Pubmed Basic Guide (PC)

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Important site

To get the Kresge Library holdings, use the PubMed link from the “Databases” page on the main Library page, then bookmark the page, or type in the link below:


Pubmed Guide

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A. PubMed vs. MEDLINE

PubMed is a combined biomedical database provided by NCBI including MEDLINE, pre-MEDLINE, and other collections of journal articles. The interface, Entrez, also allows you to search other NCBI databases, including protein and genome databases.

PubMed contains the following sets of citations and/or abstracts:

1. MEDLINE
   - 1966- present
   - biomedical and biological research articles from 4800 journal titles
   - records added Tuesday through Saturday
   - citations are indexed using MeSH Terms and subheadings

2. OLDMEDLINE
   - 1950-1965
   - ~2 million citations to international biomedical journal articles
   - Not indexed with MeSH terms
   - No abstracts

3. pre-MEDLINE
   - includes “in process” and “supplied by publisher” citations
   - Not indexed with MeSH Terms
   - “in process” records are being indexed and will change to “indexed for PubMed” when indexed with MESH Terms
   - “Supplied by publisher” records are the electronic citations that usually go to “in process”, than to “indexed for PubMed”, however some are outside the indexing scope and remain un-indexed

4. other citations
   - Not indexed with MeSH Terms
   - articles within indexed journals that are out of scope
   - journals for PubMedCentral not select for MEDLINE
   - some Physics journals from PubMed in mid 1990’s
B. Searching

1. Keyword searching
What is really going on when you search for a term like *stem cell*?

- can use Boolean (AND, OR, NOT)
- type in: stem cell AND neurology
- automatically checks MeSH Terms and phrases index
- Click on “Details” tab to see what PubMed is really searching

- *Stem cell* mapped to 2 variants ([TIAB] NOT Medline[SB]) or [MeSH]
- While *neurology* only mapped to [MeSH].
- It also searched for the text word/phrases for each.
- Phrase searching with quotation marks bypasses Term Mapping (also truncation will bypass Term Mapping). “*stem cell*” AND *neurology*
2. Using MeSH Terms

- MeSH – (Medical Subject Heading) is controlled vocabulary – terms selected by indexers to represent a topic
- can search the MeSH Database to find the best terms
- Gives definition of term, entry terms, previous indexing terms, trees structure for term

1. Mark Term

2. Select subheadings (optional) See #3 below

3. Choose whether you wish Major topics only, and whether to Explode (include lesser terms)

4. select “Search box with AND”

Terms indented fall under the given term, automatically included (Explode). Can click to view these Terms

- Add another MeSM Term by typing in a search, or clicking on one of the links.
• Mark your selections
• From the “Send to” pull down menu, choose “Search Box with OR”.

- Click on “Search PubMed” bellow the search box.

- Add parenthesis around the current terms, search for an add “neurology” as major.
- Use Send to “Search box with AND”

- Click Search PubMed. The search is run and displayed in PubMed as usual.
3. Subheadings

- specific terms to narrow MeSH Terms
- each Term only list those used at least once with that MeSH Term
- mark any subheadings of the MeSH Term you want to search for
- when selecting multiple subheadings then will be combined with “OR”

yields


when combining an additional Term with multiple subheadings, use “AND” or “OR” based on the major Terms (ie. “stem cells’ AND neurology”)

- to get”

4. **Searching with field codes**

- Can search specific fields (author [au], title [ti], abstract [ab], [MeSH Terms] etc)
- Useful with truncation
- Type in the search box: stem cell* [tiab] AND neurology

5. **Combining searches/ Using History**

- history displays activity as long as window is not closed
- searches assigned a number, click on the number and use the Boolean terms to combine searches
- add additional searches with the appropriate Boolean terms
- combine terms and numbers in the search box using Boolean terms
- click on the result number to display results from the search
6. Setting Limits

- You can refine your search by selecting Limits
- Click on the Limits tab
- Select options such as Dates, Languages, Human or Animals, Gender,
- Scroll down for more options
- Click GO at the bottom of the page to set limits

- Limits are set until you uncheck the Limits box on the tab.
7. Related Articles

This feature allows you to see articles that are related to the chosen articles. PubMed uses a formula to select articles.

A “Related Articles” link appears to the right of the citation in the Summary results list or in the “Abstract” view or several are listed in the new “AbstractPlus” Display format.
C. PubMed Record format

- PubMed displays the results as a list of citations in “Summary” format.
- To get more information on one article, click on the blue underlined author list.
- This will display an abstract (if available) and links to the publisher site and SFX@TSRI button.
- You can change the “Display” format, Citation lists MeSH Terms (subject headings).

Any of the blue underlined terms (authors, MeSH Terms, Journal Title) will go to a search on that term. This is a good way to find related material.
D. Finding full text [SFX button]

- When you find a citation to an article you want to get, click down to the individual record level.
- You should see the button under the citation
- NOTE: The Publishers button does not mean it is FREE or that we have access, just that the publisher has full text, but may require a fee or a password.

Click on the SFX@Green button. This will open a new window with a menu of choices

First the title and source (citation) are given
Then, if full text is available there will be a link
If not, you can search the catalog
And if not in print in the catalog you can order from ILLiad

When full text is available, it opens another window. Each publisher or database is different. Most should take you to the article. Look for a pdf or a print option. Call library for further assistance if needed.
E. Email/print

- You can mark and email or print citations in PubMed.
- To do this check the box next to the records you want to send, either in the individual record view or in the results page.
- You can navigate using the Back button, or use the History tab.
- Then click on the number of results in the search you want to return to.

- Mark the records to print or save.
- Select a “Display” format…
  - “Abstract” will include the abstract if available
  - “Summary” will just give you the citation information
  - “Citation” will include abstract (if available) and MeSH Terms
- Then Select “Send to” option…
  - To save for later select “clipboard” (max 500 for eight hours)
  - To print select “Text” then use the File > Print from the browser
  - To email select “Email”, this screen will appear

- Select “Format”
- Add any additional text
- Type in your email
- Click Mail
F. Single Citation Matcher

If you know some information about the article, Journal, volume, year; or author title Journal. Single Citation Matcher provides an easy way to find the citation and then use the features of PubMed (like SFX to find full text, or to download to EndNote).

- Select **Single Citation Matcher** from the left menu

- You do not need to enter all the information, usually Journal, volume, first page; or Journal, year, title words.
- Too much information can sometimes get you no results.
- As you enter the Journal name or abbreviation, a list of options will appear.
- Choose the correct title.

- Finish entering information.
- Click Go.
G. MyNCBI/ Alerts

1. Registering for My NCBI

- Click **Register** on the My NCBI header.
- Enter a **User Name** (3-10 alpha-numeric characters)
- Enter a **Password** (6-8 alpha-numeric characters).
- Choose a security question and answer so we can reset your password if you forget it.
- You can enter a default **e-mail address**. This e-mail address will be used for both automatic e-mail updates and the Send to E-mail feature in PubMed.
- A confirmation e-mail message will be sent to the e-mail address to activate automatic e-mail updates. Recipients must confirm their e-mail account before My NCBI will automatically send updates.
- You can change this email address by signing in to MyNCBI, then click on the “User Preferences” link on the left sidebar. Enter a new email and click **Ok**.

*Note:* Record your user name for future reference; we will not be able to access this account information. Only one e-mail address may be associated with each My NCBI account.

2. Saving your search & automatic e-mail updates

- Sign in to My NCBI if you have not already done so.
- Run or preview your search.
- Click the Save Search link next to the query box Clear button.
- A separate window will open to prompt you for additional information about the search you are saving.

- You may edit the name of the search.
- Click **OK** to simply save the search.
- **OR** click the **Yes** radio button to receive **automatic e-mail updates** of new search results. Additional options will appear in the window.
• If you selected Yes to receive e-mail updates of search results, you will see the default e-mail. This address will be used for all e-mail updates for the account.
• How Often? You can change the frequency of your updates by changing the defaults under E-mailed updates will be sent on the scheduled days starting from the day after the schedule is set.
• Select the Format and either HTML or Text. HTML will provide links back to the MEDLINE citation or search.
• Select maximum number of items to send.
• Add additional text, up to 200 characters, to the automatic updates if desired. Usually the search strategy is listed.
• Click OK to save your search in My NCBI.

3. Changing the schedule of automatic emails

• Login to MyNCBI.
• Select “MyNCBI” link in upper right hand corner.
• Click the link under the Details column on your list of My Saved Searches.
• To ensure your alerts are working, you might wish to check the Yes next to “Send e-mail even when there are no new results”
• Click OK.

4. Problems
• If you are not receiving your email updates, view one of your saved email updates.
• If you see a message next to your email “Not Verified?” then you must go to your email and respond to the verification email sent by NCBI.
5. Filters
Allow you to set up automatic tabs to sort results when logged into MyNCBI.
Filters can be set up for different NCBI databases.

- Sign into MyNCBI
- Select “Filters” on the left Menu
- Click on “Browse”

- Select a filter, may have to further refine, as filters have subcategories.

- Place a check in the box, will automatically update.
H. Clinical Queries

- Click the Clinical Queries link on the left menu to go to the Clinical Queries page.

After running one of these searches, you may further refine your results using PubMed's Limits feature.

Results of searches on these pages are limited to specific clinical research areas. For comprehensive searches, use PubMed directly.

Search by Clinical Study Category

This search finds citations that correspond to a specific clinical study category. The search may be either broad and sensitive or narrow and specific. The search filters are based on the work of Harris NL et al. See the filter table for details.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Scope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>etiology</td>
<td>narrow, specific search</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diagnosis</td>
<td>broad, sensitive search</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>therapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prognosis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clinical prediction guides</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Each category adds a set of terms to the search to narrow the search.
- You still need to select appropriate search terms.
- Use MeSH Terms when useful.
- Try different categories or scope levels for better results.
- You can also search for Systematic reviews and medical genetics searches.