Essential PubMed

- The world’s largest citation index to the biomedical and life sciences literature
- Produced and maintained by the National Library of Medicine (NLM)

http://searchtools.lib.umich.edu/V?func=native-link&resource=UMIo1157
1. Search basics

- “Phrase searching” works (but disables automatic term mapping)
- Wildcard characters don’t work
- Truncate using * - first 600 results only
- Boolean operators MUST be capitalized
- Default Boolean is AND
- Use the DETAILS feature to see how the database has translated and parsed your query
Search basics – field tags, citation matcher, search history

- Enclose field tags in [ ] to specify location where term is to be searched:
  - [tiab] searches for term in title and abstract only
  - medline [sb] searches only citations indexed with MeSH
- Use Single Citation Matcher to efficiently find a known item or search a journal title
- Use Advanced Search > Search history to combine queries
Hierarchical vocabulary with extensive mappings
Automatic term mapping will translate search terms to MeSH AND search keyword
“Float” subheadings to capture the nuance of the qualifier regardless of the main heading: eg. cancer AND (economics [sh] OR statistics and numerical data [sh])
MeSH subheadings – economics


- statistics and numerical data [sh]
MeSH subheadings - engineering

- chemistry [sh]: (includes agonists [sh] OR analogs and derivatives [sh] OR antagonists and inhibitors [sh] OR chemical synthesis [sh])
- anatomy and histology [sh]: (includes blood supply [sh] OR cytology [sh] OR embryology [sh] OR innervation [sh])
- instrumentation [sh]
- methods [sh]
- transplantation [sh]
pharmacology [sh]: includes pharmacokinetics [sh]

chemistry [sh]: (includes agonists [sh] OR analogs and derivatives [sh] OR antagonists and inhibitors [sh] OR chemical synthesis [sh])
Topic-specific queries

- Queries for clinicians and health services researchers
  - Health Services Research (HSR) queries
- Subjects
  - AIDS, Cancer, Toxicology, Veterinary Sciences, etc.
- Additional search queries/interfaces
- Journal collections
4. Limits

- Publication types
  - clinical trials, randomized controlled trials, meta-analyses, technical reports, validation studies
- Species
- Ages
- Publication date
- Subsets (also in topic-specific queries)
5. Features from citation view

- Related citations
- MeSH index terms (identify relevant terms or build directly into search)
- Links to other NCBI resources
  - Entrez Gene
  - OMIM
  - Protein
  - SNP