



Guide to PubMed

PubMed is one of several providers of access to MEDLINE, the largest electronic database of references in the field of biomedicine. Use www.library.qmul.ac.uk/subject/medicine/databases for easier access to full-text articles when in the library.

1. Select your search terms from your research question and carry out your search

In order to make your search as comprehensive as possible:

- Search for **synonyms** and alternative spellings of your keywords
- If you know the **MeSH term** for your topic use it as one of your search terms

NCBI Resources How To
 PubMed.gov
 US National Library of Medicine
 National Institutes of Health
 PubMed
 hygiene OR clean*
 Advanced

- **Truncate** your search term using the asterisk. PubMed will then search for all words that begin with that stem e.g. in this case cleaner, cleaning, cleaned etc.
- If you wish to search for a phrase you have to enclose it within **quotation marks**, e.g. "chronic obstructive pulmonary disease". Otherwise PubMed will automatically do an AND search for each individual word.

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 PubMed.gov
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 National Institutes of Health
 PubMed
 "methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus"
 Advanced

THE ASTERISK OR QUOTATION MARKS DISABLE MeSH MAPPING

We recommend that you carry out individual searches like these for each component / keyword of your search rather than doing one all-encompassing AND search. If your search does not provide relevant results this will make it easier to go back and identify which elements should be refined.

2. Combine and Limit your searches

Once you have results for each component search you can combine these using **Advanced Search** where your search history will be displayed.

You can combine your search using **AND**, **OR** and **NOT**.

Builder

Recent Query #1

AND Recent Query #2

AND All Fields

Search or Add to history

History [Clear history](#)

Search	Add to builder	Query	Items found	Time
#2	Add	Search "methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus"	6	08:39:40
#1	Add	Search hygiene OR clean*	133010	08:38:11

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PubMed (#1) AND #2

RSS Save search Advanced

Choose additional filters Display Settings: Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Re

Text availability
Abstract available
Free full text available
Full text available

Results: 1 to 20 of 21066

[Orexins: tissue localization, functions, and its relat](#)
1. Adeghate E.

You can also click on Filters which allows you to specify particular criteria in order to further refine your search results. Useful filters include:

- Type of article (e.g. *Guideline*)
- Language (e.g. *English*)
- Publication Date

3. Printing and saving your results

From your results list select the articles you are interested in and use the *Send to* drop down box to process your selection.

You can send results to:

- **File** (to save to your computer or disk)
- **Clipboard** (to collect your selections during the current session)
- **E-mail**

Display Settings: Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Recently Added

Results: 1 to 20 of 625 Selected: 2

[\[Maggot therapy in wound management\]](#)
1. Falch BM, de Weerd L, Sundsfjord A.
Tidsskr Nor Laegeforen. 2009 Sep 24;129(18):1864-7. Review. Norwegian.
PMID: 19844278 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
[Related articles](#) [Free article](#)

[More than hand hygiene is needed to save lives, Part IV.](#)
2. McLaws ML, Pantle AC, Fitzpatrick Med J Aust. 2009 Oct 19;191(8):S26-31.
PMID: 19835528 [PubMed - in process]
[Related articles](#)

[Occurrence and genotyping using ST398 in Southeast Austria.](#)
3. Grisold AJ, Zarfel G, Hoenigl M, Krzwanek R, Felsen G, Masada E, Leitner E, Wagner-Eibel U, Badura A, Marth E.

Send to: Filter

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MEDLINE

Sort by
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Create File

To make your references suitable for import to EndNote you should change the **Format** to MEDLINE. Remember where you save the file on your computer so you know where to retrieve it from when you are in EndNote

4. PubMed advanced features

- You can register with **My NCBI** to save your search strategies.

My NCBI Sign In

- To check that PubMed has successfully searched for your search term as a subject heading [**MeSH Terms**] as well as in titles and abstracts [**All Fields**] you can check the **Search details** box on the right hand side of the results page.

Search details

"methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus"[MeSH Terms] OR ("methicillin-resistant"[All Fields] AND "staphylococcus"[All Fields] AND "aureus"[All Fields]) OR

- Use **Clinical Queries** under **More Resources** when you need to focus your search, e.g. for systematic reviews and RCTs

More Resources

- [MeSH Database](#)
- [Journals Database](#)
- [Single Citation Matcher](#)
- [Clinical Queries](#)
- [Topic-Specific Queries](#)

Further assistance

If you'd like more help with accessing or using PubMed library staff will be happy to help or you could attend one of our drop-in sessions - Wednesdays 2 pm to 4 pm (Whitechapel Library) or monthly Thursdays (West Smithfield Library). Please see the library website for details.