Occupational Therapy (OT322/670)
Evidence-Based Practice Resources
Scott Memorial Library, Thomas Jefferson University

Fee-based Resources for Finding Evidence-Based Information

These are available to Jeffersonians, but may not be available to you after graduation depending on your employer or whether you want to subscribe as an individual.

- **OT Search - Occupational Therapy Literature**
  http://www1.aota.org/otsearch/index.asp
  Produced by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF).

  Source: AOTF
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key; $75/yr for members of AOTA; $200 nonmembers; $995 institutional/yr; $3/article for member document delivery
  Coverage: Early 1900s - present
  Updated: Weekly
  Vocabulary: OT Search Thesaurus, available online
  Description: OT Search contains bibliographic records for materials in the American Occupation Therapy Foundation's Wilma L. West Library: AOTA serial and monographic publications, non-AOTA journals about occupational therapy, and selected relevant articles from other specialty journals.

  Search Tips: Use the Power Search link to more easily combine terms

  Stemming/Truncation/Wildcard -- This is an important search technique to finding a basic stem or root of a word and allowing for various endings on the word. For example, use the stem "**rehab**" to find rehabilitate, rehabilitating, rehabilitates, rehabilitated, etc. Each database may have a different character/method to indicate a wildcard. (an asterisk * is a common method in many search systems, including Google or PubMed). **In OTSearch the wildcard is a dollar sign ($) --i.e. rehab$**

  Boolean Operators (AND, NOT, OR) -- combine terms logically for your search question. Using "and" means both terms must be in the record. "OR" means either word could be in the record. (**e.g., Stroke$ OR cerebrovasc$**)

  Proximity Operators – give the ability to specify the relationship between two search terms in order to better refine a search. For example, if your two terms could be in **either order** of each other in a field, you could use the **NEAR operator**. Put a number after it, and you also allow for intervening words to separate them. **NEAR3**

  SAME –default of system; in single field
  WITH – in a sentence
  NEAR3 --In any order in a field
  ADJ3 –In order entered in a field

- **CINAHL** (via EBSCO) – **C**umulative **I**ndex for **N**ursing and **A**llied **H**ealth **L**iterature

  Source: EBSCO
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key. (Fee-based)
  Coverage: 1982 - present
  Updated: Weekly
  Vocabulary: CINAHL Thesaurus
  Description: The Cumulative Index for Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL) covers 700 English language journals. The database also includes information about consumer health, patient education, and health sciences librarianship. It uses a special controlled vocabulary which overlaps in some areas with MeSH. The thesaurus of terms is available in print form at reference workstations, but is also available online within the program. Abstracts are included for most articles. Complete text for some articles and testing instruments are available online.

  - **Wildcard symbol in Ebsco system is an asterisk *.**
  - **Proximity operators: N (regardless of order) and W (order matters) (e.g autism W5 participation)**
  - **Use Search History to combine sets.**
  - **Consider special interest categories "Occupational Therapy" or "Evidence-Based Practice"**

- **The Cochrane Library**

  The Cochrane Library is a collection of six databases that contain different types of high-quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making, and a seventh database that provides information about groups in The Cochrane Collaboration.

  About The Cochrane Collaboration

  Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
  Source: Wiley
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
  Coverage: 1991 - present
  Updated: Not stated
  Vocabulary: Keyword
  Description: Includes the FULL TEXT of the regularly updated systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare prepared by the international Cochrane Collaboration. The reviews include two types: COMPLETE REVIEWS - Regularly updated Cochrane Reviews, prepared and maintained by Collaborative Review Groups; and PROTOCOLS - Protocols for reviews currently being prepared (all include an expected date of completion). Protocols are the background, objectives and methods of reviews in preparation.

  Cochrane Controlled Trials Register (CCTR)
  Produced by the Cochrane Collaboration.

  Source: Wiley
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
  Coverage: 1943 to present
  Updated: Quarterly
  Vocabulary: Keyword
  Description: The Register contains over 300,000 bibliographic references to definitive controlled trials in health care. Cochrane groups and other organizations contribute their specialized registers; and these registers—together with references to clinical trials identified in MEDLINE and EMBASE—form the CCTR database. Contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration follow quality

control standards to ensure that only reports of definite randomized controlled trials or controlled clinical trials are included.

Cochrane Methodology Register
Produced by the Cochrane Collaboration.

Source: Wiley
Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
Coverage: Not stated
Updated: Not stated
Vocabulary: Keyword
Description: The database includes journal articles, book chapters, conference proceedings, conference abstracts and reports of ongoing methodological research. Relevant records are identified primarily through a program of handsearching undertaken by the UK Cochrane Centre. The register aims to include all published reports of empirical methodological studies that could be relevant for inclusion in a Cochrane methodology review, along with comparative and descriptive studies relevant to the conduct of systematic reviews of healthcare interventions. The Cochrane Methodology Register contains over 9,000 bibliographic references to controlled trials in health care.

Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (DARE)
Produced by the National Health Services' Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, University of York, England.

Source: Wiley
Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
Coverage: Not stated
Updated: Not stated
Vocabulary: Keyword
Description: DARE provides critical assessments of systematic reviews from a variety of medical journals. DARE is produced by the expert reviewers and information staff of the National Health Services' Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (NHS CRD) at the University of York, England, and consists of structured abstracts of systematic reviews from all over the world. DARE records cover topics such as diagnosis, prevention, rehabilitation, screening, and treatment.

Health Technology Assessments (HTA)
Produced by the National Health Services' Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, University of York, England.

Source: Wiley
Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
Coverage: Not stated
Updated: Not stated
Vocabulary: Keyword
Description: Produced by the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD), the Health Technology Assessment database brings together details on ongoing health technology assessments (studies of the medical, social, ethical, and economic implications of healthcare interventions). HTA is produced in collaboration with the INAHTA Secretariat, based at SBU, Sweden. The database contains records of ongoing projects being conducted by members of INAHTA as well as publications reporting completed technology assessments carried out by INAHTA members and other health technology assessment organizations.

NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHSEED)
Produced by the Cochrane Collaboration.

Source: OvidSP
Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
Coverage: Not stated
Updated: Not stated
Vocabulary: Keyword
Description: The National Health Service (NHS) Economic Evaluation Database provides cost-benefit analyses about healthcare interventions. The NHS Economic Evaluation Database contains over 6000 abstracts of quality assessed economic evaluations. The database aims to assist decision-makers by systematically identifying and describing economic evaluations, appraising their quality and highlighting their relative strengths and weaknesses.

- **ACP Journal Club**
  Produced by the American College of Physicians and the British Medical Journal Club.

  Source: American College of Physicians
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
  Coverage: 2002 - present
  Updated: Monthly
  Vocabulary: Keyword
  Description: The database consists of an approximately 10-year archive (2002 to present as of this writing) of the ACP Journal Club, weeded of out-of-date articles. The editors screen the top clinical journals on a regular basis and identify studies that are both methodologically sound and clinically relevant. They write an enhanced abstract of the chosen articles and provide a commentary on the value of the article for clinical practice.

- **Scopus**
  Produced by Elsevier.

  Source: Elsevier
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
  Coverage: 1966 - present
  Updated: Daily
  Vocabulary: Keyword, MeSH and EMBASE
  Description: Scopus searches citations and abstracts of over 14,000 journals across a broad spectrum of sciences, medicine, social sciences and technology, science-related Web sites and world patent literature. Alerts and individual profiles are available.

  Search Tips:

  - Using the singular form of a word in your search retrieves the singular, plural, and possessive forms of most words.
  - For a loose approximate phrase in Scopus (i.e. “heart attack”) use double quotes around the phrase
  - For an exact phrase, use brackets (i.e. {heart-attack}
  - Use citation searching to follow ideas forward and backward in time.
  - **Wildcard is an asterisk ***

- **MEDLINE (via OvidSP)**
  Produced by the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM).

  Source: OvidSP
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
  Coverage: 1966 - present
  Updated: Weekly
  Vocabulary: MeSH: Medical Subject Headings
  Description: MEDLINE covers the international journal literature of biomedicine. The over 4,000 titles indexed include foreign languages and range from letters to extensive review articles. While the main thrust of MEDLINE is clinical information, some administrative and sociological literature is included.

  NOTE: The word 'MEDLINE' is frequently (but erroneously) used to describe the OVID suite of health-related databases. OvidSP uses a single interface to access many different databases, including MEDLINE, PsycINFO and more.

  Ovid tips and tricks on OvidSP: http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/Ask/Help/ovid-tips.html

  (See also PubMed for free public access to MEDLINE.)

- **PsycINFO**
  Produced by the American Psychological Association.

  Source: OvidSP
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
  Coverage: Journals: 1800s - present; Books: from the 1600s and 1700s - present
  Updated: Weekly
  Vocabulary: Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms
  Description: The American Psychological Association produces PsycINFO for coverage of the international literature of psychology and related disciplines. PsycINFO contains citations and summaries of journal articles, books and book chapters, dissertations, and technical reports.

  Ovid tips and tricks on OvidSP: http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/Ask/Help/ovid-tips.html

- **Google Scholar for Jeffersonians**
  Produced by Google.

  Source: Google
  Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
  Coverage: Not stated
  Updated: Not stated
  Vocabulary: Keyword
  Description: Google Scholar is a growing database of scholarly literature in all fields. It is problematic to search, since Google does not give specifics about dates covered, bibliographic sources, or currency of material. However, it is an easy starting point that may satisfy entry-level search needs. While Google Scholar is free to all users from the Google site, this link passes users through Jefferson's proxy server, so that Google will then display Jefferson links to subscribed full text, where available, as well as links for direct export into RefWorks.

FREE Resources for Finding Evidence-Based Information

- **OT Seeker - Occupational Therapy Systematic Evaluation of Evidence**
  http://otseeker.com/

  Produced by the Universities of Queensland and Western Sydney.
  Source: University of Queensland and University of Western Sydney
  Access: Free to all users.
  Updated: Monthly
  Vocabulary: Keyword
  Description: OTseeker contains **abstracts of systematic reviews and randomised controlled trials** relevant to occupational therapy. Trials have been critically appraised and rated. The site includes a tutorial on evidence-based practice.

  - **Truncation symbol: ***
  - **Proximity operator: NEAR**
  - Use pull-down menus to target 34 interventions and 16 diagnostic categories.

  Help document: http://otseeker.com/Info/AdvancedSearchHelp.aspx

- **PEDro - Physiotherapy Evidence Database**
  http://www.pedro.org.au/

  Produced by the Centre for Evidence-Based Physiotherapy (CEBP).
  Source: CEBP
  Access: Free to all users.
  Coverage: 1929 - present
  Updated: Monthly
  Vocabulary: Keyword
  Description: PEDro, the Physiotherapy Evidence Database, includes bibliographic details, abstracts, and some full-text articles of **randomized controlled trials, systematic reviews, and clinical practice guidelines** in physiotherapy. All trials on PEDro are independently assessed for quality. Clinical trial quality ratings are used to guide users to trials that are more likely to be valid and to contain sufficient information to guide clinical practice. Access points include keyword, body part, therapy, method, score, and subdiscipline. Intended audience: health care professionals. For consumer-related materials, choose PEDro's link to 'Physiotherapy Choices'.

  - **Truncation symbol can be used both before or after: ***
    (e.g. *edema retrieves edema, lymphedema, etc.)
  - **Wildcard sympol: @**

  Help document: http://www.pedro.org.au/english/search-help/

- **Campbell Collaboration Library of Systematic Reviews--**
  http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/library.php

  Source: Campbell Collaboration
  Access: Free to all users.
  Coverage: 2002 - present
  Updated: Not stated
  Vocabulary: UK Archival Thesaurus (UKAT)
  Description: The Campbell Collaboration is an international research network that prepares and disseminates high quality systematic reviews of social science evidence in three interlinked fields: education, crime and justice, and social welfare.

- **TRIP Database**
  http://www.tripdatabase.com/
  Produced by TRIP Database, Ltd..

  Source: TRIP Database, Ltd.
  Access: Free to all users.
  Coverage: Varies by source, oldest (PubMed) covers 1960s - present
  Updated: Monthly
  Vocabulary: Keyword
  Description: TRIP is a UK-based website that helps answer clinical questions by providing a simultaneous search of over 50 sources of evidence-based information. Free registration allows users to save search strategies and take advantage of other features.

- **PubMed** - free public access via National Library of Medicine
  http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/
  Produced by the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM).
  Source: NLM
  Access: Free to all users.
  Coverage: Comprehensive coverage mid-1950s - present, selected items mid-1860s - present
  Updated: Weekly
  Vocabulary: MeSH: Medical Subject Headings
  Description: PubMed is the National Library of Medicine's own interface for MEDLINE. PubMed includes PREMEDLINE (new citations which don't have their subject headings yet) and OLDMEDLINE (reaching back to the 1940s). This link includes a special filter that allows PubMed's results to show which articles are free on the Internet.

  Try Clinical Queries using Clinical Study Category filters:
  http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/corehtml/query/static/clinical.shtml

  PubMed Tips from Jeffline:
  http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/Ask/Help/pubmed-tips.html

- **ERIC** -- Educational Resources Information Center
  http://www.eric.ed.gov/
  Produced by the U.S. Department of Education.
  Source: U.S. Department of Education
  Access: Free to all users.
  Coverage: 1966 - present
  Updated: Weekly
  Vocabulary: ERIC Thesaurus
  Description: The Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) database provides bibliographic records for journal articles and technical documents in the field of education research and practice, at all levels of instruction. This version of ERIC contains the same data as the version of ERIC available via the OVID interface.

- **Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews** - **Free Access to Abstracts Only**
  http://www.cochrane.org/cochrane-reviews
  Produced by the Cochrane Collaboration**. More Info:**
  http://www.thecochranelibrary.com/view/0/AboutTheCochraneLibrary.html

  Source: Cochrane Collaboration
  Access: Free to all users.
  Coverage: 1991 - present
  Updated: Not stated
  Vocabulary: Keyword
  Description: Provides ABSTRACTS ONLY for regularly-updated systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare prepared by the international Cochrane Collaboration.

- **Bandolier**
  http://www.medicine.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/
  Evidence summaries in health care, with a founding focus on pain research.

Organizing References

- **RefWorks –for continued access to records after graduation…**

  Alumni access to Refworks is now available; however you may also want to create a backup file before graduation using the back-up feature under the References Menu (creates .rwb file extension –Refworks readable only) in case you go to a place that also has Refworks. You can also email support@refworks.com to request your account be transitioned to your new institution.

  If you plan to use a different purchased product after graduation, such as Endnote, you will need to Export your references (under the References Menu) selecting "Bibliographic software" as your export format.
  ---Buy Endnote
  References → Export

  RefWorks tips on JEFFLINE: http://jefferson.libguides.com/citationmanager_RefWorks

Other Bibliographic Options (free):

- **Zotero**
  http://www.zotero.org/

- **Mendeley**
  http://www.mendeley.com