Utility Survey of the 2016 AACP Core Journal List

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Objective

To obtain feedback about the AACP Core Journal List that will then be used to update the list.

Methods

The Core Journals List is a list of journals which have been evaluated by members of the AACP Library and Information Sciences Committee and deemed to be of high value for colleges of pharmacy. The list acts to support academic pharmacy programs in building their library collections. A nineteen question survey was drafted based on a 2015 survey. In order to reach as many users of the Core Journal List as possible, the final survey was shared with the AACP Library and Information Sciences Section, the Medical Library Association, the Special Library Association’s biomedical and pharmaceutical sections, and the Consortium for the Advancement of Medication Information Policy and Research. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze the results of completed surveys. Surveys were considered complete if participants completed questions one through nine.

Results

The survey had eighty-five respondents, twenty-nine (34.1%) of which answered all questions one through nine, classifying their surveys as complete. 79.3% of these respondents work in academia and 20.7% work in hospitals (two individuals marked both academia and hospitals). Those who completed the survey reported using the Core Journals List mostly for accreditation (55.2%) and/or collection management (51.7%) purposes. Fifteen of the eighteen individuals (83.3%) who stated they used the list for either accreditation or collections noted that the list influenced changes to their institution’s collection within the last 18 months. The majority of respondents who answered the ranking questions find the list to be accessible (ranked good or excellent by 79.2%), relevant (good or excellent by 83.3%), reliable (good or excellent by 87.5%), and usable (good or excellent by 75%).

Implications

The results of the survey suggest the AACP Core Journal List is a valuable tool for maintaining quality resource access. Responses will be used to update the list and improve its visibility.