

1. There's something wrong with a citation I got from a friend (or from a bibliography, or other non-PubMed source). Can PubMed help me find the article?

Try the "Single Citation Matcher" (found in blue column on the left), entering bits of information in various combinations. Remember there is almost always something true in each incorrect citation.

How did you find out about this article?

Was it hand written? If yes, think about handwriting misinterpretations.

A number 1 could look like a 7, a 3 could look like an 8.

Was it typed? Look at what's close on the keyboard.

Was it heard? A five could sound like 9.

2. I need some articles

a. On a particular subject

- i. Search using natural language but be sure to click on the "Details" button to see how PubMed interpreted your search.
- ii. Select search terms from the MeSH Database
- iii. Use Boolean operators AND, OR and NOT to combine terms and/or search statement numbers. Click on the "History" tab to view search statements.

For instructions and search tips, see PubMed and MeSH tutorials and the *PubMed Basics* flyer. Also, a quick tip sheet, *To Find Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles*, is attached to this handout.

b. By a particular author

Example: Pauling L [au]

Type author's last name, space, first initial

Click limit / look at the "All Fields" drop down menu / click author

c. About a particular person

Type in person's last name followed by [PS] (stands for personal name as subject)

3. I need to find a systematic review. It's not listed as a publication type.

Use the Clinical Queries page (linked in the blue column on the left). Put the selected search statement number into the form under "Find Systematic Reviews" If you still don't find what you want call Frank or Janet.

4. Can I print just a few of these references or do I have to take them all?

You can tailor a list of selected references in the following way:

- a. As you review the results of each search, select references by clicking in the small box to the left.

- b. Open the “Send to” dropdown menu. Click “Clipboard”. All of your selected articles will be stored there for up to 8 hours until you are ready to print, email them, download them to your desktop or transfer them to My NCBI Collections..

6. Can I save:

- a. **My Search?** – use “My NCBI” in blue column on left side of PubMed screen. First register in NCBI. Then use the “Save Search” button that will appear to the right of the PubMed search box.
- b. **My Search Results?** – References are saved online for 8 hours after activity stops. To save permanently, use “send to”
 - i. To email results – select email, complete form
 - ii. To print a list – select text, use browser to print
 - iii. To download into EndNote or RefWorks (bibliographic managers), display references in MEDLINE format, then send to text, then save as .txt file. Follow importing instructions for bibliographic manager.

Articles saved on the Clipboard can be saved in My NCBI Collections.

7. I emailed the references to myself but I only received the first 20 of those I selected. How can I email all of them?

PubMed emails only the references displayed on the screen. The default is 20 references per page but you can change that by first clicking on the dropdown menu to the right of the word “Show” on the PubMed search page and then choosing as many as 500 references to be displayed in one long list. As long as the number you choose is higher than the number of references you wish to email, you will receive all the references you selected.

This is also true for sending your references to “Text” for the purposes of either printing them or exporting them to a bibliographic manager such as EndNote or RefWorks.

8. How do I get the complete journal article?

Display the selected reference in Abstract format. At least one, and perhaps 2 icons will appear under the title of the article. If the icon to the left indicates the journal is available free, go ahead and click on it. Otherwise, click on the icon to the right, labeled SFX@brown. (soon to change to FindIt). A new screen will open, leading you to the online article if available. If not, try the next option - search JOSIAH, the Brown catalog, to see if the Library has a print copy. If the article is still unavailable, order it through interlibrary loan, ILLiad.

9. I can't get into an online journal article.

- a. Which icon did you click on?
 - i. If the left, try the icon on the right, the SFX icon.
 - ii. If you already clicked on the SFX icon, go to b.

- b. Check JOSIAH for Library holdings. Does Brown own the year you need?
 - i. If no, order the article through interlibrary loan.
 - ii. If yes, go to c.
- c. Are you off campus?
 - i. If no, first, wait 15 minutes and try again. There may be a limit on number of concurrent users. If it still doesn't work, report the malfunction to the Library at 863-3333.
 - ii. If yes, then d.
- d. Are you using the proxy server?
 - i. If no, are you using the VPN? You need to use either the VPN or proxy from off-campus. But please note, the VPN may not work from computers that have another VPN already installed as, for example, in Lifespan hospitals.
 - ii. If yes, then e.
- e. Does the word "proxy" appear in the URL on your current web page?
 - i. If yes, follow instructions in 9. c. i.
 - ii. If no, then
 1. Use the back button until "proxy" appears in the URL
 2. Right click on the next link using the right mouse. From resulting drop down menu, use left mouse to select "Open Link in New Window"
 3. If it still doesn't work, contact < Frank or Janet at 863-1532 or Anne Nolan at 863-3577.

10. How do I cite an article found in PubMed, as though it were a journal or as a web site?

Cite an article from PubMed just as you would cite any journal article.