MEDLINE(OVID)

Advanced Search
What is Medline (OVID)

- Major medical and biomedical databases from the U.S. National Library of Medicine.
- Coverage from 1948 onwards includes, clinical medicine, nursing, public health, allied health disciplines, health promotion and wellbeing.
- Available through the Ovid platform.
- Advanced search uses the MeSH controlled vocabulary thesaurus as well as keyword searching.
- Updated daily
Controlled Vocabulary Thesaurus

- A keyword search will find articles on whatever you type into the search box, wherever it appears in the text and in no context.
- In order to make sure that only the most relevant articles are retrieved, medical databases have developed specialised controlled vocabularies. The first, developed by Medline (Ovid), is known as MeSH (medical subject headings).
- CINAHL Plus, AMED, EMBASE and PsycINFO have all devised their own indexing systems based on the principles of MeSH.
What are the benefits of using controlled vocabularies?

- Databases use the principle of preferred terms to classify topics, making them easier to find. E.g. search for *high blood pressure* and Medline (Ovid) will suggest you use their preferred term *hypertension*.

- Subject headings give terms specific definitions and help remove ambiguity as the context of articles are used as the base for indexing rather than the terminology used. E.g. using the preferred term *stroke* will also find articles that refer to cerebral stroke, apoplexy and cva but not articles on heat stroke or swimming techniques.
Search Strategy

Example question
Massage for treatment and management of chronic low back pain

What are the key terms?
massage
chronic low back pain

Possible alternative terms?
massage OR acupressure
chronic low back pain OR sciatica

Inclusion criteria
English Language
Published 2004-
Searching using subject heading
Enter each search term individually, we will combine at a later stage.

Go to the Library guide to MeSH for more information about searching with subject headings
Medline (Ovid) will then suggest their preferred indexing term to use.

Click on the Scope Note for more information about Medline’s indexing of the term.
Scope Note for: Massage

MeSH HEADING: MASSAGE

SCOPE: The systematic and methodical manipulations of body tissues best performed with the hands for the purpose of affecting the nervous and muscular systems and the general circulation.

NOTE: do not confuse entry term REFLEXOLOGY with REFLEXOTHERAPY; do not confuse with THERAPEUTIC TOUCH

REFERENCES:

Used For:
- zone therapies
- therapies massage
- massage craniosacral
- therapies zone
- massage
- therapy zone
- massage therapies
- bodywork
- zone therapy
- therapy massage
- massage therapy
- rolfing
- craniosacral massage
- bodyworks
Clicking on the term will open up the Medline Subject Tree. This shows you where the term sits in the overall index and if it has any narrower more specific headings.
In this example you can see massage does not have any further narrower subject headings.

It is a more specific form of soft tissue therapy. In this example we will select soft tissue therapy and Explode it. Using Explode will widen a search.
Deselect massage and tick the box beside soft tissue therapy. Also tick the Explode box (the first box after the number), this will include the main term and any term indented beneath it; in this example acupressure as well as massage.

The number at the end of each row is the number of articles or hits that will be retrieved.
Scroll up and click on continue to carry out your search.
A new page, Subheadings will open up. You can now choose to limit to a specific aspect of your term but do so with caution as it can removed many useful results.

It is best practice to include all subheadings. Click on Continue to include all.
The search results will appear on the next page. Click on the Search History to open up the search results.
Repeat with your next search term, chronic low back pain.
The subject heading low back pain is suggested.

Click into the heading to check for any narrower headings.
This time we do not want to include the wider subject heading of back pain as this would broaden the search too much.

Low back pain is at the end of it’s indexing tree, has no further narrower subject headings and cannot be exploded.

Scroll up and select Continue as before
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Searches</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Search Type</th>
<th>Actions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>exp Therapy, Soft Tissue/</td>
<td>5079</td>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>Display</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Low Back Pain/</td>
<td>13871</td>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>Display</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Repeat the search for chronic low back pain. This time ignore the subject headings and scroll to the bottom of the list. Here you will find the option to search terms as a keyword.

This bypasses the inbuilt indexing. Use it for terms that don’t have a suggested subject heading or in conjunction with the headings when you need to make sure that you find every article that mentions your chosen term.
Select the similar terms and combine with OR (this will widen a search)
<table>
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<td>chronic low back pain.mp.</td>
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<td>Advanced</td>
<td>Display</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>2 or 3</td>
<td>14686</td>
<td>Advanced</td>
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Select the different terms, then combine with AND (this will narrow a search)
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<td>Display</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1 and 4</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>Display</td>
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Click on Limits to open up and then Additional Limits for more options.
In this example we will limit to English Language and to articles published from 2004-
<table>
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<td>Display</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>limit 5 to (english language and yr=&quot;2004 -Current&quot;)</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Advanced</td>
<td>Display</td>
</tr>
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</table>
To view more details about an article, including the abstract (if available) click on the title

Short-term effects of interferential current electro-massage in adults with chronic non-specific low back pain: a randomized controlled trial.


[Journal Article. Randomized Controlled Trial]
UI: 23035006

Authors Full Name
Accessing Full Text

• Most academic databases contain only bibliographic records, in order to access and read the full text we need to link out to another supplier.

• If full text from the databases is available it will be clearly marked e.g.

• If no full text link is available use the U Find It button to link out to one of our other suppliers.
Short-term effects of interferential current electro-massage in adults with chronic non-specific low back pain: a randomized controlled trial

Lara-Peláez, Emma; Aguilar-Fernández, María de la Encarnación; Mateo-Pellardo, Guillermo; Saavedra-Hernández, Manuel; Gómez-Molina, José; et al. Clinical Rehabilitation 27:5 (May 2013): 439-49.

Other formats: Citation/Abstract

Show duplicate items from other databases
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If you see a screen like the one above you can use the links to check the Library Catalogue and/or Google Scholar for full text. You will need to copy and paste the title of the journal/article respectively into each resource. If no full text is available can use the Library Document Delivery Service, [http://library.ulster.ac.uk/documentdelivery/](http://library.ulster.ac.uk/documentdelivery/)
Most databases have a function that enables you to save your search. Look on the screen for the option to save. In Medline(Ovid) it looks like this:

![Save Search History button]

The first time you will be prompted to create a personal account within the database. On your next visit you will then need to sign in.
Help with searching

• All databases have online Help screens
• Most Help screens are in context or specific to the stage of the search
• Many databases have online tutorials.
• Guides to the databases are available online from the Database page on the Sports subject guide
• Ask Mary Rose for help