Electronic Database Search Tips

EPC Journal club
Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Lori Rosman, MLS
lrosman@jhmi.edu
Controlled Vocabulary
Examples of Controlled Vocabularies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Controlled vocabulary</th>
<th>What you see in the record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PubMed</td>
<td>MeSH</td>
<td>Indexed for Medline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embase</td>
<td>Emtree</td>
<td>Index terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cochrane</td>
<td>MeSH</td>
<td>Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) Keywords</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINAHL</td>
<td>CINAHL headings</td>
<td>Subjects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PsycINFO</td>
<td>Thesaurus</td>
<td>Subjects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Controlled Vocabulary Features

- Explode term
- Do Not Explode Term
- Major Topic
- Subheadings
- Search Builder Tool
# Controlled Vocabulary Features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PubMed</th>
<th>Embase</th>
<th>Cinahl</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Explode</strong></td>
<td>&quot;Wounds and Injuries&quot;[Mesh]</td>
<td>'injury'/exp</td>
<td>(MH &quot;Wounds and Injuries+&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Do Not Explode</strong></td>
<td>&quot;Wounds and Injuries&quot;[Mesh:NoExp]</td>
<td>'injury'/de</td>
<td>(MH &quot;Wounds and Injuries&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major Topic</strong></td>
<td>&quot;Wounds and Injuries&quot;[Majr]</td>
<td>'injury'/mj</td>
<td>(MM &quot;Wounds and Injuries&quot;)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Search Example:

*bicycle helmets to reduce injuries in children*

PubMed
Embase
Cochrane
Ebsco database (Cinahl or PsycINFO)
Limits & Filters
Limits vs. Filters

• Limits
  – Pre-set limits in databases (even if called filters)
  – Subject limits such as "Article types," "Humans," and "Ages" will limit the search to controlled vocabulary terms only
  – Risk of missing relevant citations, especially the most recent

• Filters
  – Also known as "search hedges"
  – Are pre-developed search strategies typically developed for topics and study types
  – Use validated filters that have been tested for reliability and accuracy
  – Cite any filters you use or modify
  – The InterTASC Information Specialists' Sub-Group Search Filter Resource: https://sites.google.com/a/york.ac.uk/issg-search-filters-resource/what-is-the-issg-search-filter-resource
Animal Filter

- PubMed
  (animals [mh] NOT humans [mh])

  Example
  #1 Concept 1
  #2 Concept 2
  #3 #1 AND #2
  #4 (animals[mh] NOT humans[mh])
  #5 #3 NOT #4

- Embase
  ('animal'/exp NOT 'human'/exp)

  Example
  #1 Concept 1
  #2 Concept 2
  #3 #1 AND #2
  #4 ('animal'/exp NOT 'human'/exp)
  #5 #3 NOT #4
Search Example:
Animal Filter vs. Human Limit

Arsenic exposure in children

PubMed
Embase
Ebsco database (Cinahl or PsycINFO)
Field Tags

&

Adjacency Operators
# Field Tags

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Syntax</th>
<th>Phrase Truncation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PubMed</td>
<td>Injury[tiab]</td>
<td>Head injur*[tiab]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Injury[tw] OR wound[tw]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embase</td>
<td>Injury:ab,ti</td>
<td>“Head injur*”:ab,ti,kw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(injury OR wound):ab,ti,kw</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cochrane</td>
<td>Injury:ab,ti</td>
<td>“head injury”:ab,ti,kw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(injury OR wound):ab,ti,kw</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINAHL/PsycINFO (Ebsco)</td>
<td>TI(injury) OR AB(injury)</td>
<td>TI (“head injur*”) OR AB (“head injur*”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TI (injury OR wound) OR AB (injury OR wound)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Adjacency Operators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Adjacency</th>
<th>Adjacency</th>
<th>Adjacency with Field Tags</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PubMed</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embase</td>
<td>NEAR - in either direction</td>
<td>(head NEAR/3 injur*)</td>
<td>(head NEAR/3 injur*):ab,ti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cochrane</td>
<td>NEXT - in the order specified</td>
<td>(head NEXT/3 injur*)</td>
<td>(head NEXT/3 injur*):ab,ti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CINAHL/PsycINFO (Ebsco)</td>
<td>N - in either direction</td>
<td>(head N3 injur*)</td>
<td>TI (head N3 injur*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W - in the order specified</td>
<td>(head W3 injur*)</td>
<td>TI (head W3 injur*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Search Example

PubMed
Embase
Cochrane
Ebsco database (Cinahl or PsycINFO)
Help Guides

• PubMed
  – Located on home page under “Using PubMed”
  – FAQ: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK3827/#pubmedhelp.FAQs

• Embase
  – Located in top left corner (question mark icon)
  – https://service.elsevier.com/app/home/supporthub/embase/

• Cochrane
  – Search help box

• Cinahl/PsycINFO (Ebsco)
  – Located beneath the “search command” (question mark icon)
  – http://support.ebsco.com/help/
Welch Informationists

http://welch.jhmi.edu/welchone/Find-Your-Informationist
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Controlled Vocabulary</th>
<th>Keyword</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Pre-selected, discipline-specific terms unique to each database</td>
<td>• User-selected, no limitations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Applied by indexers to represent the principal concepts in articles</td>
<td>• Searches entire citation and sometimes full-text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hierarchically structured</td>
<td>• Keyword simply needs to appear in citation, regardless of importance to article’s key concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Indexed with most specific term available</td>
<td>• Use to retrieve citations not yet indexed or mis-indexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• PubMed: 1946 - present</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chronic opioid pain management for chronic kidney disease.

Nagar VR, Bithi P.

Abstract

Questions from patients about pain conditions, pain treatment, and responses from authors are presented to help educate patients and make them effective self-advocates. The topics addressed in this issue are renal or kidney failure and chronic pain management with opioids, morphine, and oxycodone effect in the body over a period of time. This includes process of absorption, distribution, localization in tissues, biotransformation and excretion in chronic kidney disease, expected side effects and recommendations.

KEYWORDS: chronic, dialysis; kidney disease; nephropathy; opioid

Chronic opioid pain management for chronic kidney disease.

Nagar VR, Birdi P.

Abstract

Questions from patients about pain conditions, pain treatment, and responses from authors are presented in this paper. The topics addressed in this issue are renal or kidney failure and chronic analgesics, opioids, and oxycodone as well as the effectiveness of these treatments. This includes the process of absorption, biotransformation, and excretion in chronic kidney disease, expected side effects and recommendations.

KEYWORDS: chronic; dialysis; kidney disease; nephropathy; opioid

PMID: 25558625 DOI: 10.3109/15360285.2014.997850 Epub 2015 Jan 5

View MeSH terms to see indexing