

# Information Literacy Competences: Finding, Using and Managing Digital Information by Nurses in a Health District

European Conference on  
Information Literacy (ECIL)  
Saint-Malo, France  
18-21 September 2017



Antonia María Fernández-Luque<sup>1,2</sup>, Olga Molina-Mérida<sup>2</sup>, Víctor García-Navas<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Doctoral Student University of Salamanca, E-Lectra Research Group, <sup>2</sup> Área de Gestión Sanitaria Este de Málaga-Axarquía

Avda. del Sol, nº 43 - 29740 Torre del Mar. Málaga. Spain

Corresponding author: Antonia María Fernández-Luque antoniam.fernandez.sspa@juntadeandalucia.es

## Introduction

The changes that have taken place in the information society, as it moved from analogical to digital information, have led us to analyze digital reading and writing practices among professional nurses in the health district La Axarquía (Málaga, Spain) and to study their digital competences. This work aims to identify the information tools used by nurses in this health district and to describe the current state-of-the-art of their digital information skills (Fernández-Luque & García-Navas, 2016).

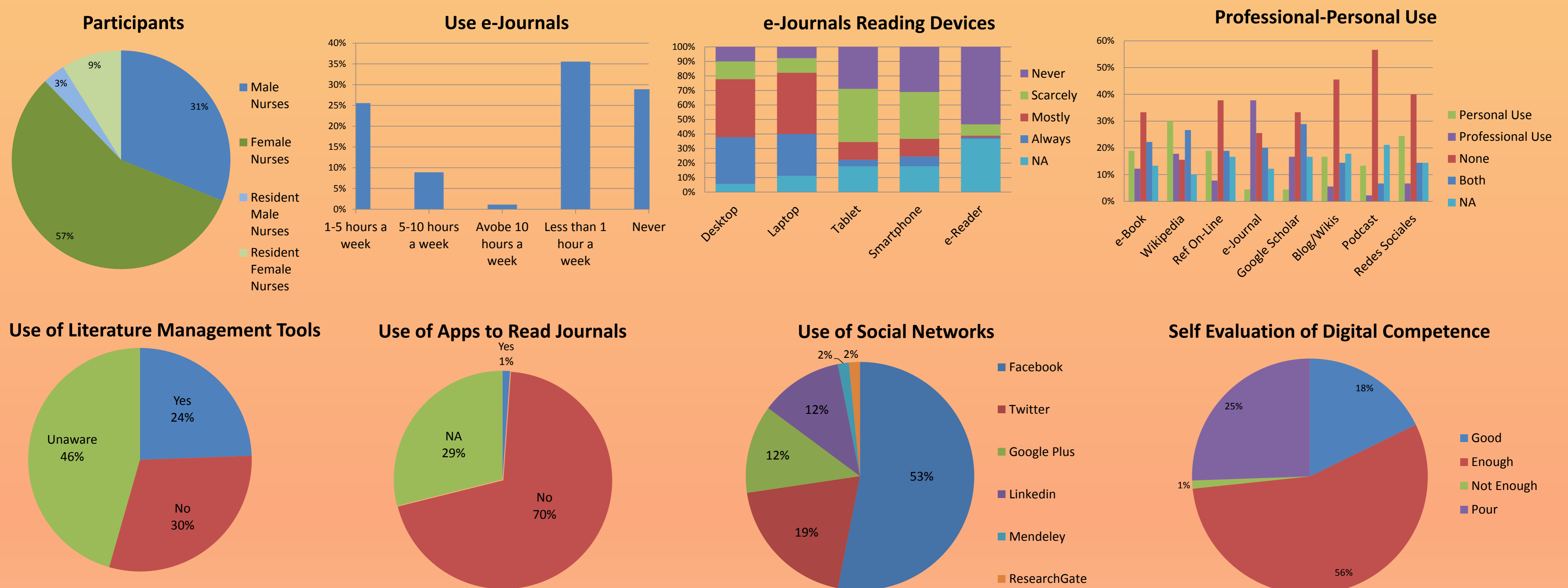
## Aim

The goal of this study was to assess the global situation and personnel's digital information skills in the workplace, in a context of healthcare services, as well as to evaluate the acquisition of digital skills as recommended by the European Council (Vuorikari et al. 2016).

## Method

Members of the nursing staff of healthcare district East of Malaga-Axarquía were administered specific questionnaires (hosted in Google questionnaires) for a six-months period. Data were analyzed by using an Excel spreadsheet (Fernández-Luque et al. 2016).

## Results



Results showed that 18.5% of nurses did not use electronic journals because they did not know how to use them or where to find them and generally claimed that e-journals were difficult to use; 21% were unaware of utilities in electronic publications (RSS, Fins, etc). Most nurses used internet search engines in the first place, followed by library discovery tools. In general, nurses in the district were unaware of access tools for managing and storing scientific-digital information; more than 50% of them did not know about reading applications and bibliography management applications; 95% ignored 2.0 tools and could not manage digital identity or professional/scientific social networks.

## Conclusions

Nurses admit that their knowledge of digital information management is deficient and consider the acquisition of information literacy competences to be very important. Nurses need specific training in the use of tools for information search, management, generation, edition, distribution and broadcasting into the new digital environment. Nurses' continuous training in the workplace should include IT (information technology) and a formal program for the acquisition of MIL (Media and Information Literacy) competences. The Knowledge-Management Units in healthcare centres should be open to novel ways of learning and teaching: e-learning, PLE, MOOC, informal learning, social learning, etc. Internet currently reaches everywhere through devices used by nurses, which multiply the learning possibilities (open resources, blogs, wikis, social networks, cloud computing, augmented reality, etc.). The digital environment will open the way for nurses to come together into collaborative, innovative, inclusive communities and will promote participatory culture (Jenkins, 2010).

## References

- Fernández-Luque, A.M., & García-Navas, V. (2016). Knowing the digital Reading-writing habits of the Resident Medical Interns (RMI) in postgraduate training in the Health Area East of Málaga-Axarquía (Málaga) .15th European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) 2016. Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/10668/2387>
- Fernández-Luque, A. M., Díaz, R. G., & García, J. A. C. (2016). Digital Habits and Competences of Health Professionals the Health Area East of Málaga-Axarquía (Málaga). In: Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Technological Ecosystems for Enhancing Multiculturality(pp. 253–260). New York, NY, USA: ACM. doi: 10.1145/3012430.3012653
- Jenkins, H. (2010). Piratas de textos: Fans, cultura participativa y televisión. Ediciones Paidós.
- Vuorikari, R., Punie, Y., Carretero Gomez S., Van den Brande, G. (2016). DigComp 2.0: The Digital Competence Framework for Citizens. Update Phase 1: The Conceptual Reference Model. Luxembourg Publication Office of the European Union. EUR 27948 EN. doi:10.2791/11517