

Occupational Therapy (OT322/670)

Evidence-based Practice Resources

Scott Memorial Library, Thomas Jefferson University

Search terminology:

1. **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 cerebrovascular accident)
2. **Proximity Operators (SAME, WITH, NEAR, ADJ)** – 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 (e.g., **NEAR3**).
3. **Truncation/Wildcard (*, ?, \$)** – use these special characters to identify word variations. For example, use the truncated **rehab*** to find rehabilitation, rehabilitate, rehabilitating, rehabilitates, rehabilitated. The wildcard **?** can help within words (e.g., tumo?r, wom?n).

Note: Each database may require a different method. When in doubt, please refer to the resource’s help section for additional guidance.

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
Produced by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation (AOTF).
Source: AOTF
Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key; Individual subscription information at <http://www.aotf.org/resources/wlibrary/otsearch>.
Coverage: 1910 - present
Updated: Not stated
Vocabulary: OT Thesaurus
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.
 - **Truncation symbol:** \$ (e.g., rehab\$)
 - **Wildcard:** ? (e.g., wom?n)
 - **Proximity operators:** SAME, WITH, NEAR, ADJ (e.g autism NEAR5 participation)**Search Tip:** Use the **Power Search** link to more easily combine terms.
- **CINAHL**: Cumulative Index for Nursing and Allied Health Literature
Source: EBSCO
Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.
Coverage: 1981 - present
Updated: Daily
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. Complete text for some articles and testing instruments are available online.
 - **Truncation symbol in the EBSCO system is an asterisk ***
 - **Wildcard: ? (replaced by a letter), # (with or without an extra letter)**
 - **Proximity operators N (any order) and W (in order): e.g., autism N5 participation**
 - **Consider special interest categories “Occupational Therapy” or “Evidence-Based Practice”**

- [SPORTDiscus](#)

Source: EBSCO

Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.

Coverage: 1800s

Updated: Daily

Vocabulary: keyword

Description: “SPORTDiscus contains more than two million records, including journal and monograph coverage dating back to 1800, plus tens of thousands of dissertations and theses, as well as references to articles in 60 languages. International references are included from journal and magazine articles, books, book chapters, conference proceedings and more.”

- **Truncation symbol in the EBSCO system is an asterisk ***
- **Wildcard: ? (replaced by a letter), # (with or without an extra letter)**
- **Proximity operators N (any order) and W (in order): e.g., autism N5 participation**

- [The Cochrane Library](#)

A resource consisting of six databases that contain different types of-evidence to inform healthcare decision-making, and a seventh database that provides information about the 52 Cochrane Review Groups.

- **Truncation (zero or more characters, e.g., autism*): ***
- **Vocabulary: MeSH (Medical Subject Heading)**
- **Wildcard (single character, e.g., wom?n): ?**

[Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews](#)

Produced by the Cochrane organization.

Source: Wiley

Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.

Coverage: 1991 - present

Updated: Monthly

Vocabulary: Keyword

Description: Includes the full-text of peer-reviewed systematic reviews and protocols of the effects of healthcare interventions. The reviews include two types: completed **systematic reviews, protocols**. “Protocols for Cochrane Reviews are peer reviewed articles that describe the rationale for the review, the objectives, and the methods that will be used to locate, select, and critically appraise studies, and to collect and analyse data from the included studies.”

[Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials \(CENTRAL\):](#)

Produced by the Cochrane organization.

Source: Wiley

Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.

Coverage: Selective coverage back to 1800s

Updated: Monthly

Vocabulary: Keyword, MeSH

Description: The Register contains over 300,000 bibliographic references to 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, EMBASE, other bibliographic databases and sources form the CCTR database-

[Cochrane Methodology Register](#)

Produced by the Cochrane organization.

Source: Wiley

Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.

Coverage: Not stated

Updated: Not updated at this time. Last update was July, 2012

Vocabulary: Keyword, MeSH

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 supported at this time. The last update was April, 2015

Vocabulary: Keyword

Description: DARE provides critical assessments of systematic reviews from a variety of medical journals. DARE was 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 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 supported at this time, last update was April, 2015

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.

- **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 searching, 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.

- 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 use double quotes around the phrase (e.g., “heart attack”)
- For an exact phrase, use brackets, e.g., {heart-attack}
- Use citation searching to follow ideas forward and backward in time
- Truncation (zero or more characters): * (e.g. autis*)
- Wildcard (single character): ? (e.g., wom?n)

- **Ovid**

Ovid uses a single interface to access many different databases, including MEDLINE, PsycINFO and more. Search one at a time and specify when reporting (e.g., Ovid MEDLINE).

- **Truncation** (zero or more characters, e.g., autis*): \$,*
- **Optional Wildcard:** ? (e.g., colo?r):
- **Mandated Wildcard:** # (e.g., wom#n)

Health and Psychosocial Instruments (HaPI)

Source: Ovid

Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.

Coverage: 1985 - present

Updated: Quarterly

Vocabulary: keyword

Description: “Health and Psychosocial Instruments (HaPI) is a database that provides access to information on approximately 15,000 measurement instruments (i.e. questionnaires, interview schedules, checklists, coding schemes, rating scales, etc.) in the fields of health and psychosocial sciences.”

MEDLINE (via Ovid)

Produced by the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM).

Source: Ovid

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.

See also PubMed for free public access to MEDLINE.

Note: accessing PubMed via the Scott Memorial Library homepage will ensure that search results will present with the full-text, blue Jefferson button.

PsycINFO

Produced by the American Psychological Association.

Source: Ovid

Access: Direct access via campus computers. Off-campus access requires Jefferson Campus Key.

Coverage: 1806 - 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.

- **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 with registration.

Updated: Occasionally

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:** *

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 symbol:** @

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: 2003 – present

Updated: Not stated

Vocabulary: Keyword

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.

- **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: Daily
Vocabulary: MeSH: Medical Subject Headings
Description: PubMed is the National Library of Medicine's own interface for MEDLINE. PubMed includes 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/pubmed/clinical>

Searching PubMed Manual:

<http://jdc.jefferson.edu/help/30/>

- **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: Not stated
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 Evidence** - **Free Access to Abstracts Only**
<http://www.cochrane.org/evidence>
Produced by the Cochrane Collaboration.
Description: Free summaries of Cochrane systematic reviews.

Organizing References

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

<https://www.refworks.com/>

Alumni access to Refworks is 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 refworks.support@proquest.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: http://jefferson.libguides.com/citationmanager_RefWorks

Other Bibliographic Options (free):

- **Zotero**
<http://www.zotero.org/>
- **Mendeley**
<http://www.mendeley.com>