Indiana University School of Medicine  
Ruth Lilly Medical Library  
Collection Development

POLICY 
The Indiana University School of Medicine Ruth Lilly Medical Library (RLML) acquires print and electronic materials, predominantly in the English language, which best support the educational, clinical, and research programs of the IU School of Medicine.

GUIDELINES WHICH ENSURE ALIGNMENT WITH THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM 
Responsibility for building the strongest possible, balanced collection rests with the RLML Collection Management Team. Factors that determine information resource selection at RLML are described below.

JOURNALS 
Because subscription costs account for the majority of expenditures from the library collection budget, their selection and cancellation are decisions of paramount importance to Library Administration.

New Subscriptions 
*Primary criteria in order of importance:*
- Content supports mission of the IUSM  
- Frequency of interlibrary loan requests  
- Faculty requests  
- Frequently cited  
- Indexed in Medline  
- Uniqueness of content

*Secondary criteria*  
- Continuing costs  
- Availability to primary users on and off campus  
- Adequate provision for an accessible archive  
- License terms for interlibrary loan and document delivery by electronic means  
- Local contributors  
- English language  
- Local faculty editor

*Journals that meet the secondary criteria must also meet the primary criteria.*

Cancellation of Subscriptions 
*Primary Criteria for journal subscription cancellation:*
- Low use in relation to subscription cost  
- Journal no longer meets primary criteria for new subscriptions
**BOOKS**

Standard medical texts are received on standing order as new editions are published. Standing orders are reviewed annually by the collection management team. New books may be purchased due to interlibrary loan requests or at the request of faculty. Book selection and deselection decisions are made according to the following criteria:

- Content supports mission of the IUSM
- Uniqueness of content
- Cost
- Availability to primary users on and off campus
- Adequate provision for an accessible archive
- Local contributors
- English language
- Local faculty editor

**DATABASES**

The library subscribes to a variety of databases to facilitate discovery in research and content for education. Factors considered in entering a new database subscription include the following:

- Content supports mission of the IUSM
- Uniqueness of content
- Cost
- Availability to primary users on and off campus
- English language

Database subscriptions may be cancelled when they fail to meet the criteria above and/or when use in relation to cost falls below that of other resources in the library’s collection.

Revised 03/13/2013; 04/17/2017
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