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MOTIWALA (NATIONAL) HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE

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- Topic:

- **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

- Interns 2022

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- **At the end of this session interns will know:**
 1. What is Literature Review and its purpose
 2. The role of the literature search
 3. Sources of literature search
 4. Search techniques
 5. Optimal search strategies
 6. Evaluation of literature search

1. WHAT IS A LITERATURE SEARCH?

- “A literature search is a well thought out and organized search for all of the literature published on a topic.
- A well-structured literature search is the most effective and efficient way to locate sound evidence on the subject you are researching.
- Evidence may be found in books, journals, government documents and the internet.”

DEFINATION

- The review of the literature is defined as a broad, comprehensive, in-depth, systematic, and critical review of scholarly publications, unpublished scholarly print materials, audiovisual materials, and personal communications

PURPOSE

Research purposes of literature review:

- Determines an appropriate research design / method (instruments, data collection and analysis methods) for answering the research question
- Determines the need for replication of a well designed study or refinement of a study

2. ROLE OF THE LITERATURE SEARCH

- Problem Statement and Research Questions
- Defining the 'Gap'
(What others have done; what YOU will do)
- Outline of need for research, resources
- Nature and type of study, time horizon, study setting and unit of analysis
- Conclusion



ROLE OF THE LITERATURE SEARCH

- Presentation, classification and evaluation of what other researchers have written on a particular subject
- It makes your research stand out from other similar research. It **“locates” your work**

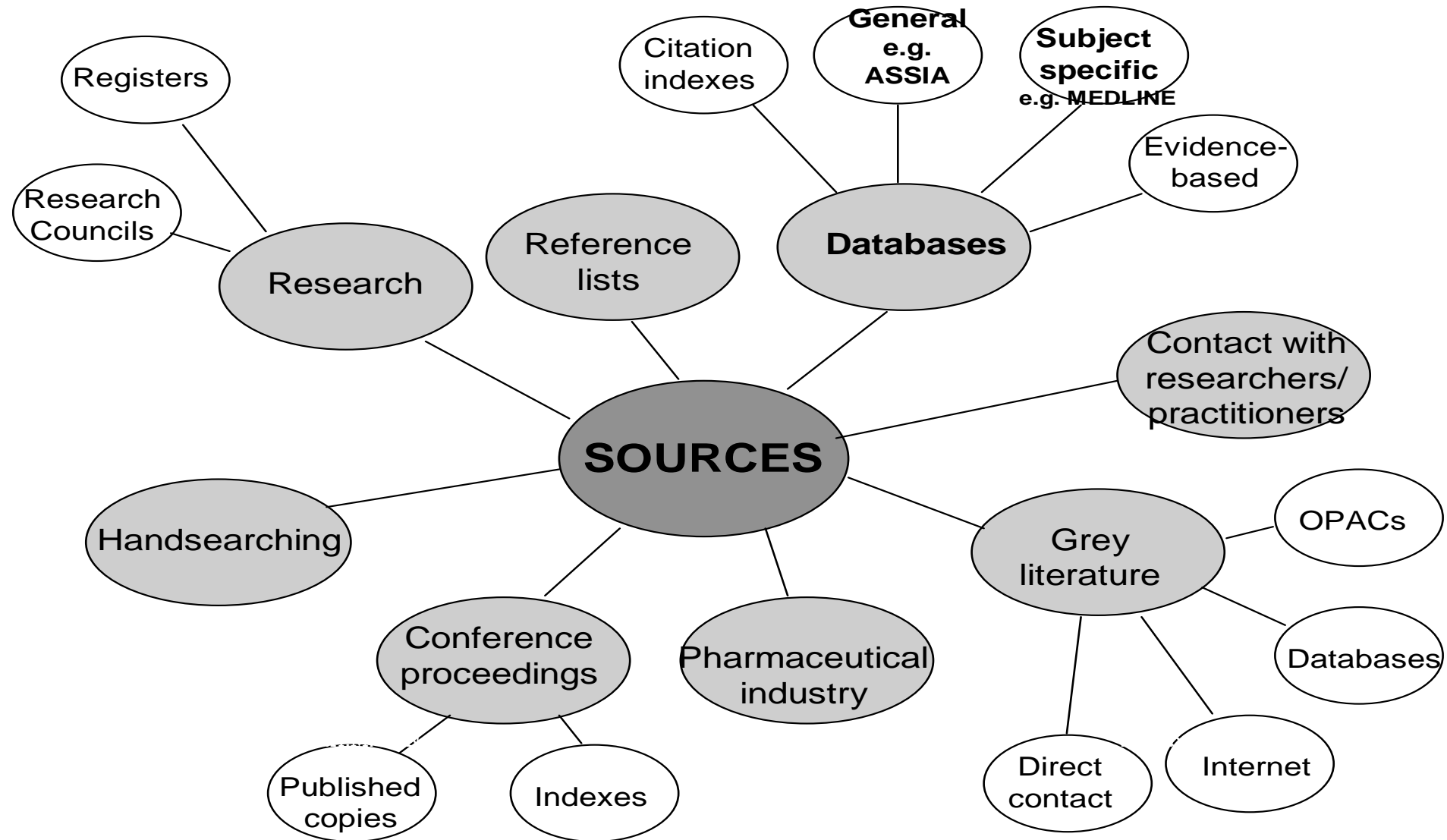




HOW TO START?

- There are many ways to begin literature search, generally we have:
 - Keywords (most commonly use)
 - Begin from a paper given by your mentor
 - References from a given paper
 - Journals in your interest of subject areas
 - Authors, if you know some ...
- As a beginner, we will only talk about keyword search in topics or titles

3. SOURCES OF LITERATURE SEARCH



SOURCES

- **Electronic databases:**

- Evidence-based:

- PubMed, The Cochrane Library, Clinical Evidence, etc.

- Subject specific:


- ERIC, EconLit, Medline, PsycLit, Cinahl, British Nursing Index, AgeInfo, Biological Abstracts, etc.

- Related disciplines:

- LISA, ASSIA, British Humanities Index, Web of Science (Science, Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities Citation Indexes), etc.

PUBMED

- Provides access to citations from biomedical literature.
- Limited full-text article access
- Can sort by date, author and journal
- Scroll to an article that looks relevant and click to get the abstract
- **Related Links** :to the right of the abstract. These are often relevant.
- Clicking an author's name pulls up all the articles by that author.
- Iterative listing/searches by topic, Related Links and authors give a good overview of desired topic


 US National Library of Medicine
 National Institutes of Health

PMC

[Create alert](#) [Journal List](#) [Advanced](#)

Help

COVID-19 Information

[Public health information \(CDC\)](#) |
 [Research information \(NIH\)](#) |
 [SARS-CoV-2 data \(NCBI\)](#) |
 [Prevention and treatment information \(HHS\)](#) |
 [Español](#)

- Article attributes
- Associated Data
 - Author manuscripts
 - Digitized back issues
 - MEDLINE journals
 - Open access
 - Preprints
 - Retracted

Text availability

Include embargoed articles

- Publication date
- 1 year
 - 5 years
 - 10 years
 - Custom range...

- Research Funder
- NIH
 - AHRQ
 - ACL
 - ASPR
 - CDC
 - DHS
 - EPA

Display Settings: Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Default order

Send to: Filter your results:

Search results

Items: 1 to 20 of 7811

<< First < Prev Page 1 of 391 Next > Last >>

- All (7811)
- [NIH grants \(615\)](#)
- Embargoed (0)

[Manage Filters](#)

- [Homeopathic Treatment as an Add-On Therapy May Improve Quality of Life and Prolong Survival in Patients with Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: A Prospective, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Double-Blind, Three-Arm, Multicenter Study](#)

Michael Frass, Peter Lechleitner, Christa Gründling, Claudia Pirker, Erwin Grasmuk-Siegl, Julian Domayer, Maximilian Hochmair, Katharina Gaertner, Cornelia Duscheck, Ilse Muchitsch, Christine Marosi, Michael Schumacher, Sabine Zöchbauer-Müller, Raj K. Manchanda, Andrea Schrott, Otto Burghuber

Oncologist. 2020 Dec; 25(12): e13548. Published online 2020 Nov 7. doi: 10.1002/onco.13548

Correction in: [Oncologist. 2021 Mar; 26\(3\): e523.](#)

PMCID: PMC8108047

[Article](#) [PubReader](#) [PDF-3.5M](#) [Cite](#)

- [An Analysis of Four Government-Funded Reviews of Research on Homeopathic Medicine](#)

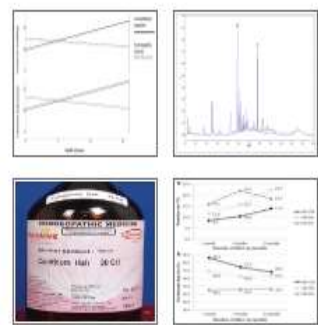
Dana Ullman

Cureus. 2021 Jun; 13(6): e15899. Published online 2021 Jun 24. doi: 10.7759/cureus.15899

PMCID: PMC8312774

[Article](#) [PubReader](#) [PDF-149K](#) [Cite](#)

PMC Images search for homeopathic medicine



See more (28)...

Show additional filters

Display Settings: Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Recently Added

Send to:

Filters: Manage Filters

Article types

- Clinical Trial
- Review
- More ...

Text availability

- Abstract available
- Free full text available
- Full text available

Publication dates

- 5 years
- 10 years
- Custom range...

Species

- Humans
- Other Animals

Clear all

Show additional filters

Results: 1 to 20 of 4800

Page 1 of 240

- [Homeopathy for treatment of irritable bowel syndrome.](#)
1. Peckham EJ, Nelson EA, Greenhaigh J, Cooper K, Roberts ER, Agrawal A. Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2013 Nov 13;11:CD009710. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 24222383 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]
- [Rebound effect of modern drugs: Serious adverse event unknown by health professionals.](#)
2. Teixeira MZ. Rev Assoc Med Bras. 2013 Nov 7. doi:pil: S0104-4230(13)00175-9. 10.1016/j.ramb.2013.05.003. [Epub ahead of print] English, Portuguese. PMID: 24211013 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher] [Related citations](#)
- [Homeopathy: meta-analyses of pooled clinical data.](#)
3. Hahn RG. Forsch Komplementmed. 2013;20(5):376-81. doi: 10.1159/000355916. Epub 2013 Oct 17. PMID: 24200828 [PubMed - in process] [Related citations](#)
- [Additional benefits of homeopathy in the treatment of chronic periodontitis: A randomized clinical trial.](#)
4. Mourão LC, Moutinho H, Canabarro A. Complement Ther Clin Pract. 2013 Nov;19(4):246-50. doi: 10.1016/j.ctcp.2013.05.002. Epub 2013 Jul 27. PMID: 24199982 [PubMed - in process] [Related citations](#)
- [Prevalence of visits to five types of complementary and alternative medicine practitioners by the general population: A systematic review.](#)
5. Cooper KL, Harris PE, Reiton C, Thomas KJ. Complement Ther Clin Pract. 2013 Nov;19(4):214-20. doi: 10.1016/j.ctcp.2013.06.006. Epub 2013 Jul 27. PMID: 24199976 [PubMed - in process] [Related citations](#)
- [Complementary and Alternative Medicines Use during Pregnancy: A Systematic Review of Pregnant Women and Healthcare Professional Views and Experiences.](#)
6. Pallivaiappila AR, Stewart D, Shetty A, Pande B, McLay JS. Evid Based Complement Alternat Med. 2013;2013:205639. Epub 2013 Sep 30. Review. PMID: 24194778 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher] [Free PMC Article](#) [Related citations](#)
- [Capacity building of AYUSH practitioners to study the feasibility of their involvement in non-](#)

New feature

Try the new Display Settings option - Sort by Relevance

Results by year



Related searches

- homoeopathy placebo
- clinical trials homoeopathy
- dermatitis homoeopathy
- homoeopathy reproducible

PMC Images search for homoeopathy



See more (21)...

Titles with your search terms

Are the clinical effects of homoeopathy placebo effects? Comparative study of plac [Lancet. 2005]



Using the "Limits" feature

allows you to preset your search to only look in certain selected areas limit your search by:

search field

- gender
- publication type
- human or animal
- Language
- entrez date
- Subset
- publication date
- age

Using the "Preview/Index" feature

a method of browsing the index presents a list of where a particular term appears alphabetically in the database index and the number of records in which that term appears (eg. Author, MeSH, publication type)

Using the "History" feature

automatically holds all your search strategies and search results (up to 8 hours following inactivity) search statement numbers can be combined or used with new search queries

COCHRANE LIBRARY DATABASE

- An international non-profit and independent organization
- High-quality evidence-based information and reviews
- Reliable evidence from Cochrane and other systematic reviews, clinical trials, and more.”
- May not be useful for research, but very useful for diagnosis, treatment and clinical treatment research.



Trusted evidence.
Informed decisions.
Better health.

Title Abstract Keyword homoeopathy

Browse Advanced search

Cochrane Reviews Trials Clinical Answers About Help About Cochrane

Cochrane Reviews 16 Cochrane Protocols 2 Trials 810 Editorials 1 Special Collections 0 Clinical Answers 0 More

Filter your results

Date

Publication date

The last 3 months 0

The last 6 months 0

The last 9 months 0

The last year 0

The last 2 years 0

Custom Range:

dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy

Apply Clear

16 Cochrane Reviews matching homoeopathy in Title Abstract Keyword

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
Issue 2 of 12, February 2022

Select all (16) Export selected citation(s) Show all previews

Order by Relevancy

Results per page 25

1 Homoeopathy for induction of labour

Caroline A Smith

Intervention Review 20 October 2003 New search

Show PICOs Show preview

2 Homeopathy for dementia

Robert W McCarney, James Warner, Peter Fisher, Robbert van Haselen

Intervention Review 20 January 2003 New search

Show PICOs Show preview

- **Evidence-based**

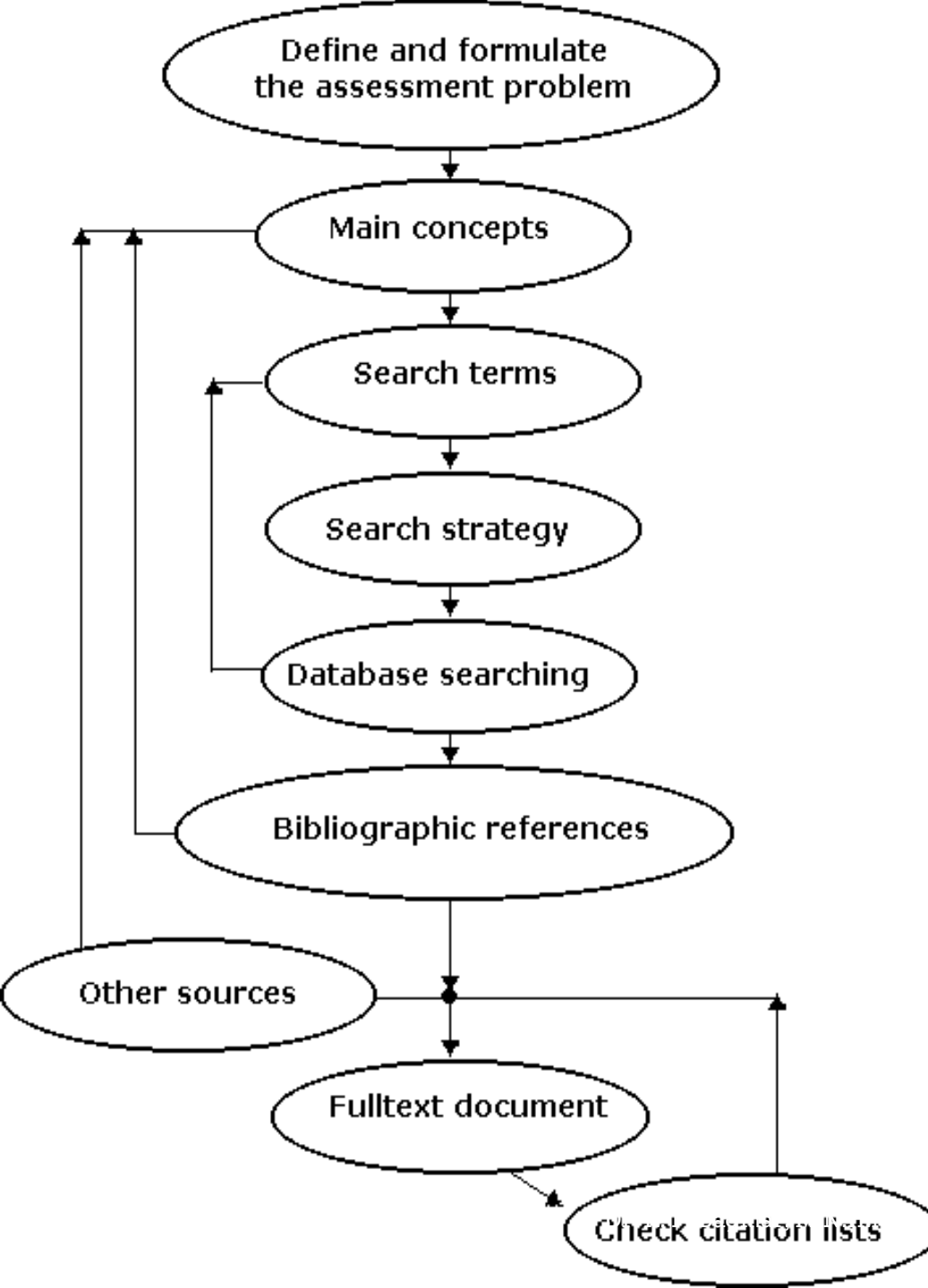
- The Cochrane Library, Clinical Evidence, etc.

- **Subject specific**

- ERIC, EconLit, Medline, PsycLit, Cinahl, British Nursing Index, AgeInfo, Biological Abstracts, etc.

- **Related disciplines**

- LISA, ASSIA, British Humanities Index, Web of Science (Science, Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities Citation Indexes), etc.



4. Search techniques

From: Etext on Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Information Resources. Chapter 4: Searching MEDLINE/PubMed for Health Technology Assessment Information by Viveka Alton and Ione Auston.
<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/eha/chapter4.html>

5. AN OPTIMAL SEARCH WILL COMBINE :

- Natural language approach

and

- Controlled vocabulary approaches

OPTIMAL SEARCH STRATEGY

- **Optimal permutations of search terms** found in the titles, abstracts or the subject indexing of relevant articles : high correlation with study quality
- **Pre-prepared search strategies** [‘search filters’, ‘quality filters’, ‘hedges’ or ‘optimal search strategies’]
- **Use of natural language and controlled vocabulary optimally**

NATURAL LANGUAGE

- Uses your own words and searches words & phrases (typically from the title, abstract & keyword fields) to retrieve records
- Potentially can search any field of a database
- Can be very precise (but there can be ambiguities e.g. Moderation [exam process] and Moderation [within reasonable limits])
- **Some problems:**
 - **Plurals:** e.g. child or children
 - **Different spellings:** e.g. esthetic or aesthetic
 - **Different terminology:** e.g. pavement or sidewalk
 - **Prefixes:** prenatal, pre natal, pre-natal

DATABASE FEATURES TO SUPPORT NATURAL LANGUAGE

- **Truncation (e.g. *, \$)** :used to search for different word stems and word endings
 - e.g. use homeo* to find homoeopathy, homeopathy, homoeopathic, etc. (But homeo* would find homeostasis!)
- **Wild cards (e.g. *, ?)** :used to search for spelling variants
 - e.g. use leuk*mia to find leukaemia or leukemia
- **Proximity and adjacency operators (e.g. adj or near) :**
 - e.g. motor near2 accidents

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CONTROLLED VOCABULARY

- Maps variations in terminology to a single “approved” word or phrase (e.g. Toyota, Rolls Royce, Mini, Ferrari etc. all mapped to “Automobiles”)
- Can demonstrate hierarchical or conceptual relationships (e.g. Europe-UK-England-Hampshire-Southampton)
- May not exist for new terms (e.g. “single currency”)
- May not map to a precise term (e.g. “teaching techniques” for “Dr. K. P. Balmer, MN, HM, C. Nashikproblem based learning”)

DATABASE FEATURES TO SUPPORT CONTROLLED VOCABULARY

- A Thesaurus (e.g. MeSH, ERIC) [NB. Opposite direction to Roget's Thesaurus – Many-to-One]
- Mapping
- Explode functions
- “See Under”, “Used For” and “See Also” references

6. EVALUATING SEARCH STRATEGY

	Relevant	Not Relevant
Retrieved	Use to generate additional search terms	Eliminate terms with poor yield
Not Retrieved	Use reference lists from key articles to identify these	No further action required

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The **Vancouver system**, also known as the "author-number" system, is a way of writing references in academic papers. It is popular in the physical sciences, and is one of two referencing systems normally used in medicine

The Vancouver system takes its name from a meeting in Vancouver, Canada, in 1978 that led to the establishment of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.

FINAL THOUGHTS

- **Literature search is an iterative process:** find an article, investigate associated links and other works by the author, search specific journals.
- Be inclusive, but not exhaustive, in citations
- **Rule of thumb:** stick to references from the past 5 years unless particularly noteworthy.

*“Knowing is not enough; we must apply.
Willing is not enough; we must do.”*

—Goethe

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- A good and thorough search :
- Takes a LOT of time.
- Best done by YOU.
- Is on-going.





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