Using CINAHL: Keyword Searching and Other Features

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*For instructions on **accessing CINAHL** and other Health Sciences Databases see [Accessing Nursing & Health Sciences Database](#) handout.

Sample search topic: What are the privacy concerns regarding electronic health records?

1. Begin by breaking your topic into its individual concepts. These concepts will become your search terms. For this example there are 2 separate concepts: privacy and electronic medical records.

2. In the **1st box** enter **1ˢᵗ search term** - eg. ***Electronic health records.*** In the **2nd box** enter the **2ⁿᵈ search term** – ***privacy.*** Enter any additional terms related to your search in the same fashion.

Use drop-down menu to change Boolean operators

Click if additional rows are needed

3. Combine your search terms with **Boolean** operators (**AND, OR, NOT**)

AND – combines search terms together so the resulting articles include both/all search terms. (eg. Search results will contains articles that have **both** *electronic health records* **AND** *privacy* in the article).

OR – combines search terms so the resulting articles include at least one of the terms. (eg. A search for *bacteria* **OR** *virus* will result in articles that contain either the word bacteria or the word virus
- Useful for:
  - capturing synonyms for search terms (cancer OR neoplasm)
  - alternate spellings (pediatrics OR paediatrics)

NOT – provides a way to exclude a concept. Search terms entered after the Boolean **NOT** are excluded from search results. (eg. *Nursing* **NOT** *breastfeeding* will result in a list of articles that contains the term "nursing" but exclude from those results articles that contain the word "breastfeeding").

Combining Search Terms with Multiple Boolean Operators:

Multiple Boolean operators can be used in a search. Using parentheses you can nest terms together to build a search string.

Using **parentheses** dictates the order in which the database processes the search terms (just like an algebraic equation!). Information within parentheses is read first, then information outside parentheses is read next.

(eg. Using our topic from above, a simple nested search would look like this: (*electronic health records* OR *electronic medical records*) AND *privacy*. This search string will result in articles that have the word prevention in them but also either the term nosocomial infection OR the term hospital acquired infection).

Notice, there are more results since adding "electronic medical records" using OR (300 vs 263)

Other Search Tips:

- **Asterisk** – use an asterisk to find different endings for a root word (eg. *Prevent** will find prevention, preventing, prevents, etc.)

- **Phrase searching** – use quotation marks (" ") to search for an exact phrase (eg. "infection control" or "case management")

- **Title search** – searches for the entered terms in the title of the article.

New Search | Publications | CINAHL Headings | Cited References | More ⌄   Sign Out   Folder   Preferences

Searching: CINAHL | Choose Databases
"case management"   TI Title   Search   Clear   ?

AND ▼   Select a Field (optional)
TX All Text
TI Title
AND ▼   AU Author
AB Abstract
MW Word in Subject Heading
MH Exact Subject Heading
MJ Word in Major Subject Heading
MM Exact Major Subject Heading   Use drop down menu
SO Publication Name   to choose specific
JN Publication [exact]   search fields
AF Author Affiliation
AG Age Group
AN Accession Number
CA Corporate Author
CH Cochrane AN
CR Commentary
CT Gender
DN Dissertation Number
DT Publication Date

Search results include the
phrase *Case management*
in the title of the articles

Refine Search «   Page: 1 2 3 4 5 Next   Relevance ▼   Page Options ▼   Share ▼

▼ 3,119 Results for...
Find all my search terms:
TI "case management"

                          1.   Case Management: The Allocation of Hours and Influencing Factors in the Management of Survivors of Traumatic Brain Injury.
                               (includes abstract) Arnold, Susan; Elder, Meagan; Care Management Journals, 2013; 14 (1): 2-10. (journal article - equations & formulas, research, tables/charts) ISSN:
                       Academic   1521-0987 PMID: 23721038
                        Journal   Subjects: Case Management; Brain Injuries; Adult: 19-44 years; Middle Aged: 45-64 years; Aged: 65+ years; Male; Female
                               Database: CINAHL
▼ Refine your results
                               Add to Folder
☐ Linked Full Text
☐ References Available   2.   Counselling, Case Management and Health Promotion for People Living with HIV/AIDS: An Overview of Systematic Reviews.
☐ Abstract Available

Limiting Your Results:

AND ▼   Select a Field (optional) ▼   Add Row

Basic Search | Advanced Search | ▶ Search History

Refine Search «   Page: 1 2 3 4 5 Next ▶   Date Newest ▼   Page Options ▼   Share ▼

▼ 1,226 Results for...
Find all my search terms:
nosocomial infections AND
prevention

                          Choosing this Limit of   ...fections and their prevention after extensive flooding.
                          Linked Full Text will give   ...marak, Anucha; Warren, David K; Glen Mayhall, Clovus; Current Opinion in Infectious
                          ONLY what we have   ...59-65. (journal article) ISSN: 0951-7375 PMID: 23757004
▼ Refine your results   available in CINAHL –
                          we have MUCH more full
☐ Linked Full Text   text than what CINAHL
☐ References Available   contains!
☐ Abstract Available   ...reduces mortality and improves intestinal epithelial homeostasis
                                                          in experimental sepsis.
1981 Publication Date 2013   (includes abstract) Khailova, Ludmila; Frank, Daniel N; Dominguez, Jessica A; Wischmeyer, Paul E; Anesthesiology,
◀   ▶   ...022 PMID: 23571641

Update   Show More »   Choose the Show More link for
                           more Limits. A pop-up box will
                           appear.
▼ Source Types
                          3.   Hand hygiene compliance in transplant and other special patient groups: An
                               observational study.

Search Options

Reset | Search

Search Modes and Expanders

Search modes ⦿
- ○ Boolean/Phrase
- ● Find all my search terms
- ○ Find any of my search terms
- ○ SmartText Searching Hint

Apply related words ☐

Also search within the full text of the articles ☐

Limit your results

Linked Full Text ☐

References Available ☐

Abstract Available ☐

Published Date
Month [ ] Year: [ ]
Month [ ] Year: [ ]

Author [ ]

Publication [ ]

English Language ☐

Peer Reviewed

Research Article ☐

Search Only Pre-CINAHL ☐

Evidence-Based Practice ☐

Clinical Queries
All
Therapy - High Sensitivity
Therapy - High Specificity
Therapy - Best Balance

First Author is Nurse ☐

Use to limit to **English, date,** *or* **Research Article**

Randomized Controlled Trial ☐

Journal Subset
All
Allied Health
Alternative/Complementary Therapies
Biomedical

Geographic Subset
All
Africa
Asia
Australia & New Zealand

Publication Type
Randomized Controlled Trial
Research
Research Instrument
Research Term Definition

Language
All
Afrikaans
Chinese
Danish

Sex
All
Female
Male

Pregnancy ☐

Inpatients ☐

Outpatients ☐

Age Groups
All
Fetus, Conception to Birth
Infant, Newborn: birth-1 month
Infant: 1-23 months

Special Interest
All
Advanced Nursing Practice
Case Management
Chiropractic Care

Number of Pages
All [ ]

Search

When you have finished choosing Limits, click the **Search** box at top or bottom of page

4. Some articles will have full text available directly from CINAHL.

Nosocomial infections in neurosurgery intensive care units. 📄

(includes abstract); Çelik SA; Journal of Clinical *Nursing*, 2004 Sep; 13 (6): 741-7 (journal article - research, systematic review, tables/charts) ISSN: 0962-1067 PMID: 15317514 CINAHL AN: 2004206528

Subjects: Critical Care Nursing; Cross Infection; Infection Control; Intensive Care Units; Meningitis; Neuroscience Nursing; Neurosurgery; Urinary Tract Infections

Database: CINAHL

📁 Add to folder | Relevancy: ▪▪▪▪▪▪▪▪▪ | Cited References: (20) | Times Cited in this Database: (1)

📄 PDF Full Text

Click for Full Text

5. For articles that do not have the Full Text PDF link, see the Finding Full Articles (Electronic) hand-out located on the Nursing webpage under Library Instruction. See Library hand-outs link. ... or in your courses in Knowledge in the Library Resources Folder.

8-13 j.turner