Library Resources

Library’s home page: [https://rushu.libguides.com](https://rushu.libguides.com)

1. **ASK A QUESTION**
   Use this link on the library’s home page to email a question, set up an appointment, etc.

2. **HELP**
   Help Topics are guides written by Rush librarians that provide instruction on various databases, including PubMed, CINAHL, RefWorks and many more.

3. **Databases**
   Always access databases through the library’s website. This ensures full access to the paid subscriptions you are entitled to as a Rush affiliate.

**Hints on efficiently searching PubMed**

MeSH (MEdical Subject Headings) are found by clicking the drop-down box on the initial PubMed search screen. Searching with MeSH terms quickly returns on-target results. Only items that have been tagged with your chosen term will be returned.
To combine searches, your previous searches can be found under “Advanced”.

To quickly scan the abstracts of a full page of results, change the format (screen view) to Abstract. You also change the Per Page view to up to 200 results on a single page view.

Doing these two steps allows you to have 200 abstracts on the same page view, allowing you to scan a large number of citations at one time.

To search for a specific word or phrase on a page view, hit Control F (or Command F). A box will appear; type in your search term and all results will be highlighted. In this case, the word “outcome” shows up 102 times on the page view (using the above search example). Clicking the down arrow brings you to each result. This is very useful when you have lots of information to scan.

If you are searching for a phrase, put it in quotes. PubMed will then search for your exact phrase only (as opposed to finding both words in separate locations within the citation). This is not necessary when searching with using MeSH terms.

There are two ways to find clinical trials. The first is to use the filter at the top of the left-hand column. Clicking “customize” allows you to search for other types, such as Randomized Clinical Trials, or Clinical Studies (which returns a wider set of results). Alternatively you can search using the words that describe the type of trial you want; for example you can add the word “randomized” to your search, as shown below.

Limiting search results to Core Clinical Journals ensures that your results are from top-ranked biomedical journals.

**PICO**

PICO is an acronym to help you remember the components of a focused research question. The question needs to identify the key problem of the patient, what treatment you are considering for the patient, what alternative treatment is being considered (if any) and what is the outcome you want to promote (or avoid).

- **P**: Population
- **I**: Intervention
- **C**: Comparison/Control
- **O**: Outcome

Librarians are available via email, phone, or consultation (single or small group).

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