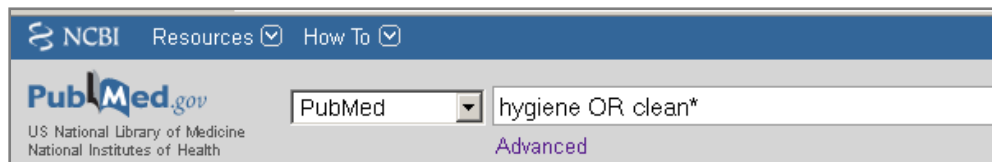


# Searching databases - PubMed

Access PubMed via the library medicine webpage.

Do a search for **hygiene OR clean\*** as illustrated and note how many results you get.



Refer to the **Search details** box to check that PubMed has included a MeSH term for hygiene. You won't find one for clean\* because using the asterisk disables the MeSH function.

What effect did adding the asterisk to clean have?

Can you work out how to use the **Filters** to restrict your search to only studies involving **humans** published in **English** in the **last 10 years**?

How many results do you get when you do this?

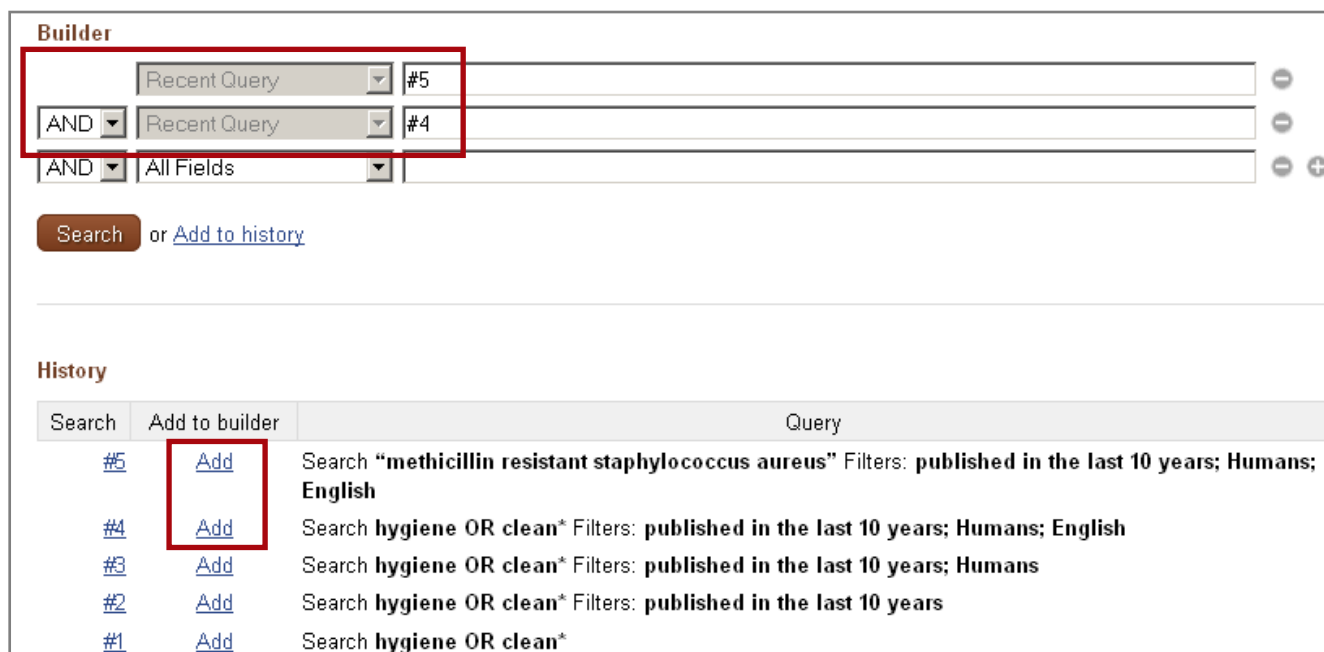
You will notice there are some results that seem to have nothing to do with your search. You can use another search to look for more specific results.

Do a new search for **“methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus”**. Why should this phrase be enclosed within quotation marks?

Go to the **Advanced** page where your searches will be listed.

Notice that the second search you did still had the limits applied.

Combine the limited searches using **AND** as shown and click on search. How many results do you have now?



**Builder**

Recent Query #5  
AND Recent Query #4  
AND All Fields

Search or [Add to history](#)

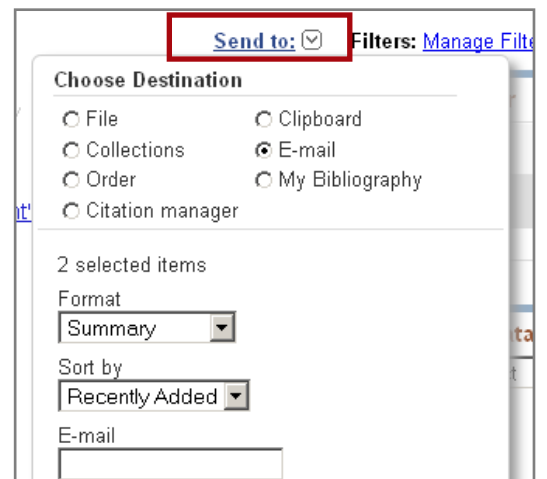
**History**

Search	Add to builder	Query
#5	<a href="#">Add</a>	Search “methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus” Filters: <b>published in the last 10 years; Humans; English</b>
#4	<a href="#">Add</a>	Search hygiene OR clean* Filters: <b>published in the last 10 years; Humans; English</b>
#3	<a href="#">Add</a>	Search hygiene OR clean* Filters: <b>published in the last 10 years; Humans</b>
#2	<a href="#">Add</a>	Search hygiene OR clean* Filters: <b>published in the last 10 years</b>
#1	<a href="#">Add</a>	Search hygiene OR clean*

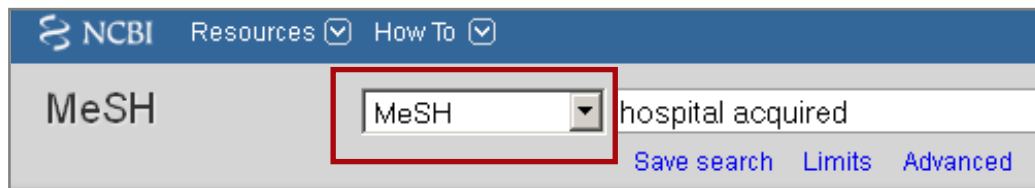
From this new list of results, select one or two and use the **Send to** function to email them to yourself.

Also from this list can you find one that you have full-text access to at Queen Mary?

You decide that MRSA is too narrow a search and you want to find all papers that have been tagged with the MeSH term **hospital acquired**.



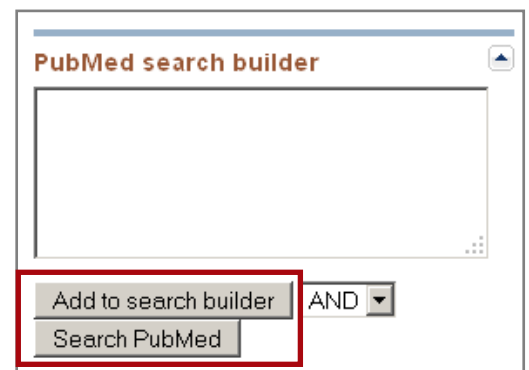
Search the MeSH database as below. You will have to use the drop-down box to change from PubMed to MeSH.



What is the MeSH term that is generated?

To use this term in a search you have to use the PubMed search builder on the right hand side.

Firstly click on **Add to search builder**, then on **Search PubMed**.



You won't normally have to go through this process as PubMed automatically searches using the closest MeSH term to the keyword you typed in.

Did the MeSH term for **hospital acquired** return more results than searching for **methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus**?