Databases Beyond PubMed

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Welch Medical Library
Databases Have Different Purposes

- Have different purposes
- Same topic, index different journals
Comprehensive Search

“We searched the literature in the following databases: Medline (PubMed), Cochrane Library (Wiley), Embase, and Web of Science, CINAHL, and PsycInfo.”
Controlled Vocabulary

Hierarchical (have a controlled vocabulary)

- PubMed (MeSH)
- EMBASE (Emtree)
- CINAHL
- ERIC
- PsycINFO
- Cochrane Library

Flat (no controlled vocabulary)

- Web of Science
- Scopus
- Google Scholar
Embase

Emtree is larger than Mesh, which allows for finer indexing. Drug terms are far better indexed in Embase than in PubMed. Covers roughly 800 conferences.
What should I use EMBASE for?

- Drug related literature searches
- Comprehensive biomedical literature searches in combination with PubMed
- Systematic reviews
- Looking for conference proceedings
Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

The Cochrane Library also searches CENTRAL (clinical trials), Methods Studies, Technology Assessments and Economic Evaluations.
Cochrane

What should I use Cochrane for?

• Accessing high-quality systematic reviews on a topic
Focusses on education topics. Good for researching medical education.
What should I use ERIC for?

• Any search that is dealing with education
• If you want to search the education “grey literature” or “fugitive literature”
• To find reports from the U.S. Department of Education and other like organizations and associations.
PsycINFO

It also provides access to books, book chapters, dissertations, and technical reports in psychology and related disciplines.
PsycINFO

What should I use PsycINFO for?

• If your search topic is psychological, psychiatric or social work related
• For Systematic Reviews and Evidence Based Practice, a search in PsycINFO in addition to PubMed is considered standard practice
CINAHL

Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature.
What should I use CINAHL for?

- Nursing and Allied Health literature searches in addition to PubMed (MedLine)
- Locate dissertations and book chapters
- For Systematic Reviews and Evidence Based Practice, a search in CINAHL in addition to PubMed is considered standard practice
SCOPUS and Web of Science

Scopus and Web of Science

What should I use Scopus and WoS for?

- Finding articles PubMed or Embase might have missed.
- Seeing who has cited a particular journal article (seminal work)
- Finding your H-Index
Accessing Databases
Accessing Databases

https://browse.welch.jhmi.edu/teaching-learning-resources/welch-library-videos

Welch Medical Library Instructional Videos

Below you will find brief instructional videos on the following topics:

- Using the Welch Medical Library Website
- Finding and Collaborating with Your Informationist
- Finding Full Text for Journal Articles
- Finding Bibliographic Databases
- Using WelDoc, Johns Hopkins' Interlibrary Loan Service
- Using ProQuest RefWorks for Managing Your Citations
- Finding Books and Other Media Through Catalyst
- Using Covidence for Conducting Systematic Reviews

Use these videos for an overview of each topic, and contact your informationist if you need more information.