Beyond the Basics of a Search

Kathi Grainger
Sr. Training Manager

8/2015
Objectives & agenda

**Literature Searching**

- **Overview, questions and scope**
  - EBP Content
  - Platform review

- **Searching Steps**
  - PICO question? Widget
  - Search Modalities-NLP-Controlled Vocabulary

- **Searching-Content-Techniques**
  - Medline and other available Databases
    - Searching specifics and requested focus

- **Help, Support & Training**
What Does “Being Evidence-Based” Mean?

- **Access to the best available evidence from all sources**
  - “Best available” includes knowing how good the evidence is, where it comes from and ability to trust its currency and rigor

- **Application of clinical expertise**
  - Wisdom that comes from experience, reflective practice and judgment

- **Honors patient preferences**
  - Patients’ wishes have been explored, engaged, informed and honored
  - Patients have information reflective of the strength and magnitude of the evidence, so they can be equal partners in the decisions about their health
Ovid is the Most Robust Resource for EBP Content

The best search + the best content = the best outcomes

Ovid offers the broadest array of the best evidence available to healthcare professionals
How to search for Evidence to Answer the Clinical Question

From the American Journal of Nursing

1. Identify the type of PICOT question.
2. Determine the level of evidence that best answers the question.
3. Select relevant databases to search
4. Use keywords from your PICOT question to search the databases.
5. Streamline your search with the following strategies:
   * Use database controlled vocabulary (such as "MeSH terms").
   * Combine searches by using the Boolean connector "AND."
   * Limit the final search by selecting defining parameters (such as "humans" or "English").
Searching Steps

PICOS-Facets-Techniques

• Design an effective combination of search terms
  • PICOS
    • Population, intervention, outcomes and study design
  • Identify the terms (text or keywords)

• Search Modalities
  • Advance Search
  • Basic Search

• Searching Techniques and Tips
  • Structuring your search
  • Adjacency and Proximity Searching
  • Truncating and Wild Cards
Landing page and Access

Customized

Sample Landing page for access to search content and resources

Lippincott Procedures provides real-time access to step-by-step guides for over 1,600 evidence-based procedures and skills in a variety of specialty settings.
Database Searching

Platform

The powerful combination of Ovid's advanced search features, natural language processing, sophisticated linking technology, and customizable display options, offer a unique, integrated database solution ideal for all users at your institution.

Let’s start Searching:

What to search? How to search?
Positional Operator

Additional searching techniques

- Use the ADJn operator when you are not sure of the exact phraseology used in the literature.
- Two or more query terms to be near each other usually retrieves records in which your search terms are closely related, yielding more relevant results.
  - Does the Database have stop words?
    - Increase adjacency threshold by 2 or 3
      - <physician adj5 relationship>
  - You can combine this positional operator with a fielded search <information adj3 retrieval).tw.>

Word order only matters when the ADJ operator is applied. When you separate terms with a space on the command line, Ovid presumes them to be adjacent to one another in the order specified at the command line.
Truncation and Wildcards

utilize root words

• **Find variations of terms**
  • Database mapping must be turned off for truncation and wild cards
  • `<rootword>$`
    • Unlimited right-hand truncation searches for variations on a word that are formed with different suffix
  • `<rootword>$<n>`
    • Limited right-hand truncation restricts the number of characters following the word
  • `# <wom#n> or <dog#>`
  • `? <colo?r> colour`
  • British and American spelling variations
Floating Subheadings

• *Broadens a search for systematic review purposes*
  • You can float any MEDLINE subheading. It means to search for that subheading conceptually without it being attached to any specific MeSH term in the search.
  
• *Find ANY trends regarding breast cancer, could be diagnosis, new reconstruction techniques, new treatments, drugs or technologies, patient aspects*
  • breast neoplasms.sh. AND td.fs.
  • only one subhead is connected to a heading at a time, so they are OR’d when free floating too.
  • some subheadings make more sense to float in a search than others

• *Additional links and information on Floating Subheadings provided*
Additional tips

Specific questions addressed

• **Exclusion Filters**
  • MEDLINE on OvidSP: NOT (animals/ not humans.sh.)
  • Embase on OvidSP:
    NOT ((exp animal/ or nonhuman/) NOT exp human/)
  • **Scope Note:** Animals and Humans

• **Ovid OLDMEDLINE(R) 1946 to 1965**
  • “citations from two print indexes: Cumulated Index Medicus (CIM) and the Current List of Medical Literature (CLML).” These citations are in PubMed, and are the same as Ovid.**
  • the 1946-1966 citations have NLM nuances to their indexing that impact the search strategy on Ovid.
Hands on Workshop

*Let’s search*

*Search examples will be provided.*
Links and Resources

- Literature Search for Systematic Reviews
  - Handout

- PRESS (Evidence Based Checklist for SR)
  - Handout

- HIWIKI
  [Link](http://wikisites.mcgill.ca/systematicreview/index.php/Searching_for_Studies#Exclusion_Filters_to_Screen_Records)

- OLDMedline® Info
  - [Link](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/databases_oldmedline.html)

- Subheadings
  - [Link](http://ovidsupport.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/2078/~/list-of-medline-subheadings-and-their-codes)
  - [Link](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK3827/table/pubmedhelp.T.mesh_subheadings/)

- Concept Tables

---

![Concept Table](image_url)
Ovid Online Training

Whether you're a first-time Ovid customer or an experienced user, Ovid's training and help options can make using Ovid products smooth and efficient. Ovid offers novice, intermediate, and advanced workshops to help you and your organization get the most out of your Ovid experience. Can't find what you're looking for? Visit the Resource Center or email support@ovid.com for additional information.

Live Sessions

Our Trainers are conducting real-time, live online sessions to assist you with searching techniques on the Ovid interface. These sessions last an hour or less and give you the opportunity to interact with Ovid's Trainers. Register below for one of our online courses.

Pre-Recorded Sessions

Does your hectic schedule make it difficult to attend one of our scheduled online training courses? Our pre-recorded webex sessions are accessible online 24 hours a day. The courses can be paused, restarted, fast forwarded and replayed. You will be able to see the interface screens and hear the trainer's instructions just as you would in live instructor-led sessions.

Introduction to Ovid

Introduction to Ovid (60 min)
Designed for novice users or experienced users who may need a refresher on Ovid. This course will highlight the features and functionality of the Ovid interface. It will review the various search modes that are available on Ovid and how to work with the results from those searches (i.e. printing, emailing and exporting the records). Available in other languages
Introducing the Platform Features and Functionality

ABC University

.platform training
On-site Training and Web Training Support
ovidtrainer@ovid.com

Platform Training
Medline Database
Advanced Searching

the next step in searching?
How do I search more than one database at a time?
How do I search a database other than Medline?
How do I search your base content?

already have some experience on
want to learn some basics about
unfamiliar with this database. Includes a detail
overview of Medline's powerful tools, as well as the most popular
features such as subject searching, advanced searching, limits,
and alerts and e-Tocs.

Register for Web EX
Tuesday,
October 30th, 2012
2:00pm – 3:30p.m.
(LOCATION?)

PLEASE CONTACT? TO REGISTER!
If you have any questions contact_____?
Thank you
Kathi Grainger

Technical & Customer Support
support@ovid.com

Feedback & evaluation
https:// surveymonkey.com/s/ovideval