Evaluation of health literacy and resources to achieve them among librarians of Mazandaran public library

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Received: 3 Jun 2017; Accepted: 15 Jul 2017

Abstract

Background: It seems to be important and necessary for librarians to develop and promote their own health information and increase their own health literacy which they play a great role in this subject in society.

Objective: The aim of this study is measuring of health literacy and resources to achieve them among librarians of Mazandaran public library.

Methods: This is applied and survey-descriptive study in 2017. Statistical population include 147 librarians and staff of Mazandaran public library foundation. To collect data, we used TOFHLA questionnaire and none-Para metrics test to analysis data.

Findings: Findings show that most of librarians 125 subjects (85%) have suitable health literacy. Audio and video media and doctors were founded as the most important facilities to access to health information among them. Moreover, there were positive correlation between "health literacy of librarians" and "use video-audio media", "relationship with doctors", "use internet", "use social networks", and "participate to educational courses related to health and hygiene (r=0.41, r=0.37, r=0.29, r=0.22, and r=0.26) respectively.

Conclusion: Attention to the resources related to health information will improve quality of health literacy. Planning and making policy by public library foundation, Ministry of Health, government and coordination with other organizations will provide positive impacts for health literacy of librarians’ society.

Keywords: Health literacy, Health information seeking, Health information, Librarian, Public library, Mazandaran

Citation: Mousavi Chalak A, Riahi A. Evaluation of health literacy and resources to achieve them among librarians of Mazandaran public library. J Qazvin Univ Med Sci 2018; 21 (6): 64-73.