

Parallel Sessions C  
C4 – Pharmaceutical Special Interest Group

Friday, September 20, Room E, 15.45

## **User Education in the Hybrid Library - Double Trouble?**

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With developments in new technology there now exists the possibility of creating a “virtual” library. However, there are practical difficulties to the implementation of a totally virtual environment, as well as questions as to its desirability. As a result what we are now witnessing is the rise of the hybrid library, with some information being delivered by traditional means and some via online and other digital technologies. Librarians must ensure that users access the most appropriate information sources - that they do not become spellbound with the new, or locked in with the old.

This paper will look at the teaching methodologies adopted by medical and healthcare libraries to encourage users to utilise all types of information, to find the best and most easily accessible for their needs. Reference will be made to a study carried out at the School of Pharmacy (University of London) to discover the most appropriate sources for answering key questions for a problem-based learning project, the take-up of these sources, and changes in user behaviour after training by library staff.