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About the Virtual Library

Virtual Health Sciences Library of the Balearic Islands (**Bibliosalut**) is a regional project carried out in collaboration with the Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Protection and the Health Service of the Balearic Islands (Ib-salut), through the Balearic Islands Biomedical Documentation Service.

The **Virtual Library Mission** is to facilitate the most important scientific information to the public health professionals of the Balearic Islands, by using the new information and communication technologies, in order to contribute to the improvement of medical care quality, teaching, research and health management.

Electronic resources of scientific relevance

Since the creation of the Virtual Library (2003) there has been a gradual reduction in the print format, which has almost exclusively been changed to the electronic format (98.64% in 2010). This has consequently improved information access.

The objective of Bibliosalut is to facilitate access to an important number of electronic resources of scientific relevance and update information to users. Currently Bibliosalut has access to these resources:

✓ **2,038 e-journals** with no embargo period or restriction. 1,380 of these journals have ISI 2008 impact factor, 26.35% of all the ISI 2008 journals included in the biomedical categories. The Virtual Library facilitates access to the archives of more than 2,000 electronic journals with embargo periods, as well as a selection of free access journals.

✓ **2,000 e-books.**

✓ **32 databases.**

These resources are included in the scientific information platforms, such as ScienceDirect, OvidSP, SpringerLink, MDConsult, EBSCOhost, ISI Web of Knowledge, Embase.com, Science online, JAMA & Archives Journals, BJM Journals, iMedicinas, etc.

The bibliographic databases, which technically allow it, have configured a link resolver Virtual Library. This permits user access to full-text articles of the journals subscribed or free access journals, from the bibliographic registers. The link resolver allows the easy request of articles not available through the Supply Document Service.

The Virtual Library subscriptions policy aims to have more international impact factor journals for every biomedical speciality, and for other medical professionals, such as nursing, psychology, etc. The collection also includes almost all the general journals with a high impact factor, such as the Annals of Internal Medicine, Archives of Internal Medicine, British Medical Journal, JAMA, Journal of Clinical Investigation, Journal of Internal Medicine, Lancet, Mayo Clinic Proceedings, Medicina Clínica, Medicine, Nature, New England Journal of Medicine or Science.

Services

At this moment the Virtual Library has two remarkable services: Supply Document Service and User Training Service .

The **Supply Document Service** wants to facilitate the documents not included electronically by the Virtual Library to the users. They can request any kind of document (journal articles, book chapters, books, etc.), although the Document Supply Service is especially directed at finding scientific articles. For this, the Virtual Library has collaboration agreements with more than 150 libraries in Spain, mainly hospitals and universities. The articles not located in Spain are requested mainly from the British Library and SUBITO consortium (Germany). In 2009 there were processed 12,211 requests were processed; 7,750 requested by users of the Virtual Library and 4,361 requested by other Spanish libraries.

The **User Training Service** is made up of regular sessions about the about how the Virtual Library works, as well as an annual training plan with accredited on-site courses about health sciences documentation and the use of different scientific information platforms, taught in Mallorca, Menorca and Ibiza.

Future Bibliosalut projects

The Virtual Library is committed to the continuous improvement of library resources and services. At present we are working on these projects:

- **User authentication.** Using personal registration access to the intranet, users will be able access all the resources of the Virtual Library from outside the work centres.

- **New website.** The new web will improve access to the subscribed electronic resources.

- **Web 2.0 tools.** Some social web tools: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, SlideShare... will be integrated in to the new web.

- **Institutional repository.** We want to improve the visibility, diffusion and impact of the scientific works for IB-Salut professionals.

- **Collective monograph catalogue.** This catalogue will help to diffuse e-books, as well as the print collection available for IB-Salut professionals.

- **User Service.** This service will facilitate the consultations made by the users to Bibliosalut librarians.

- **E-learning.** It wants to complement on-site courses with the organization of new courses using an e-learning platform.

The Virtual Health Sciences Library of the Balearic Islands wants to be a reference in scientific information delivery, giving new services, improving access to Virtual Library with leading technology and adapting resources for professionals needs.