

JMLA 2003 Readership Survey Appendix

5. Please indicate your level of interest in the following types of articles that might appear in the *JMLA* (other topics listed below, alphabetical order):

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • articles on grant writing or experiences with writing or receiving grants • Articles on one person medical/hospital libraries • benchmarking standards • best practices in medical libraries • bioinformatics • book reviews • Brandon lists • Brandon Hill list • Brandon Hill Lists always appreciated • Brandon lists • Brandon-Hill Lists • clinical informatics • Collection Development • consumer • Consumer health • consumer health articles • consumer health information • consumer health issues • Consumer Health related articles • Consumer health topics • cultural implications • Curriculum Integration • Developing closer working relationships with the schools and professionals we serve • development, fund raising, budgeting • Development/fundraising column • digital libraries • distance education and medical libraries • ebm • education • Education instruction • electronic publishing • employment positions posted • evidence based practice (medicine, nursing, librarianship) • evidence-based librarianship • evidence-based medicine • fundraising, finance • future of ILL in an electronic environment • gathering client feedback • grant opportunities • guides to topic areas such as statistics as an update those books! • hospital libraries • hospital libraries outside US • hospital library articles • how we articulate with other information providers • how we did something | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I love the symposia--whatever the issue I like the in depth info • information needs • information needs to be timely, or not of much use • information that would help the novice/non-librarian • Information-seeking behavior of physicians & scholars, professionals • institutional repositories • job opportunities • library assessment studies • library science opinion pieces • Literacy for Nurses • management dirty tricks a la Nixon • marketing • marketing examples & experiences (successful that is) • measurement of value of hospital library services • medical education (also nursing, etc) • meta analysis on user information needs • More hospital library issues as opposed to academic library or university library issues • more research articles • Nursing Education • outreach • Outreach and health education • papers dealing with user needs • PDA • pda section • pda's • politics in work environment • practical application materials • practical operational information • practical technical information • professional development • professional images/identity • professional standards • providing information to consumers • public relations • publishing trends • recruitment, education, retention of employees • requirements for hospital library • review articles • serials librarianship • service trends • services • skill how-tos • skill how-tos • something like ACM Communication • space planning/use • staffing issues, changes as libraries have changed |
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- standards for all medical / related health science programs
- stuff from people I know
- survey articles
- Surveys of best practice
- Teaching
- teaching medical students
- teaching users - evaluation, what works
- technology management
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- theoretical articles
- trends articles - technology, publishing, etc.
- user needs assessment
- Value added services the hospital libraries can offer
- value of library services
- value of library studies
- vendor ads
- What MLA is doing to advance the profession

6. In the last 12 months, have you used the information contained in the *JMLA* for any of the following? (other write-in uses noted below):

- article writing
- awareness service to Dutch colleagues
- Brandon-Hill List
- building planning
- class assignments
- Consumer Health Info
- create/modify CE course
- department practices
- developing personal goals and competencies
- EBM
- ebm
- education ideas
- electronic product reviews
- evaluation of services
- gain in-depth knowledge of the issues
- grant writing
- Historical Research
- hospital standards
- Job interview prep
- journal club
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- Keep up to date
- library school course
- networking
- outreach
- outreach
- planning
- Preparation of Obituaries
- preparing to teach a course in health sciences librarianship
- professional development
- review for writing an article
- school research
- teaching
- teaching
- teaching hs students
- Used an article about Chinese health information on the web in a grant application and to potentially make connections with the other library (we are doing a similar activity). For that, it was invaluable.
- writing grants

14. If MLA were to publish the *JMLA* as a full-featured electronic journal, which TWO of the following features would be MOST important to you?

Eighteen write-in features/comments from fourteen respondents are noted below.

- automatic email notice and link when it comes out
- browsing/searching the archives
- Continued availability of the print version, i.e. do not move to electronic publication only.
- create pre-print, non-peer reviewed section
- ease of storage
- email table of contents for each new issue
- Hyperlinks for only 12-18 mths. necessary.
- I really dislike the inclusion of additional content not available in print version option
- link to contact author or advertiser
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- No opinion
- permanent open URL to article
- please leave it as is.
- Prefer as is
- Prefer the hard copy, better for my eyesight!
- print articles as accepted instead of issues/volumes
- Still want to receive print version as institutional member
- that the journal would continue to be published in the print version
- toc alert

16. Have you ever considered submitting an article for publication in the *JMLA* (reasons for NOT submitting are noted below)?

Respondents were completing the phrase, "I have neither considered submitting nor submitted an article to the *JMLA* because..."; 55 respondents provided comments.

- of lack of time and interest.
- I do not have the time to write an article.
- presently I can't think of research quality material.
- I don't publish much.
- It does not publish articles about consumer health information.
- can't find time to follow through on investigating a question that I may have about librarianship.
- I have not been involved in research at the *JMLA* publication level.
- I did submit an article to *JMLA* in the past, however because we have five authors it was rejected. We therefore published it in the *Special Libraries journal*. *JMLA* lost out on a great article.
- No time to do a full-scale library research project
- no time to do so. Also, have not done legitimate research. Don't like lesser articles.
- This is a time consuming process, the articles don't tend to be useful to me and are too long and pedantic.
- too busy
- ...the editorial process takes such a long time!!!!
- ...No time for research in my job.
- ...new to medical librarianship. will submit in future.
- ...it's an abstruse, formal, peer- reviewed journal and I have nothing to contribute on that level.
- ..yet. I have two articles in progress.
- I don't feel I have done anything of research quality level in my health sciences library career.
- ...I am not a librarian although I have responsibility for the Llibrary at my Hospital. Therefore, I do not feel 'qualified' as I am still trying to learn about the profession.
- because...I have no interest to write an article.
- After have an article inappropriately rejected in the 70's, I lost interest in going through this process again with *BMLA*. Have opted to publish elsewhere
- it's focused mostly on academic libraries, I have little/no time to write even if I could think of something to contribute
- I don't have the time
- ... TIME, TIME, TIME ...
- ...my perception is that you need to have a "name" within *MLA* to be published in *JMLA*.
- of the amount of time involved
- it's too complicated, I have nothing of interest to say, and I don't have time. I've seen what others go through to get something published and it didn't seem worth it. Maybe if I were earlier in my career it would matter.
- I have neither considered submitting nor submitted an article to the *JMLA* because the combination of home and work responsibilities leave me little time for research and writing anymore
- I am not that experienced.
- I can't write well enough nor do I have anything interesting to say
- I do not feel that an article of interest that I would be writing about would be of value to the entire association.
- I don't enjoy writing.
- I am not experienced enough to do so.
- I do not have faculty status, nor do I have I yet had a research topic or the research experience to allow me to submit an article successfully to *JMLA*.
- I don't feel I have enough experience in the field yet.
- I don't feel that I have anything of general interest to write about.
- I feel intimidated about getting accepted and all. I do not feel encouraged.
- I haven't written anything of enough interest to *JMLA* readers
- I'm not inclined to publish, and if I were to publish something, I'd be likely to publish in a local or state level newsletter.
- of time.
- the environment isn't conducive to it.
- , as a half-time librarian and the only librarian in the hospital, I don't have the time.

- ... I'm too busy managing an academic health sciences library with too few staff and too few \$\$ to have time to do so.
- ...anything I would right would be heavily practice, hospital library based, and JMLA is slanted toward the academic & theoretical.
- ...hospital librarian-administration does not support time or interest in such activities. Trying to survive here.
- ...I am an half-time, solo, non-academic librarian.
- ...I am new to the field of medical librarianship and am still learning. I have been a librarian for 30 years, but this is my first try at medical librarianship...still have a lot to learn.
- ...I can never think of something to write about
- ...I can't imagine having anything worthy of contributing; am still learning so much from my colleagues. Also, just don't have the energy!
- ...I do not have the time or experience to write an article that would be of value to other librarians.
- ...I don't write articles.
- ...I have yet to research, develop and write an article. Will consider when I do so.
- ...I haven't the time to write an article!
- ...I rarely have the time to devote exclusively to such a venture.
- ...I'm just getting started in the field.
- ...intimidating
- ...It never occurred to me I would have anything interesting to write.
- ...it seems academic oriented and as a hospital librarian I would feel more comfortable writing for something like National Network or my regional newsletter.
- ...lack of time/topic of interest to do so.
- ...National Network seemed a more appropriate forum for a short article.
- ...no interest or time
- ...not sure what to write about.
- ...of lack of time to research, prepare, and write the article.
- ...Really don't have time to research and write.
- ...time constraints.
- I have neither considered submitting nor submitted an article to the JMLA. I am currently looking for a full-time medical librarian position; therefore, my focus is presently on a job search. I would like to write in the future.
- I have no interest in writing.
- I'm not interested in writing for JMLA.
- My library is a social sciences research library, of decreased interest to medical librarians.
- my work doesn't seem relevant for JMLA
- no time to write
- What's in it for me?
- I don't do research
- I think it would be too hard to do. I don't have training on writing research papers.

17) Have you ever published an article (or other item) in another peer-reviewed journal? If yes, which journal? (Journals are noted below):

The top journal noted by respondents was Medical Reference Services Quarterly, with 34 responses; 130 respondents replied to this question. Most duplicates have been removed; titles are uncorrected as provided by respondents.

Academic Exchange Quarterly	Internet Reference Services Quarterly
Academic Medicine (6)	Issues in Science & Technology Librarianship
Acquisitions Librarian	JAMA (4)
American Journal of Medicine	JAMIA (supplement).
American Journal of Nursing (2)	JASIS&T (6)
Annals of Emergency Medicine	JMLA (2)
Annals of Internal Medicine	Journal of Academic Librarianship (3)
ASM News	Journal of Agricultural & Food Information
Behavioral and Social Sciences Librarian	JOURNAL OF BONE AND JOINT SURGERY
Bibliotheca Medica Canadiana (3)	Journal of Cataloging and Classification Quarterly
BMLA / JMLA (4)	Journal of Consumer Health Information on the Internet
BOLETIN ANABAD (ASOCIACION ESPAÑOLA DE ARCHIVEROS, BIBLIOTECARIOS Y DOCUMENTALISTAS)	(forthcoming)
Brain Research	Journal of Consumer health on the Internet
Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science	Journal of dental education
Bulletin of the History of Medicine	Journal of Dental Research
Canadian Journal of Info & Lib Sci	Journal of Documentation Qualitative Health Research
Cataloging & Classification Quarterly	Journal of Family Practice
Clinical Management	Journal of Family Practice (2)
Clinical Medicine & Research	Journal of health Libraries and Information
CLINICAL ORTHOPAEDICS AND RELATED RESEARCH	Journal of Hospital Librarianship (14)
Clinical Research	Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery and Information Supply
Collection Management	Journal of Neuroscience
College & Research Libraries (3)	Journal of Nursing Care Quality
Computers in Nursing	Journal of Nursing Education
Computer-supported Cooperative Work Journal	Journal of Resource Sharing and Information Sharing
Contemp. Sociology	Journal of Society of General Internal Medicine
DATABASE	Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology
dev med child neurol	Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
Document Supply & Interlending	Journal of Veterinary Medical Education
E Sources	KANSAS NURSE
Electronic Library	Kentucky Libraries
Family Practice	Library Acquisitions Practice & Theory (2)
First Monday	Library and Information Science Research
Government Information Quarterly	Library Hi Tech
Health Care on the Internet (5)	Library Journal (3)
Health Information and Libraries Journal	Library Record
Health Libraries Information and Libraries	Library Resources and Technical Services
Health Libraries Review [UK] (now Health Information and Libraries Journal) (2)	Library Trends (5)
Health Marketing Quarterly	LIBRES
Health Sciences Reference Quarterly	limnology journals
Igaku Toshokan (Bulletin of the Japanese Medical Library Association) (2)	LLA Bulletin and the Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society
Illinois Librarian	MCJournal
Image: Journal of Nursing Scholarship	Medical Reference Services Quarterly (34)
Information Technology and Libraries (2)	Mind, Culture and Activity
International Information & Library Reviews	MLA News
International Journal of Rehabilitation Research	National Network (3)
	New England Journal of Medicine (3)
	North Carolina Medical Journal
	Nurse Author & Editor

Nurse Practitioner (2)
 Nursing
 Nursing Outlook (2)
 Online Journal of Nursing Informatics
 Performance Measurement and Metrics
 Pharos
 Physician Assistant
 Public Health Reports
 Reference Librarian (4)
 Reference Services Quarterly (2)
 Saudi Medical Journal

Science Books & Films
 Seminars in Medical practice
 Serials Librarian (3)
 Serials Review (5)
 Social Science and Medicine
 some medical computing journal, can't remember
 Special Libraries (6)
 State journal
 STATE/LOCAL NEWSLETTERS ONLY
 Technical Services Quarterly
 Western Journal of Nursing Research

19. Please provide us with any additional comments that would help us make the *JMLA* a better publication for you:

Of the 454 respondents, 103 provided comments in this section (22.7%). Caution: comments are necessarily anecdotal, and should not be used as the INITIAL basis for making decisions. Repetitive comments *can* be useful in clarifying aggregate questions. Comments can also be used as subjects for "FAQs" MLA can use to correct misinformation or educate members' perceptions, or as a reminder to better communicate recent changes that have already been made to address particular issues (e.g., copyright policy).

- More research, but that probably depends on what is submitted.
- JMLA is our only scholarly journal and should continue to be a scholarly journal. We've got plenty of newsletters.
- Practical is better than theoretical.
- I appreciate fewer "how we did it good in my library" articles than other library pubs. JMLA publishes high quality research that holds its own with other health sciences professional journals. Appreciate occasional forays into information science.
- I appreciate the scholarly aspects of the journal, but it needs to have articles that are less scholarly and more practical. For example, ideas on applications in hospital libraries - issues that librarians confront on a daily basis.
- I am satisfied with the publication in its current form. I have published but not in peer-reviewed publications.
- dealing effectively with four flushers and backstabbers in a "professional" work environment; how to do effective pre-emptive strikes and be professional about it; or how to survive in a "do more with less" environment
- Even if a large number of the articles are not of any interest to me personally, I can see that they are advancing the profession, or of interest to another branch of medical librarianship. We'll never be cutting edge here, but the more I read, the more I can push my institution forward a bit.
- Realize that public libraries provide a great deal of medical information.
- Provide fulltext for issues prior to 2000
- While I understand the influence the large medical center libraries exert and their need to publish for tenure, the millions of health care providers served by hospitals means that we need a professional organization with enforceable standards that are published in the JMLA and articles that serve the practical needs of the thousands of MLA hospital librarian members. In other words, academic articles are really irrelevant to the "working world" of most hospital librarians and the health care providers we serve.
- I use the JMLA to scan for articles of interest to my job, book reviews, and news on what is happening in the field.
- Need to have more information about information activities in non-library settings. Take the services outside the building.
- Do everything possible to get JMLA indexed everywhere so the impact of the published articles will be greater.
- At this stage it is important JMLA remains in print format as access online is still a problem in more remote regions and ease of use also requires consideration
- Librarians don't all work in libraries and may do so much less in the future. It would be good to broaden the scope.
- JMLA articles are geared specifically for either a hospital library or an academic medical school library. Needs more diversity of working environments. Many of us work in the health care field in the corporate environment.
- Need shorter, quick, practical application articles. The research articles are of NO use to me. Please include more practical managerial information.
- Its obvious that many articles that are printed in this journal are done so to satisfy some tenure requirement for academic librarians or to earn brownie points for membership in the AHIP. Most of these articles are indeed very boring and a complete waste of time to read. Perhaps the journal could be condensed or less frequently published ?

- Until monitor quality is good enough to replace paper, I want JMLA in print please. It's important enough to me that I want to browse it in paper.
- As a non-librarian, I am in need of articles that would help the novice in the field. Most of the publications that cross my desk are geared toward someone who has a degree in library sciences. Although, my degree is in healthcare I am new to the field of medical library sciences and need assistance in that area.
- More book reviews, including medical, nursing, allied health, and consumer health
- Regarding question 3, a FEW articles are Very interesting/Very useful in each issue. Some are not interesting/useful. Does that mean "in general" the content is somewhat interesting/somewhat useful? That's not very illuminating.
- I find the Journal the least readable of any professional material I look at. Even the articles in the major medical journals are not as stiff as the ones this journal!
- It is so wonderful to have the electronic version readily available from home. I recently wrote an article and was able to get to every article I needed using the electronic JMLA. It is nice that we can be a leader in this arena.
- I would benefit from more book reviews. Also, I'd like to see a journal club that was paced in the journal with online discussions.
- Need to have more practical articles rather than so many academic/theoretical articles.
- I'd like to see electronic retrospective conversion of JMLA (BMLA). It would be nice to access older issues of JMLA online.
- Q.15-Electronic AND print NOT or.
- There are rarely articles dealing with the small or medium-sized hospital library. Most articles seem to be about academic medical centers and I have no real interest. Research articles are too "weighty."
- What is the President's Page? Consider use of color to break up monotony of text. Consider three column format (or a combination of 2 and 3 -- see Academic Medicine)
- The references in the journal should be included in the searchable reference field in CINAHL back to '82.
- It would help to have more articles int "how I did it and it worked (or didn't work)" as opposed to the sometimes dense research articles
- In response to #18, I am a faculty member in an LIS program.
- my aging eyes have trouble with the font size
- Answer to #15 presumes any electronic publication would be maintained as historical record.
- Enjoy theme issues - might be time for another consumer health information issue.
- The quality of most articles published in JMLA is not very good. Writing style of most generally boring, non inspirational.
- This is an important publication for our profession. Even if you find a small number of people actually reading each issue, the journal is a vital part of our professionalism.
- Library research topics don't lend themselves well to fun reading, so I don't know..... Very very dry stuff in general. How about a witty or thought-provoking editorial writer like Herb White or others?
- In the questionnaire above, it would have helped to have a column labelled "occasionally" rather than just Always, Frequently and then jumping to Rarely and Never. I might attempt to read more of it if it weren't so grey. The layout proclaims a "serious" Journal and my eyes glaze over. It makes me tired to look at it And then...the writing...excruciating.
- Now that I can access it online, I don't need a print version. But I do need an email reminder that there is a new issue available, maybe with a link to that issue.
- JMLA should be a model of assigning copyright rights to the author.
- the only problem with electronic journal access is remembering to look at it...if a journal arrives in the mail, it is visible on your desk 24/7...if you have to look it up on the web, you must be reminded to check it (email?)..and it should be easy to find on the web and not have too many levels to travel through to get it...I think reading an article on the computer screen is still more tiresome, and I couldn't take the journal article (unless I printed it out) to read at reference area if I was covering the desk, since there is no computer nearby to do that...
- JMLA is too dry and academic, it is rarely relevant in the day-to-day work of my library. I expect my professional organization to share genuinely useful information not pretend to be the organ of a scholarly society.
- JMLA is too research oriented and does not contain enough useful information for my library. I would like to see it be more like SLA's Information Outlook. If I could choose only one, I would take Information Outlook.
- Comments on layout and design: Headlines and Table of Contents headings would be more legible as sans serif, not in all caps. Between the horizontal lines, bold text and all caps the table of contents is too busy. The table of contents would be easier to read if the text weren't indented so far. This would also save paper. More space between lines (increased kerning) would make it more legible, particularly in the references section, since the use of small caps in the author names vertically crowds the text. Body text should stay as serif, but the font is a bit stodgy. I wish the JMLA weren't mailed in a

plastic sleeve. This is unnecessary and contributes to our plastic waste problem and production costs. Mailed journal don't get THAT beat up in delivery; we fared fine before sleeves became the norm.

- It's great just the way it is.
- Highlight issues faced by libraries outside US & UK where medical librarianship is not a profession & how to combat problems in this context
- Publish complete Annual Meeting proceedings as a special supplement or issue of the JMLA
- I am so behind in reading my professional literature. I do read reference-related and other practical articles. I like to read about people. But I do not read the more esoteric articles.
- The content of JMLA tends to be too scholarly and esoteric with the rare incidence of it being applicable in the hospital library setting. Hands-on, practical information for those of us in solo or near-solo situations is far more useful (and available in MLA News, NAtional Network, etc.) It seems that JMLA is geared more for our colleagues in the academic environment.
- Ability to submit electronically without need to send paper copies (trying to coordinate this for a large group project - very difficult).
- My most frequent use of BMLA/JMLA is for library research - that is, I seldom sit to read the entire CURRENT issue, but I frequently refer to archive issues. It is the gold standard journal for our specialty within librarianship, and my concern with all your potential changes is that you maintain a permanent and accessible archive of all issues - even the dull proceedings issue, which would be invaluable for a researcher with a question about a particular meeting!!
- I use JMLA as a resource for articles to document or give ideas for possible changes in the library. I don't consider it a good journal for browsing or current events.
- I'd love to see a brief table of contents on the cover of the journal, rather than a graphic.
- pre-prints, non-peer reviewed for quick dissemination of information
- Sometimes the issues are not of interest to hospital librarians at all. The Journal continues to be mostly academic-based, though I still read it and can sometimes extrapolate useful information from it.
- Perhaps some of the quick, practical tidbits that make a hectic, fragmented day an easier one.
- I feel this journal is geared more for the academic librarian rather than the hospital librarian. If the table of contents could be posted through a list serve with a link to full text, that seems to be the best way for busy one person librarians to keep up with professional reading these days.
- I scan to contents and then take home issue that have articles of potential interest. Then the copies sit in a pile at my house for MONTHS before I find time to read (usually on vacation). This year my pile of professional journals was stolen while on vacation(!!!) so I won't be reading any of those. Wonder if I will miss.
- Proceedings should continue being published in Journal, but could be altered in format. For instance, publish presidential addresses separately (like the Doe lecture). Provide lists of papers, posters, meetings, presentations, awards. Do not need to be in narrative, day-by-day format. Ordered lists would be more useful as records. Business meeting proceedings can be separated from other content. Adopt a higher standard for article acceptance. Too many are weak and poorly written. Before publishing annual meeting papers anywhere, adjudicate them. Only publish the best, not all.
- As a professional I have practice librarianship in the academic and hospital setting. For four years I taught courses at the University of Puerto Rico, Library School and the JMLA, formerly BNLM was one of the most useful resources I had. I requested my students to evaluate the last 15 years of the publication looking for the topics discussed and their usefulness. Students concluded that this is one of the most useful resources in library literature no matter if you do not practice health sciences librarianship. I hope someday to go back teaching and would be very disappointed if the journal lost something. In fact, I have my collection since 1976 (I inherited some volumes for my former boss) and just missing issue #4 in 2001. This made me very dissapointed because this collection would be one of the most important resources I would have for teaching. (I am MLA member since October 1984.)
- more practical how to handle problems faced by librarians on the front lines, not in ivory towers doing theoretical research work: budget shortages, technical expertise shortages, people problems.
- Although the covers are lovely, it might help to save money to have a simple, standard cover. The cover artwork does not influence my decision to read the articles, and I don't think JMLA is ever sold on a newstand.
- I find that many articles are based on research that is done at large academic libraries - there is little written for and by hospital librarians.
- Although most of the articles are very meaty with information, I find the article very hard to read through because they are very dry and bore me. They are also so long. I think shorter articles would hold my interest better. I end up only reading the introduction and the conclusion.
- I am very happy with JMLA as it is.
- Keep it in print. Don't go all electronic!
- More articles related to smaller hospitals and organizations.

- Include more hospital/clinical research articles that reflect medical practitioners activities. I would also like to copublish with medical staff who consider JMLA academic/librarian oriented, not scholarly/hospital oriented. Medical staff have strong interest in knowledge based research as part of teaching curriculum, and would like to see library research aligned.
- Many articles in the JMLA are so detailed and statistics heavy that many of us tend to shy away from reading the articles - especially when we are so inundated with reading material from various professional affiliations. Several colleagues I've spoken to say "I never read the MLA journal". Many of us tend to read the abstract and conclusions.
- It would be more helpful to me if it was less academic, and provided shorter informational type articles on important topics to help me keep up-to-date.
- Don't change the title again...
- Scott Plutchak is doing an excellent job. I am sure he must devote a lot of time to making this possible
- Keep up the good work
- JMLA is not easily readable. I think the editors should work toward improving that.
- It takes such a long time to get articles into the JMLA; by the time material is published it is rarely of prime interest in my institution.
- This is a very skewed survey and the results will be of dubious value. Too few options to select from in the earlier sections: 1-3, Little maybe or sometimes room.
- I would like to have access to older BMLA vols through a service such as JSTOR or Project MUSE. Often one wants to browse older material and availability on PubMed is not great for that. In addition, having BMLA available on, eg, JSTOR, would ensure it was fully catalogued in library OPACS - thus encouraging use, and maybe new Members!
- Please don't discontinue the print. The electronic version is valuable, but the print is easier to read "on the go".
- I understand the need for a scholarly journal in the field but, quite frankly, I find JMLA unreadable. I can rarely finish an article, even on a topic that interests me. An awful lot of scholarly writing is dry and boring but JMLA seems to get more of it than other journals.
- ARTicles must be more concise, more to the point. There is a clear difference in communication by peer-reviews article in comparison to (MLA) association communications.
- Although this is a good publication, I find it difficult to get through it all, because of its length. I tend to avoid opening the journal, because its size is so imposing. So, perhaps, shortening it and focusing on articles on current issues of importance to the broadest range of medical librarians (maybe more brief reports rather than so many longer research papers) would be best.
- You are going a terrific job!
- I may not read every article in the Journal at the time of publication but it is the first place I go to when I start a new project or am investigating a new area.
- The JMLA is so boring that I cannot read it at my desk and keep from dropping off to sleep. I highly recommend it to anyone with insomnia! If you attacked some of the real problems of being a librarian in today's age maybe it could catch more people's interest. I suggest the topic of directors of libraries offering substandard salaries and being so dense as to wonder why no one wants to take the position. If librarians are the keepers of information why do we make, in most cases, less than professors or even less than LPN's.
- More "specialized" papers directed to the various specialties or professions we are in; e.g. Hospital Libraries, Academic/Medical Libraries, Consumer Health Libraries, Consumer/Hospital Libraries, etc.
- On #13, I regularly read electronic journals in library science (First Monday, D-Lib), because those publications seem to have the most relevant, reading-worthy articles or topics. More so than currently in print in library science in general. Though I would have to say, I haven't done an exhaustive study. Just my opinion.
- I use JMLA just like any other journal, when I need an article and it is published in the JMLA I get it. I do not read it until I need it.
- It really isn't very interesting or pertinent to my hospital librarian job.
- My main problem is having enough time to read everything. I usually look at the things of most immediate interest and never get back to the rest, despite very good intentions!
- Please continue publishing the journal in paper format as well as electronic. Thanks!
- The new cover designs are a welcomed change. 2) Please consider replacing the serif font with sans serif; it has been used for YEARS and it is time for a change, and one of the reasons I don't like reading this publication. 3) 'd like to see more white space in the articles instead of every usable inch of a page covered with text. 4) Regarding 2 & 3: It is time for an "internal" face lift for the JMLA. 5) Thanks for asking!
- Offer the ability to either find the number of times a JMLA article has been cited and/or the number of times the article has been cited. I have seen this feature on PubMed central for other journals.
- AS a hospital librarian, I would love to have additional evidence-based hospital library articles. Really get a lot from the hospital library network newsletter.

- Have you every thought about publishing the Newsletter electronically. Our regional and state medical library associations do. Might it not be less expensive? Thanks
- Online is better because of the time delay and cost involved in producing a print journal.
- Too much academic information, not enough information for day to day practice.
- What about a column where librarians submit a difficult search they've encountered, so that others might collaborate? (Yes, I know this sounds like a MEDLIB-L thing - but for those of us who don't have time to wade through all that every day...!)
- One of the very top professional library journals. Thank you
- More variety in length of articles-some shorter very readable other longer meatier more in-depth would be useful Also consider more white space - pages look visually crowded - I often decide not to read an articles as it looks too long or wordy for the few minutes available.