| 182 | **IRANIAN ACADEMIC'S VIEWPOINT CONCERNING RESEARCH SOCIAL NETWORKS (RSNS)** |

Mohammadhiwa Abdekhoda,[1,2] Narges Salehi,[3] Vahide zare Gavgani[4]. [1]*Assistance Professor of Health Information Management, Department of Medical Library and Information Science. School of Health Management and Medical Informatics, Tabriz University of medical science, Tabriz, Iran;* [2]*Iranian Center of Excellence in Health Management (IceHM).School of Management and Medical Informatics, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, Tabriz, Iran;* [3]*B.Sc. in public law. Islamic Azad University of Sanandaj, Sanandaj, Iran;* [4]*Associated professor in medical library and information sciences. Department of medical library and information sciences. School of health management and medical informatics. Tabriz University of medical sciences. Tabriz, Iran.*

Background and aims: Research Social Network (RSNs), resulted from the emergence of Web 2, allows researchers to present their works, to communicate with other colleges, to create new discoveries, and to collaborate. This study aimed to survey the Iranian academic's viewpoint concerning Research Social Networks (RSNs).

Methods: This was a descriptive study in which 250 researchers from Kerman University of Medical Sciences were selected by stratify randomized modeling. Iranian researcher's viewpoint concerning the Mission, Goals and capabilities of Research Social Networks (RSNs), were studied by a researcher-developed questionnaire. Collected data were analyzed by SPSS software (version 16) using descriptive statistics.

Results: The results showed that majority of participants (65 percent) are familiar with the RSNs and have their accounts on them. The data also revealed that Iranian academics have affirmative viewpoint regarding RSNs Mission, goals and its capabilities. Participants use RSN to meet new researchers (71 percent), find information (55 percent), sharing experience (52 percent), and contribute in discussions (35 percent).

Conclusion: RSNs are valuable and useful for Iranian academics and is great opportunity to associate with other researches in global network of sciences. Well-designed and properly supported RSNs infrastructures and encouraged researchers to joint RSNs should be considered by mangers and policy makers.