

Finding journal articles using subject-specific databases

Many of the subject-specific databases we subscribe to are available through Ovid, e.g. PsycINFO, Embase, AMED, Transplant Library, Medline and Global Health. From one platform you can search papers covering behavioural science, drug research, complementary medicine, organ transplantation, and diseases.

The search interface, including search options and filters, is identical for all the databases. This means that when you have learnt how to search PsycINFO, you are ready to search the other databases. In addition, Ovid allows you to change databases and re-run a previous search.

In this task, you will learn about the different search modes and how to use them in PsycINFO, and how to re-run a complete search in Global Health.

- Go to SOLO at <http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>
 - Choose **online resources** from the drop-down next to the search box, type PsycINFO Ovid and click **Search**.
 - In the PsycINFO database record, click **Online access**
- Ovid opens by default in the **Advanced Search**. **If not choose Advanced Search**. This allows you to be more specific about your searches in order to get a more relevant list of results. You can run a subject heading search by keyword, search one concept at a time, and combine results sets using Boolean operators.
- The research topic we are looking at is whether malnutrition affects intellectual development.
 - Enter the first term, **malnutrition**, and click **Search**. **This will look for subject headings and keywords**
 - The subject heading "Nutritional Deficiencies" is highlighted as the closest match to malnutrition. Click on the subject heading to see the tree of related terms. **Explode** includes records that contain narrower and broader terms. **Focus** selects only records directly related to the subject heading.
 - Navigate back to the previous screen in your browser and tick the option **malnutrition.mp. search as Keyword** and click **Continue**. You now have a set of records about malnutrition using subject headings and keywords.
 - Repeat the steps with the second term, **intellectual development**. You now have another set of results.
- Combine both searches.
 - Tick the box for each search
 - Combine with **And**.
 - You get a third set that covers both concepts. Results appear below the Search History box.



Research students' Skills Toolkit

Apply limits.

- Click **Limits** below the main search box.
- Click **Additional Limits** to access a greater selection of limit options.
- In the **Age Groups** box, select **Neonatal**, **Infancy** and **Preschool Age**, and click **Limit A Search**.
- You get a fourth set.

Use **Filter By** to view the results for the past 3 years and by publication type.

Tick some articles in the list and explore the following options:

- Abstract Reference
- Complete Reference
- Find Citing Articles
- Export
- Save a search history and set up an alert. You need to register to use these features.

View the full text of paper

- Click **Full Text** or .

Return to the search page. Tick the 4th search.

- Next to Resource selected, click **Change**.
- Tick the database Global Health.
- Click **Run Search**.
- You get a new set of results from the Global Health database. Please note that this feature works well if you select databases that are relevant to your search topic.
- To go back to the search done in PsycINFO, use the back arrow.

Click **Multi-Field Search**.

- Unlike Advanced Search, you can combine several terms with NOT.
- You can search keywords in all fields or select a specific one (author, institution, title ...).
- You can access all the limits.
- You can apply wild cards: * to include variants of a term (psycho* for psychology, psychological ...), # to mask one character (wom#n), ? for one or zero characters (colo?r), \$ followed by a number for limiting to specific words.

Repeat the search in **All Fields** using the following strategy:

- malnutrition OR malnourish* AND intellect* AND development NOT rat\$1 (rat or rats but not rating, rated, rate etc.)

More information & library contacts

See our Library Guide at <http://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/medsci>

See our Library Guide on systematic reviews at

<http://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/systematic-reviews>.

Contact your subject librarian for a consultation:

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/subjects-and-libraries/subjects/librarians>