



Medline on PubMed

Accessing PubMed

Access PubMed from the Library's Homepage: <http://www.utas.edu.au/library>.
From here access the Databases page and select PubMed from the list.

Searching for references in PubMed

Keyword Search:



- Type your search statement
- Boolean operators must be in upper case: AND, OR, NOT
- Click Go
- A list of references will appear

Click on Limits to view and select from a range of limiting functions: publication date, age, etc.

Select from a variety of Display options from the drop-down menu. The Citation display shows the abstract and MeSH terms

Printing or Saving Records

Clipboard

This function enables you to select records that you want to keep from a search result, then run further searches. You can continue to add records to the clipboard until you are ready to save or print records.



- Select the record that you want to send to the Clipboard
- Click on Send to drop down menu and select Clipboard
- This will add the selected records
- Run further searches as required and repeat process
- Click on Clipboard tab (under search window)
- From the Display drop down menu, select the appropriate format (Citation includes the abstract and medical subject headings MeSH)

To print these records:

- From the Send to drop-down menu, select “Text”
- Click on the Internet Explorer File menu and select Print

To Save these records:

- From the Send to drop-down menu, select “File”
- A file download window appears
- Click on Save button
- A Save As window appears
- Change the file suffix to “.txt” so that the data is saved as a text file
- Save the file to a convenient location

Search Strategies

Effective search strategies are essential for finding relevant references on your topic. The search operators below will help in combining terms that reflect your topic.

Boolean Operators

AND

Narrow search and retrieve records containing all of the words it separates. Must be in uppercase.

OR

Broaden search and retrieve records containing any of the words it separates. The | can be used in place of OR. For example, mouse | mice | rat is equivalent to searching for mouse OR mice OR rat



NOT

Narrow search and retrieve records that do not contain the term following it.

()

Group words or phrases when combining phrases and to show the order in which relationships should be considered, e.g. (mouse OR mice) AND (gene OR pseudogene)

“”

Phrase Searching. By using inverted commas you will be able to search for an exact phrase. For example “drug therapy”

*

Truncation. This expands a search term to include all forms of a root word. For example, patent* retrieves patent, patents, patented etc.

Combining Search Results

The search history function is available via the History tab or via the Advanced Search screen. Break down your searches and combine the results from the search history:

- Run searches on aspects of your search topic
- Click on the History tab at the top of the screen
- A list of your current searches will be listed
- Combine the results from these searches by combining the numbers, for example, #1 AND #2

| Search | Time | Result |
|--------------------------------|----------|---------|
| #5 Search #5 AND woman | 00:22:45 | 2407 |
| #1 Search #1 AND #2 AND #3 | 00:22:31 | 10583 |
| #4 Search #1 AND #2 | 00:22:22 | 29668 |
| #3 Search "drug therapy" | 00:22:03 | 1337960 |
| #2 Search treatment OR control | 00:21:54 | 7072653 |
| #1 Search osteoporosis | 00:21:42 | 45161 |
| #2 pubmed clipboard | 00:21:05 | 2 |



Using the Limit function

The limit function is accessible via the Limits tab or via the Advanced Search screen. It allows you to set limits by a number of variables such as publication type, age, language, gender, date, full text, journal title, author name. See the screenshot below.

- Select the variables you wish to use to limit your search and click Go

The screenshot displays a search limit function interface with the following sections:

- Search by Author:** Includes an "Add Author" button and a "CLEAR" button.
- Search by Journal:** Includes an "Add Journal" button and a "CLEAR" button.
- Full Text, Free Full Text, and Abstracts:** Includes checkboxes for "Links to full text", "Links to free full text", and "Abstracts", with a "CLEAR" button.
- Dates:** Includes dropdown menus for "Published in the Last:" and "Added to PubMed in the Last:", both set to "Any date", with a "CLEAR" button.
- Humans or Animals:** Includes checkboxes for "Humans" and "Animals", with a "CLEAR" button.
- Gender:** Includes checkboxes for "Male" and "Female", with a "CLEAR" button.
- Languages:** Includes checkboxes for Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish, and More Languages (Afrikaans, Albanian, Arabic, Armenian, Azerbaijani), with a "CLEAR" button.
- Subsets:** Includes checkboxes for Journal Groups (Core clinical journals, Dental journals, Nursing journals) and Topics (AIDS, Bioethics, Cancer, Complementary Medicine, History of Medicine), with a "CLEAR" button.
- Type of Article (top):** Includes checkboxes for Clinical Trial, Editorial, Letter, Meta-Analysis, Practice Guideline, Randomized Controlled Trial, Review, and More Publication Types (Addresses, Bibliography), with a "CLEAR" button.
- Ages (top):** Includes checkboxes for All Infant: birth-23 months, All Child: 0-18 years, All Adult: 19+ years, Newborn: birth-1 month, Infant: 1-23 months, Preschool Child: 2-5 years, Child: 6-12 years, Adolescent: 13-18 years, Adult: 19-44 years, and Middle Aged: 45-64 years, with a "CLEAR" button.
- Type of Article (bottom):** Identical to the top section, with a "CLEAR" button.
- Ages (bottom):** Identical to the top section, with a "CLEAR" button.
- Tag Terms:** Includes a "Default Tag:" dropdown menu set to "All Fields" and a "CLEAR" button.

At the bottom of the interface are two buttons: "GO" and "Clear All Limits".



Search by MeSH database

Searching the MeSH database enables you to narrow your search by using Medical Subject Heading (MeSH) terms that describe the concepts in the articles referenced.

- Click on the MeSH database link on the side bar or change the Search database drop down menu to MeSH
- Type in your search term e.g. osteoporosis and click Go
- On the results screen you will get a definition for osteoporosis
- Click on the search result to view more detail for this term
- You have the option to select to further restrict your search:
 - Restrict search to major topic headings only
 - Do not explode this term
- See sub-headings listed with tick boxes
- Tick subheading of interest to you and from the Send to drop down menu select as appropriate:
 - Search box with AND
 - Search box with OR
 - Search box with NOT
- Continue this process until you have added the search terms you would like – you will see the search terms build in the search window at the top of the screen
- Click on Search PubMed

NCBI MeSH A service of the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health

Search: MeSH

Search PubMed

Display: Full Show: 20 Send to: [v]

AR: 1

- If making selections (e.g., Subheadings, etc.), use the [Send to Search Box](#) feature to see PubMed records with those specifications.
- Select PubMed under the Links menu to retrieve all records for the MeSH Term.
- Select [NLM MeSH Browser](#) under the Links menu for additional information.

Osteoporosis LINKS
Reduction of bone mass without alteration in the composition of bone, leading to fractures. Primary osteoporosis can be of two major types: postmenopausal osteoporosis (OSTEOPOROSIS, POSTMENOPAUSAL) and age-related or senile osteoporosis.

Subheadings: This list includes those paired at least once with this heading in MEDLINE and may not reflect current rules for allowable combinations.

blood chemically induced clarification complications congenital diagnosis diet therapy drug therapy economics embryology enzymology epidemiology ethology etiology genetics history immunology metabolism microbiology mortality nursing parasitology pathology physiology physiopathology prevention and control psychology radiation effects radiography radionuclide imaging radiotherapy rehabilitation surgery therapy ultrasonography urine veterinary virology

Restrict Search to Major Topic headings only
 Do Not Explode this term (i.e., do not include MeSH terms found below this term in the MeSH tree)

Entry Terms:

- Osteoporosis
 - Osteoporosis, Post-Traumatic
 - Osteoporosis, Post Traumatic
 - Post-Traumatic Osteoporosis
 - Post-Traumatic Osteoporosis
- Osteoporosis, Senile
 - Osteoporosis, Senile
 - Senile Osteoporosis
 - Senile Osteoporosis



Saving to EndNote

- Follow procedure to select records for Clipboard on page 1
- Click on Clipboard tab
- From Display drop down menu, select MEDLINE
- From Send to drop down menu, select File
- A file download window appears, click on the Save button
- Rename the file if you wish and save to an appropriate location and make sure the file extension ends in .txt

In Endnote

- Select Import from File menu
- In Import window, choose the file that you saved and select **PubMed (NLM)** filter
- Click on Import button

More help can be found at:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query/static/overview.html>
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/bv.fcgi?rid=helppubmed.chapter.pubmedhelp>
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query/static/faq.html>
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/disted/pubmed.html>

- ⇒ This helpsheet and other resources are available on the Library website at www.utas.edu.au/library
- ⇒ Follow the links under training and help to “Helpsheets”