

# Assessment of Medical Students' Use of eBooks

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## Background

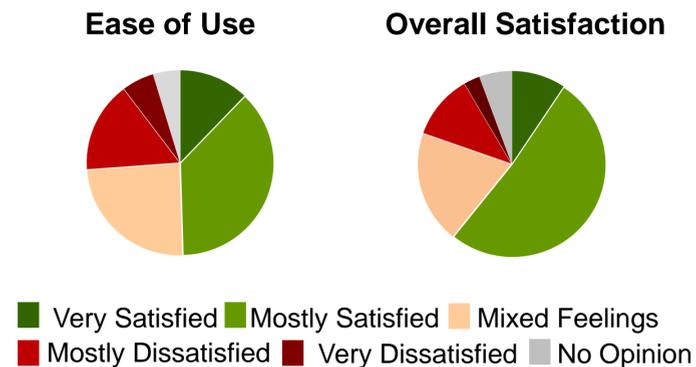
- The University of Cincinnati (UC) Health Sciences Library (HSL) collaborates with the UC College of Medicine's (COM) Curriculum Analysis Review Task Force to design and support new integrated curriculum
- The HSL supports the new curriculum by licensing electronic book (eBook) versions of curriculum textbooks
- Both the HSL and COM are interested in analyzing whether the HSL licensed eBooks benefit students
- 1 year pilot to determine sustainability

## Methods & Design

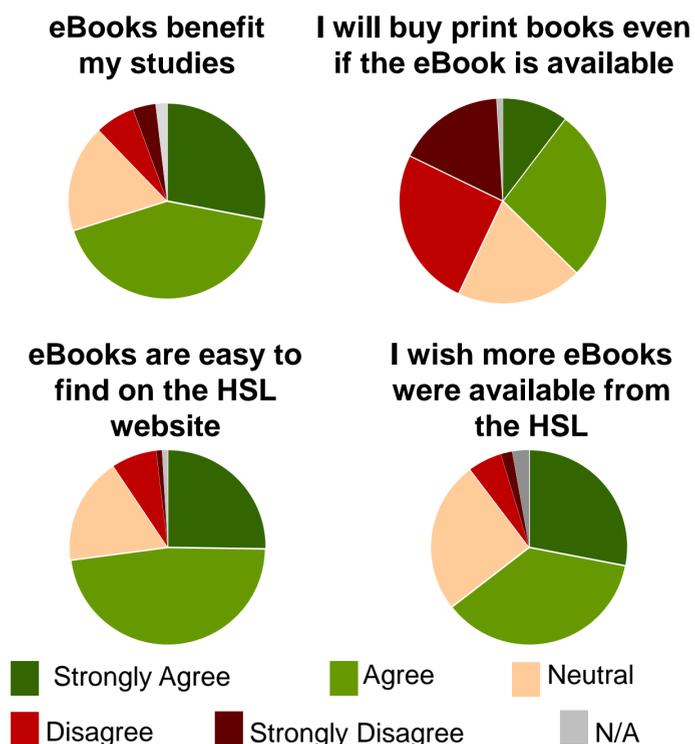
- Library worked with Dean's Office to develop and implement survey
- 19 question voluntary survey
- Sent to 175 first year medical students who completed year one of new COM curriculum
- Deployed using COM class evaluation system
- Open for 2 weeks
- 61% response rate

## Results

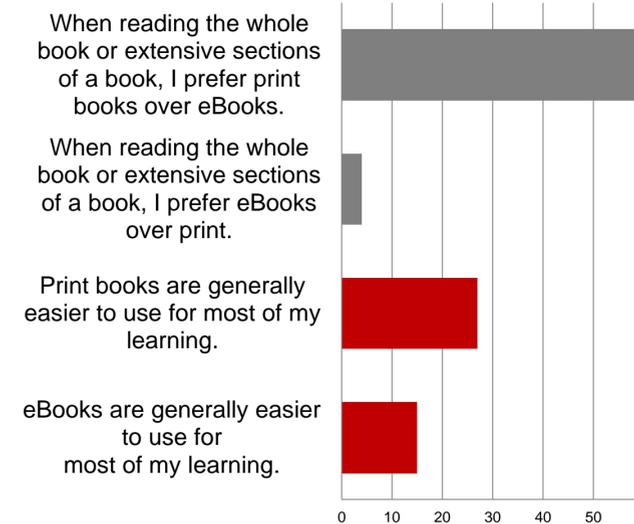
### eBook Satisfaction



### Agree/Disagree



### Electronic v. Print Opinions



### Current and Future eBook Needs

What DO with eBooks	What WANT from eBooks
Read from screen/tablet	Highlight & annotate
Search full text	Print/download PDF sections
Print pages/chapters	Save/share notes
Copy and paste	Copy and paste

### Top 5 used eBooks (Majority indicated use)

- Robbins: Pathologic Basis of Disease
- Moore: The Developing Human
- Katzung: Basic and Clinical Pharmacology
- Mark's Basic Medical Biochemistry
- Sherris: Medical Microbiology

## Results

- 96% of students used HSL eBooks
- 64% of students have had no difficulty accessing eBooks. 36% experienced difficulties accessing eBooks.
- Difference between library eBooks and Kindle/Nook books creates confusion
- Difficult to assign readings in eBook without page numbers..
- No clear preference for print or electronic books found from survey
- Functionality, cost, & analytics require future research

## Next Steps

- Continue supporting eBooks and working with the COM to make eBooks easily accessible to students/faculty
- Conduct annual survey
- Expand 2013 survey to include 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year medical students and faculty
- Evaluate future use data
- Evaluate impact of new packages on eBook use
- Consider additional ways to provide access to eBooks