



Quality Medical Knowledge Foundation

Together Let us Build a Generation that Engages in Evidence Based Practice

Annual Report: 2012- 2013

CEO Executive Summary

Dear friend

A warm welcome to you from the team, honorary consultants and volunteers of QMed Knowledge Foundation. We appreciate your interest in us and hope you enjoy reading our Annual Report.

QMed's dream is to see that every individual takes responsibility for his or her health, by understanding what works best, in order to stay healthy as well as to manage diseases or health conditions. Doctors and health professionals need to know how to find the best evidence, and then use it along with their clinical learning, expertise and judgment, to treat patients. Consumers and patients also need to learn how to find the best evidence and then discuss their treatment options with their doctors. Doctors and consumers should thus ideally work together, to use the best available evidence to make decisions

This year was very special for QMed, as we completed five years in December 2012. The five years have been a period of steady growth and achievements. Having delivered around more than 100 lectures and also detailed workshops, on searching for literature and evidence, to an audience of more than 8000 health professionals and students, we feel poised to reach out to a much larger target. During this year, we took stock of the situation and did a lot of important activities, as well as planning.

Some of our achievements were:

- We did a small fundraising campaign during the Joy of Giving Week and raised a little over Rs. One lakh
- We got a funding of Rs. 140,000 for our workshops from the Society for Medical Learning Resources Transfer (SMLRT), Chennai
- The Maharashtra University of Health Sciences has included my name in the list of approved CME faculty for Research Methodology workshops
- We revamped our website – [www.qmed.org.in] and introduced a blog, to give more details about every activity, and also encourage interactions.
- We also revamped our Directory of Indian Medical Sites [www.indianmedicalsites.in], thanks to a donation of \$1000 from an individual in the US.
- The International Clinical Librarians Conference – a body in the UK announced an award for a librarian who brings “Evidence into Practice”, and I was announced as being the first recipient for the same.

We did a couple of consumer awareness lectures this year, and have started working on plans to step up these in months to come. I also visited SEARCH, Gadchiroli and Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai to understand how health care is delivered in rural and small town operations, in order to explore how our offerings can help such projects. We learned that fund raising for our projects was becoming a priority, and one lesson we learned from the Aravind Eye Care Systems, was that crowd sourcing of funds would be the way to go in the initial years. The visit to SEARCH showed me that activities like ours are as important in rural healthcare settings, and there are medical teams in such places that appreciate and need our expertise. In the coming years, it will be an interesting challenge for us to see how we can get our expertise available to make a difference to the rural population.

In the next year, we plan to focus a lot on fund raising, creating E-learning modules, advocacy to get our workshops into the medical curriculum and to start programs for health consumers. We do hope to have your best wishes.

Vasumathi Sriganesh

Introduction

What is QMed?

QMed Knowledge Foundation is a not-for-profit Trust working in the area of medical education and research.

What we do and how we do it:

We teach health science professionals (medical students, doctors, librarians) to search for health information from recognized online resources in a systematic manner, so that healthcare will be provided based on the best of updates and evidence, from the world literature. We conduct training programs in medical institutes and hospitals in India and organize a few on our own to impart literature search and reference management skills. In future, we plan to teach consumers how to find reliable and authentic information, so that they interact with their healthcare providers and share the responsibility of their healthcare decisions.

Why do we need to do this?

The medical curriculum in India does not incorporate the required training to search and retrieve health information. To add to it today there is an overload of information available especially on the internet. Health professionals tend to rely on the most accessible and easily available information compromising on its authenticity, reliability and accuracy. This directly impacts patient care. Hence, we teach them the skills to find health information from authentic sources and use it for best patient care. The patient / consumer community also need similar training, to find reliable information, in order to be able to participate responsibly in their health care decisions.

Who are the people in QMed?

Trustees	Team	
	CEO: Ms. Vasumathi Sriganesh MLIS Program Associate: Ms. Lakshmi Padmanabhan BMM, MSW	Hon. Dir. Projects: Ms. Parvati Iyer MLIS Hon. Consultants: Ms. Dipti Suvarna BSc Ms. Smita Srinivasan MLIS Honorary Accountant: Ms. Jayanthi Raghunath BSc

Vision

Health care services to society will be based on the effective utilization of the best available current evidence from systematic research.

Mission

To enable health professionals, institutions, patients and health consumers, to obtain the best evidence from systematic research, in order to ensure accurate delivery and availability of optimal health care services.

Objectives

- To conduct training programs to equip students, faculty and researchers with skills needed for Evidence Based Practice
- To create high quality teaching aids to supplement training programs
- To enable the health science community to access reliable and up-to-date medical information
- To enable medical libraries to enhance resource-sharing activities
- To conduct workshops for health consumers and patients to help them find reliable evidence based information so that they can communicate correctly with health providers and participate responsibly in their own health care
- To collaborate with individuals and organizations with similar goals



Our Dream

- Literature search and reference management becomes a part of the medical curriculum
- Trained professionals in every teaching institution teach and support students and professionals in good literature search and referencing practices
- Every health care institution provides access to important, evidence based resources to its students and faculty
- Institutions share resources, with effective technology usage, and adhere to good copyright practices

Lectures and Training Programs in Literature Searching and Reference Management

Some of the institutes where we conducted lectures/training programs



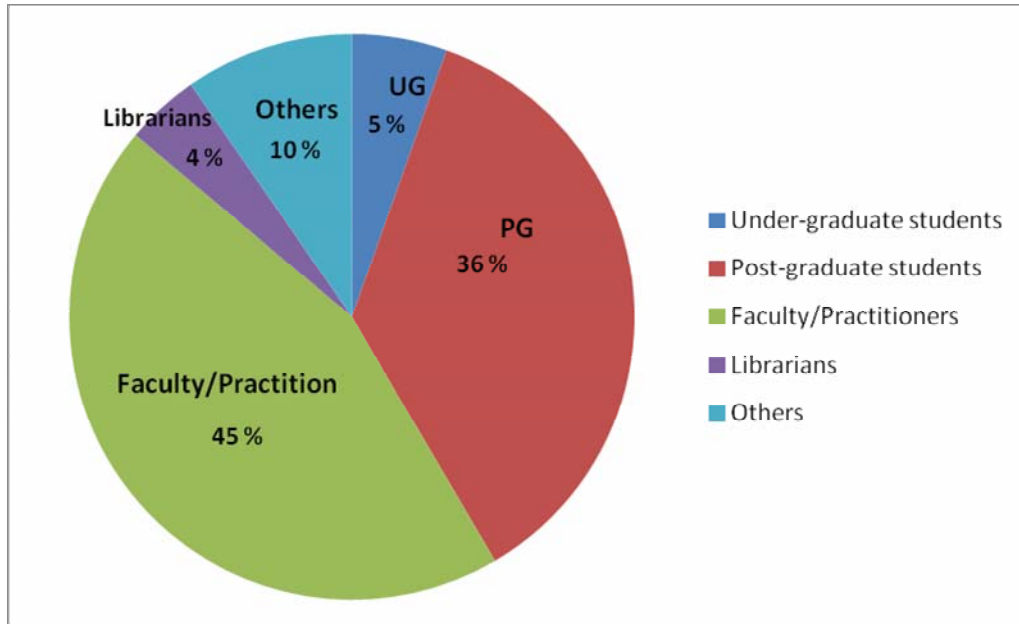
Special

Our training program at the Kerala University of Health Sciences was attended by principals and faculty members from various medical colleges in Kerala. Dr. Mohandas, the Vice Chancellor & Board of Governors of Medical Council of India, very was appreciative of the program and mentioned the need to incorporate it in the medical curriculum.

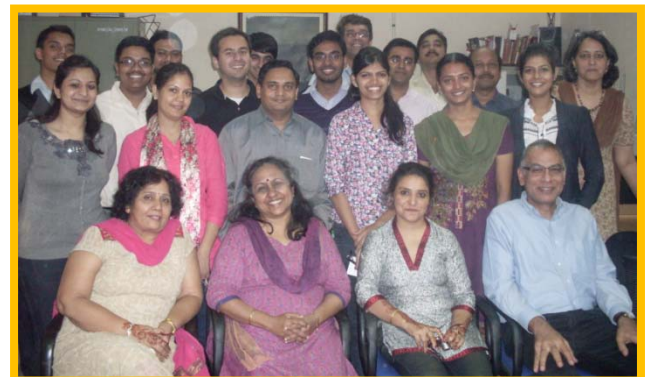
Some stats

This year we conducted about 60 training programs and lectures reaching out to around 2500 health science professionals across India.

Our Training Programs: Participants' Profile



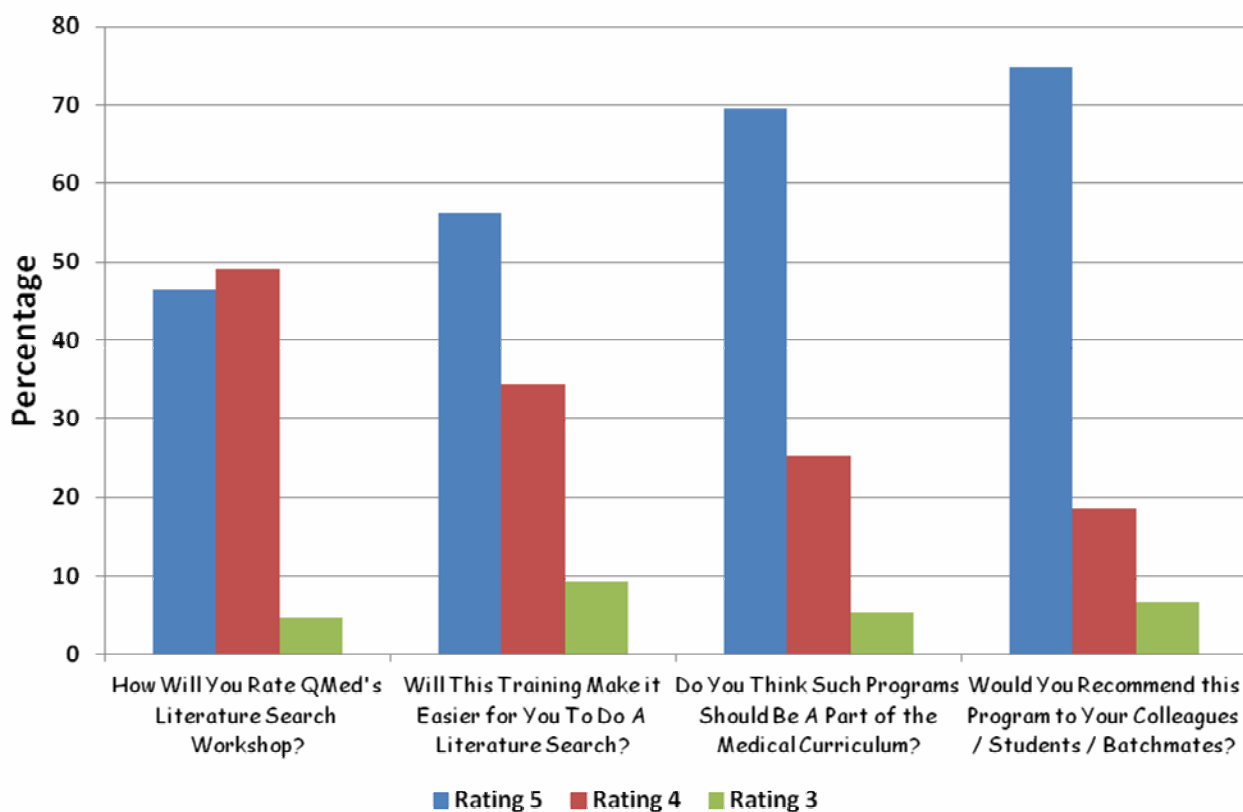
We believe that a healthy combination of the 'tech-savviness' of students and the 'knowledge base' of faculty members will add value to the mutual learning process.



Participants Rating QMed's Training Programs

on a Scale of 1 - 5

1= Lowest and 5= Highest


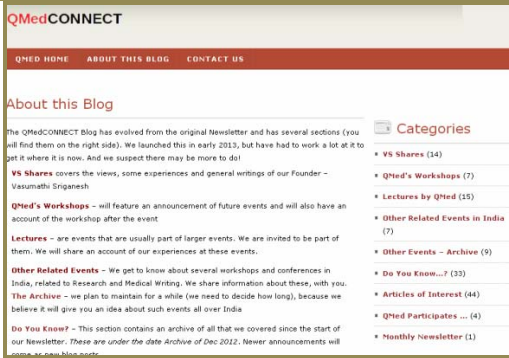
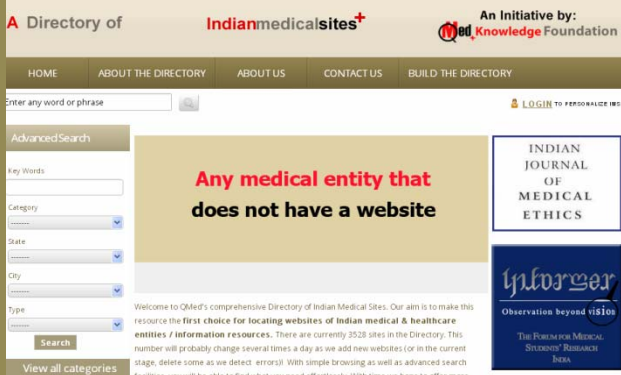


Feedback Matters

Numbers are not always indicative of the impact. The feedback that we receive from our participants helps us better our programs.

All in a 'year's' work

This year we re-launched our website and the Indian Medical sites

	Snapshot	Interesting Elements
QMed Website		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QMed at a Glance • Resources for You • Newsletter • Get Involved
QMed Blog		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles of Interest • Do you Know • Other Related Events • QMed's Workshops
Indian Medical Sites		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Categories • Build this Directory • Advance Search Features

We would like to thank [Mango Media](#) for their support in developing these websites.

Highlights of this year

- **Visit to SEARCH**

Ms Vasumathi Sriganesh visited SEARCH (Society for Education, Action and Research in Community Health) run by Drs. Abhay and Rani Bang in Gadchiroli, Maharashtra, to discuss how QMed's expertise could benefit a rural project.

- **International Award Announcement**

Ms Vasumathi Sriganesh was announced as the first recipient of the International Clinical Librarian Conference Evidence into Practice Award instituted by the International Clinical Librarian Conference (ICLC). This award honors a practicing librarian or informationist who has made outstanding contributions to bringing evidence into practice in the field of healthcare.

- **Joy of Giving Week**

This year we participated in the Joy of Giving Week in the month of October and raised over one lakh rupees from Indian as well as international donors. We ran a campaign titled "Sacrifice a Pizza for your profession", the idea being for students as well as health professionals to contribute an amount which they would otherwise spend on refreshments such as movie tickets or eating out. We thank all those people who contributed and made this campaign a success.

- **SMLRT Funding**

This year we received support for our training programs from the Society for Medical Education and Research (SMLRT) based in Chennai. They provided partial financial support of about Rupees One lakh forty thousand which was utilized to conduct around 20 lectures and seven workshops between August 2012 and April 2013.

- **Ms Vasumathi Sriganesh listed as approved faculty by MUHS**

The Maharashtra University of Health Sciences included Ms Vasumathi Sriganesh in their list of approved faculties for Research Methodology Workshops. Now we have a flood of invitations for lectures on Literature Searching which is a part of such workshops. A government body recognizing our work is always an encouragement.

- **Patient Awareness Lectures**

This year marked the beginning of our initiative to educate health consumers to find relevant and reliable health information. We delivered our first lecture on Meteorological Factors and Health – Retrieving information from internet data bases at the Meteorological Centre in Mumbai. The objective of this initiative is to sensitize health consumers to look for accurate health information from the information overload on the internet and to encourage active participation in the treatment process.

QMed's Learning Investments

We attend workshops/lectures/seminars for further learning.

1. Workshop on Fundraising

Ms Vasumathi and Ms. Parvati attended the CAP workshop on fundraising: the focus being on individual donors. "Romance with your donor" said the trainer Zahida Noorani, which was a novel way of saying "build a healthy relationship with donors". We learnt many such subtle nuances about fundraising from individual donors.

2. Medical Library Association (of USA) - Annual Meeting

Ms Vasumathi attended the Annual conference of the Medical Library Association of the US in Seattle. She presented QMed's work and got positive and reaffirming feedback. The highlight was her interactions with Mr. Lenny Rhine, a trainer for HINARI countries, who was so impressed with our training content that he requested to borrow some of it and offered to share his as well.

3. Workshop on Social Media and Cloud Computing

Ms Vasumathi and Ms Lakshmi attended a workshop organized by CAP on Social Media Marketing and Cloud Computing. This day long workshop provided new insights on the use of technology for effective working. Tips on using advanced settings of gmail for organizing and enhancing our communication was a highlight of this workshop and we surely learnt many new things regarding communication.

4. Workshop on Legal Compliance and Good Governance

This workshop organized by HelpYourNGO based in Mumbai was a great learning session about many legal and financial aspects that are involved in running an NGO. Mr Noshir Dadrawala took great efforts in explaining the small, yet important legal and financial details for running a "not-for-profit". It was a good learning for us, to get some clarity on these issues, which can sometimes seem daunting.

Challenges we strive to overcome

1. Funding

Like all other NGOs we also encounter challenges in raising funds. The niche area that we address in medical education and research is a little complex to explain to not just non-medical people but the medical fraternity as well. So raising funds for a unique cause like ours poses challenges at various levels. We do not cater to the “poorest of the poor, or the under-privileged” and hence we do not fit into the criteria set by many funding agencies that award grants to NGOs. Our target audience is unaware of the importance of this cause, hence even the medical and research bodies such as the Medical Council of India and Indian Council of Medical Research have not been easily reachable for support.

But we have found ways to take this challenge head on. We tried various methods to raise funds; the ‘Joy of Giving Week” was one such occasion. And yes - with the support of family, friends and ‘Friends of QMed ’- we have received donations ranging from Rs 100 to Rs 50,000. But in the long run we aim to achieve self-sufficiency in funding.

2. Volunteers

We have many volunteering opportunities. Our Directory of Indian Medical Sites offers immense scope for individuals who are interested to spend quality time offering their services to the not-for-profit sector. But volunteering comes with a degree of responsibility and commitment to the cause that you support. We are looking for people who are comfortable working on the internet and would commit to a minimum hours of volunteer time per week. Finding that perfect balance, has been a bit of a challenge as we strive to gradually build a dedicated volunteer base as we expand our activities.

3. Advocacy - Maharashtra Medical Council/ Medical Council of India/Indian Council of Medical Research

The decision making bodies in medical education and research have still not stressed enough about the importance of literature searching and reference management, in research. These skills must be incorporated in the medical curriculum (98% of our training program participants feel this). This can go a long way in improving the research that comes out of our country, bringing evidence into everyday practice and ultimately improving health/patient care in India. Getting this point across to the people concerned in these bodies is an uphill task.

We did make in-roads when our training program at the Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS) was attended by a member of the Board of Governors of MCI, we also visited the MMC and exchanged mails with the head to get credit points for our training programs. Yes very soon we aim to achieve a break-through in creating awareness among these bodies and making them understand the need to officially support this cause

Glimpses of our Training Programs



Jaslok Hospital Mumbai, March 23, 2013



Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Pune – February 2013



Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, Kochi – February 2013



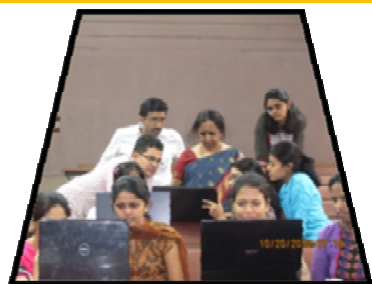
QMed Workshop, Mumbai – November 2012



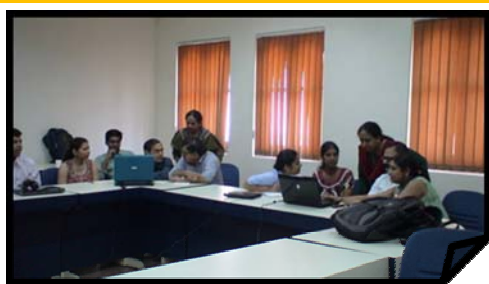
University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi – November 2012



Kerala University of Health Sciences, Kerala – October 2012



St. Georges Hospital, Mumbai – October 2012



QMed Workshop –September 2012



QMed's Training program Mumbai – July 2012

"I hear I forget, I see I remember, I do I understand"

It was a really good program. It helped me understand how to look up for a particular article WITHOUT GETTING FRUSTRATED which is usually what happened to me all the time. Lot of people asked me, why are you going, it's just about searching some things on the net, you can just do it, why spend 9 to 5 time on a Sunday. Well primarily curiosity also drove me - what could be told about searching the net for 8 hours. I can definitely vouch that it was one of the most important workshops that I attended ever in my life. Thanks a lot again.

Post Graduate Student-AIMS, Kochi

I was only mechanically using these tools, now I have an insight into many small additional things which I can use very beneficially.

Faculty / Practitioner - BVDUMC, Pune

This program can not only be helpful to postgraduate students for collecting references for their thesis but also helpful to all faculty members for searching references for their publications in the journals.

Faculty / Practitioner KEM Hospital, Mumbai

Thank you for giving such useful guidelines in doing the e-research. This hands-on training has been a real boon. As said it is the small things that make the big difference. Every tip, is so valuable and helps to narrow down the search criteria.

**Faculty / Practitioner
KUMH, Kerala**

I loved the hands-on training that was lacking in my work schedule. I was able to interact and clear my doubts.

Librarian: UCMS, Delhi

With the growing need for evidence based medicine, it is becoming essential for professionals to get well versed with literature search. It is great that QMed realizes this and has taken this initiative. Will congratulate the team of QMed for this effort.

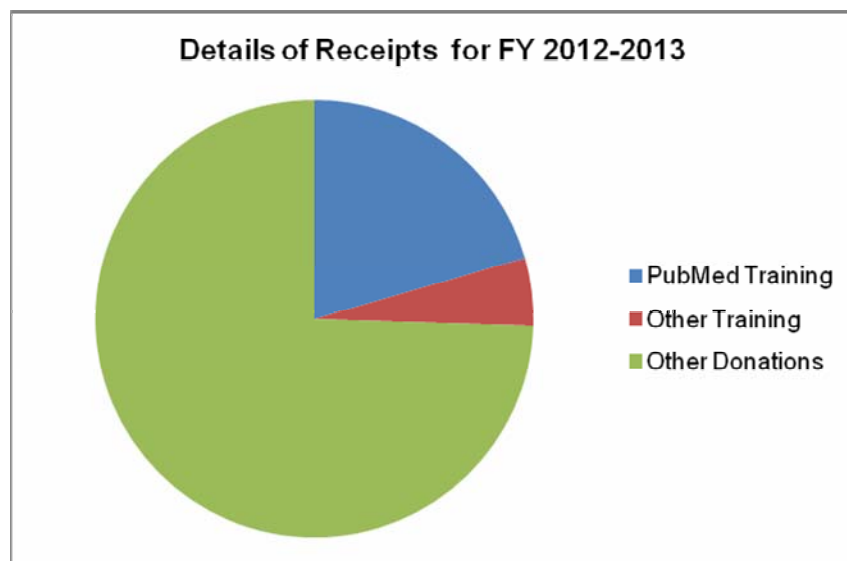
Post Fellowship: QMed Workshop: Mumbai

The art of teaching lies in simplifying things, which this workshop was good at. Making it a part of curriculum, whenever and where ever possible helps to foster some amount of genuine research activity.

Post Graduate Student: AIMS, Kerala

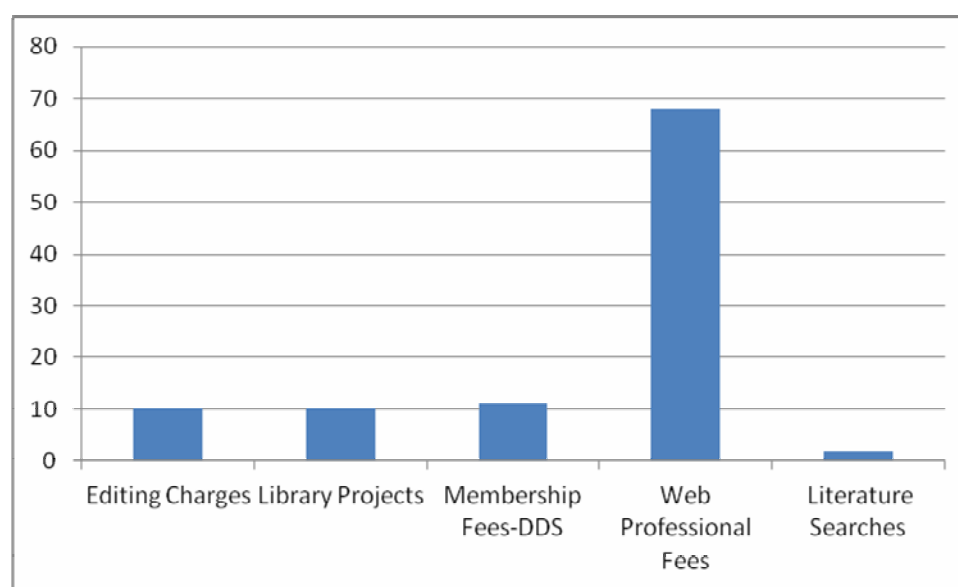
Other Outcomes based on Training Programs and Lectures

Income



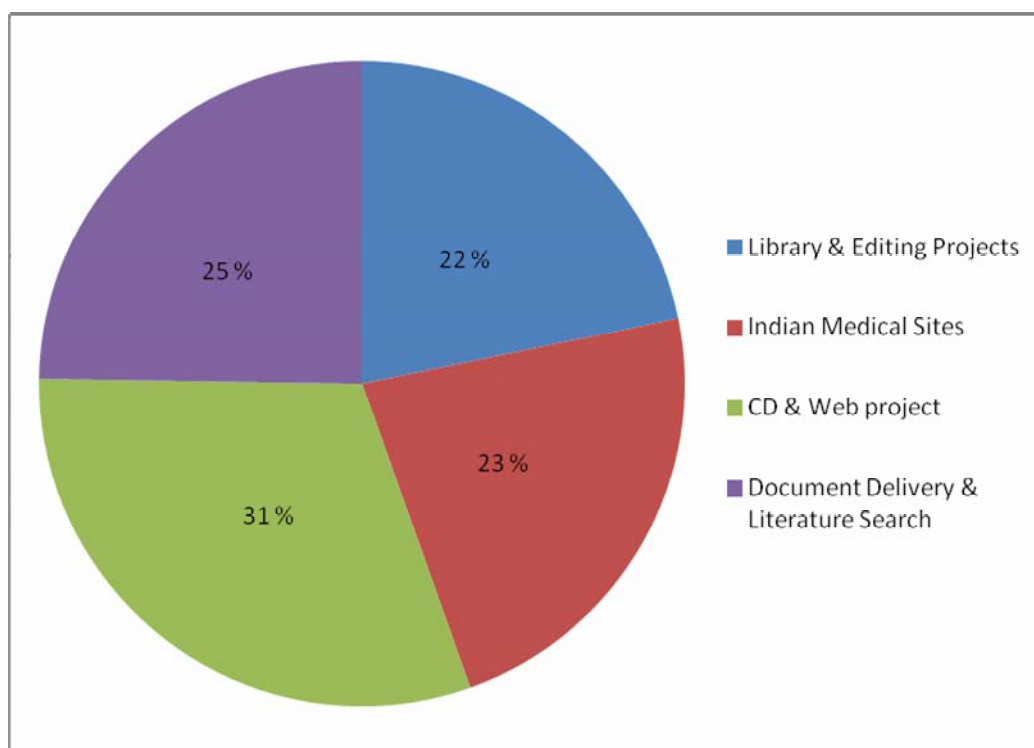
PubMed Training	Rs 84,000
Other Training	Rs 20,000
Donation Received	Rs 304,528

Other Income Relating to Trust Objectives in %



Expenses

Distribution of Expenses



Balance Sheet as on 31st March 2013

FUNDS & LIABILITIES	Rs.	Rs.	PROPERTY AND ASSET	Rs.	Rs.
Trusts Funds or Corpus :-			Immovable Properties :- (At Cost)		
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	57,500		Balance as per last Balance Sheet		
Adjustment during the year (give details)			Additional during the year		
Corpus Donation Rcd		57,500	Less: Sales during the year		
Other Earmarked Funds			Depreciation up to date		
(Created under the provisions of the trust deed of scheme or out of the Income)			Investment :-		
			Note: The Market value of the above investments is Rs.....		
Depreciation Fund			Furniture & Fixtures :-		
Sinking Fund			Balance as per last Balance Sheet		
Reserve Fund Ashram Construction Fund			Additional during the year		
Any other Fund			Less: Sales during the year		
			Depreciation up to date		
Loans (Secured or Unsecured) :-			Loans (Secured or Unsecured) : Good/ doubtful		
From Trustees		1,080,512	Loan Scholarships		
From Others			Other Loans		
Liabilities			Advance :-		
For Expenses		118,337	To Trustees		
For Advances		50,391	To Employees		
For Rent and Other Deposits		0	To Contractors		
For Sundry Credit Balances		14,210	To Lawyers		
			To Others		
Income and Expenditure Account :-			Income Outstanding	441,364	441,364
Balance as per last Balance Sheet			Rent		
Less : Appropriation, if any			Interest		
Less : Deficit as per Income & Exp. A/C			Other Income		
Add : Surplus as per Income & Exp. A/C			Cash and Bank Balance :-	26,483	26,483
			(a) In Current Account with ..		
			In Fixed Deposit Account with	48,143	
			(b) With the Trustee Cash on Hand		
			(c) With the manager Cash on Hand		
			Income and Expenditure Account :-	16,997	65,140
			Balance as per last Balance Sheet (Deficit)		
			Less : Appropriation, if any ..	878,773	
			Add : Deficit as per Income & Expenditure a/c		
			Less : surplus as per Income & Expenditure a/c	0	
				90,810	787,963
Total Rs.....		1,320,950	Total Rs.....		1,320,950

Income & Expenditure for the period ending 31st March 2013

Expenditure	Rs.	Rs.	Income	Rs.	Rs.
To Expenditure in Respect of properties			(accrued)		
Rates, Taxes, Cesses			By Rent -----		
Repairs & Maintenance			(realised)		
Salaries			(accrued)		
Insurance			By Interest (net) -----		
Depreciation (by way of provision of adjustments)			(realised)		
Other Expenses			On Securities		
To Establishment Expenses (As per Sch 3)		295,175	On Loan		
To Remuneration to Trustees			On Bank Account & Bank		1,937
To Remuneration (in the case of a math) to the head of					
the math including his household expenditure, if any					
To Legal Expenses					
To Audit Fees		16,854			
To Contribution and Fees			By Dividend		
To Amount written off :					
(a) Bad Debts			By Donations in Cash or kind		479,310
(b) Loan Scholarship			By Grants		
(c) Irrecoverable Rents					
(d) Other Items					
To Miscellaneous Expenses					
To Depreciation					
To Amount Transferred to Reserve or Specific Funds					
To Expenditure on Objects of the Trust					
(a) Religious			By Transfer From Reserve		
(b) Educational (As per Sch 1)	65,472				
(c) Medical Relief					
(d) Relief of Poverty					
(e) Other Charitable Objects (as per Sch-2)	12,936	78,408			
To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet		90,810	By Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet		
Total Rs.....		481,247	Total Rs.....		481,247

Looking Ahead (2013-2014)

1. Raise funds through Global Giving (USA) for workshops for under-graduate medical students
2. Apply for the “Elsevier Innovative Libraries Project Grant”
3. Reach out to non-medical, educated people through ‘patient awareness lectures’
4. Step-up our advocacy and make in-roads with the MCI and ICMR
5. Create e-learning modules for self learning for participants as well as for people who cannot attend our training programs
6. Improve the Directory of Indian Medical sites
7. And of course receive the award at MLA 2013

Thank You

- Donors during the Joy of Giving Week
- Society for Medical Learning Resources Transfer
- T V Jayaraman for your generous contribution which helped us revamp our Indian Medical Sites
- Family and Friends for constant support and encouragement.

Trust Registration No.	E-24663
PAN No.	AAATQ0120B
Income Tax Approval Number for 80G	TR/41728 dated 03.06.2008
FCRA Number	083781318

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Website: www.qmed.org.in

Directory of Indian Medical Sites: www.indianmedicalsites.in