchers. The study aims to present a comprehensive framework to guide effective acquisition practices suited to the dynamic environment of health sciences education and practice. The research is based on a qualitative review of existing literature, supported by case studies and structured interviews with library professionals from health science institutions. The findings revealed a significant move towards demand-driven and evidence-based acquisitions, with an increasing preference for digital resources accessible via mobile devices. Libraries were focused on acquiring multimedia materials and point-of-care tools to support clinical decision-making and learning. Short-term loan models and subscription-based access were also emerging as practical solutions for resource selection and cost control. This research highlights the integration of digital tools such as citation management systems, electronic resource management software, and instructional technologies in the acquisition process. These tools enhance efficiency, track usage data, and support better decision-making. The study also identified the need for continuous professional development among library staff to stay updated with technological changes and user expectations. A strategic acquisition framework is proposed, emphasizing flexibility, user involvement, and alignment with institutional goals. It is concluded that embracing innovative acquisition models and technologies will enable health science libraries to remain relevant, efficient, and responsive to their academic communities.

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