Choosing a Database: *Which database should I use to start my research?*

This table gives you starting points for beginning your search for topical information. Remember, one database may not answer all of your questions. It may be necessary to consult additional resources to satisfy all of your research needs.

Most of the resources below can be accessed under Core Resources on the JEFFLINE home page (http://jeffline.jefferson.edu). Some are reached by choosing Databases A-Z and searching the List of All Databases. Exceptions are indicated by (*) and access is noted below.

Topic:	Database:	Focus:	Publication types include:
Basic Science	**SCOPUS**	Science literature	Citations & journal articles, conference proceedings, websites & patents
Consumer Health	**MEDLINE PLUS**	Drugs, disease or conditions	Encyclopedia, dictionary, patient information
Drugs	**LEXICOMP**	Interactions between drugs, evaluations of drugs, calculation of dosage	Clinical decision support
	MEDLINE (via Ovid or PubMed)	Drugs, chemicals	Citations & journal articles
	SCOPUS	Drugs, chemicals	Citations & journal articles
Evidence-Based Medicine	**MEDLINE** (via Ovid or PubMed) **Clinical Queries**	Clinical studies, systematic reviews	Citations & journal articles
	ACP's PIER (via Stat!Ref)	Diagnosis & treatment of diseases	Decision-support tool
	Cochrane (via Wiley)	Effects of health care that explore the evidence for & against effectiveness & appropriateness of treatments	Full-text systematic reviews
	The Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality* (www.ahrq.gov)	Evidence- based information on health care outcomes; quality, cost, use & access	Reports, clinical practice guidelines (includes *National Guideline Clearinghouse)*
General Medicine (Reference)	**AccessMedicine**	Reference on diagnosis & treatment of diseases	Full text reference books includes Harrison's
	Stat!Ref	Reference on diagnosis & treatment of diseases	Full text clinical reference books, includes Stedman's
Grants & Funding	**Community of Science Pivot Funding Opportunities**	Research, collaborative activities, travel, conferences, fellowships, post-doctoral positions	Directory
Health Professions (including Diagnostic Imaging, Laboratory Science, OT and PT)	**CINAHL (Cumulated Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature)** (via Ebscohost)	Nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, communication sciences, emergency medical services & other allied health fields	Citations & journal articles

Topic:	Database:	Focus:	Publication types include:
Health Services Research: Policy / Economics	**The Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality*** (**www.ahrq.gov**)	*See **Evidence-based Medicine***	
	National Information Center on Health Services Research & Health Care Technology* (**www.nlm.nih.gov/hsrph.html**)	Health services research including: literature & guidelines, data tools & statistics, legislation, etc.	Web portal
Herbs & Botanicals	**Natural Standard** (accessible from JEFFLINE homepage)	Evidence-based information on herbs, botanicals, vitamins & other supplements	Professional monographs
	International Bibliographic Information on Dietary Supplements (IBIDS) (NIH)* (**http://ods.od.nih.gov/)**	Dietary supplements, including vitamins, minerals, & botanicals produced by the Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) at the National Institutes of Health	Published, international, scientific literature
Molecular Biology	**NLM Entrez (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gquery/gquery.fcgi)**	Science literature	Citations & journal articles
Nursing	**CINAHL** (via Ebscohost)	Nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, communication sciences, emergency medical services & other allied health fields	Articles from journals books, proceedings, standards of practice, dissertations
Patient Education	**LEXICOMP**	In-patient care, discharge instructions, general information in English & Spanish	Hand-outs
Psychiatry, Psychology	**PsycINFO** (via Ovid)	Psychology, psychiatry, nursing, social work, education, sociology & related fields	Articles, books, chapters, dissertations, etc.
Social Science	**SCOPUS**	Social sciences literature	Peer-reviewed journals
Tests & Measures of Health & Behavior	**HaPI (Health & Psychosocial Instruments)** (via Ovid)	Tests, surveys, questionnaires, & rating scales for assessing mental & physical health	Records & journal articles describing these instruments
Toxicity	**LEXICOMP**	Toxicity of common substances	Clinical decision support
	ToxNet* **http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov**	Toxicology, hazardous chemicals & related areas	Literature & data

Go to the **JEFFLINE List of All Databases** (**http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/Collections/Databases/dbaselist.cfm**) for descriptions of more than 100 databases. You can also find electronic Help documents at **http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/Ask/Help/index.html** to assist you in using them.

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"Helping you turn information into knowledge"

Scott Memorial Library
Thomas Jefferson University
1020 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-503-AISR / 215-503-2477

For help with your research, contact the Reference Desk:
(215)503-6994
or email: **AskaLibrarian@jefferson.edu**