



Get up to speed with finding papers for your studies (MSD)

Karine Barker and Alessandra Vetrugno

01

Where to find good quality research information for your assignments

02

Searching academic databases

03

Planning a search and practise standards search techniques

04

Troubleshoot your searches

05

Understanding differences between a literature review and a systematic review

Welcome!

Feedback and questions

Please use the Padlet to note down any questions, comments or feedback you have during the session.





Supports your arguments with **evidence** and **examples**.



Demonstrates the **quality** of resources you have used and your own **knowledge** of the subject.

Why search for good quality research papers?





Journal articles can be used to find some of the latest and most authoritative research on a topic.



You will be making extensive use of academic journal articles throughout your course.



This means you need to know where to find them!

Finding Journal articles



Finding resources: SOLO & Browzine

The screenshot displays the SOLO library website interface. At the top, there are logos for SOLO (HARDY GUILD LIBRARY SERVICE) and the University of Oxford, along with navigation links: NEW SEARCH, BROWSE, MAP SEARCH, HELP, and TAGS. A 'SIGN IN' button is also visible. The main heading reads 'DISCOVER THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD'S WORLD-CLASS LIBRARY RESOURCES'. Below this is a search interface with a 'Search Scope' dropdown set to 'Search Everything'. Two search criteria are entered: 'Any field contains' and 'AND Any field contains'. A dropdown menu is open, listing search filters: All items, Books, Journals (highlighted with a red box), Articles, Images, Audio Visual, Databases, and Scores. To the right of the search area is a 'SIMPLE SEARCH' button. Below the search area are three informational boxes: 'SOLO status' with a bell icon, 'Getting Help' with a speech bubble icon, and 'Useful links' with a list of links. In the 'Useful links' box, the link '> e-Journals A-Z | BrowZine' is highlighted with a red box.

SOLO status

- See the latest information on library opening times
- A wide range of digital services are available with many more ebooks to Keep the University Reading
- Streamlined access to online journals directly from SOLO, from the BrowZine website or Chrome extension

Getting Help

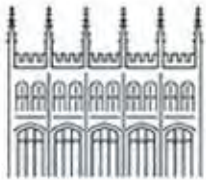
If you have any questions or need help making the most of the extensive electronic resources still available to you then please:

- use our Live Chat service (via the tab on the right of this page)
- contact us via reader.services@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Useful links

- > Bodleian Libraries Home Page
- > Subject & Research Guides
- > Find A Library
- > **e-Journals A-Z | BrowZine**
- > Databases A-Z
- > Special Collections Catalogues
- > Digital Bodleian
- > ORA (Oxford University Research Archive)
- > ORLO (Oxford Reading Lists Online)

ACCESS PROVIDED BY



Bodleian Libraries UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

FIND JOURNAL BY TITLE, SUBJECT, OR ISSN

THE LANCET

BROWSE SUBJECTS

Arts and Humanities

Biological Sciences

Biomedical and Health Sciences

Results

All Results Subjects Journals

The Lancet

The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health


The Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology

The Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology

The Lancet Global Health

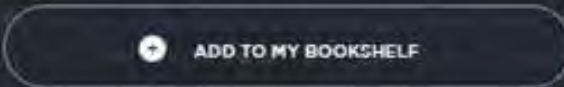
The Lancet Healthy Longevity

BrowZine Library **My Bookshelf** **My Articles**



SJR: 13.103

The Lancet



NEW ARTICLES






[Articles in Press](#)

JOURNAL ISSUES






2022 > Vol 399 Issue 10337 >
2021 Vol 399 Issue 10336

2022
Vol. 399 Issue 10337






COVID-19: the next phase and beyond
p. 1753 - The Lancet

Long-acting injections for HIV prevention among
pp. 1754-1755 - Mudzingwa, Emily Krogstad; Parker, H

Topical imiquimod as first-line treatment for vulv
pp. 1755-1757 - Voss, Feline O; van Beurden, Marc; Jo

- Access issue contents from 2005 onwards
- Access pdf and online content from one click
- Save in your [Articles](#)
- Export citation to your chosen reference tool
- Share a link to article on social media or via email
- Save your favourite journals in your [Bookshelf](#)



BOOKS (OFTEN
CHAPTER LEVEL
INDEXING)



JOURNALS



CONFERENCES



PATENTS



GREY LITERATURE

Bibliographic databases

Databases features

1

Search for any topic, author or publication

2

Employ a wide range of advanced search tools

3

Offer plenty of options to filter, sort, analyse and save results

SOLO SEARCH OXFORD LIBRARIES ONLINE

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

NEW SEARCH BROWSE MAP SEARCH HELP TAGS

Karine Barber

DISCOVER THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD'S WORLD-CLASS LIBRARY RESOURCES

Enter your search here Search Everything ADVANCED SEARCH

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- > **Databases A-Z**

Databases A-Z

Databases A-Z

Several search options

Databases A-Z

Find the best library databases for your research.

The screenshot displays a library database search interface. At the top, there are three dropdown menus: 'All Subjects', 'All Database Types', and 'All Vendors / Providers'. To the right of these is a search bar labeled 'Search for Databases' with a 'Go' button. Below the 'All Subjects' dropdown, a list of subjects is shown, with 'Medical Sciences - Bibliographic Databases (20)' highlighted in blue. The list includes various categories such as 'Materials Science - Dissertations and Theses (2)', 'Mathematics (25)', and 'Medical Sciences (64)'. To the right of the subject list, there are navigation options 'W', 'X', 'Y', 'Z', and '#'. Below the search bar, there are two sections: 'LIVE CHAT (click to open)' and 'Use of Oxford e-resources'. The 'Use of Oxford e-resources' section contains text explaining that Oxford subscribes to a wide range of e-resources and that their use is governed by licence agreements. Below this text, there is a 'Remember:' section with a bulleted list of guidelines.

All Subjects All Database Types All Vendors / Providers Search for Databases Go

All
1666
A
AATA
more
AB In
more
Abbr
more
ABI/INFORM Global
more

Materials Science - Dissertations and Theses (2)
Materials Science - Electronic Books and Monograph Series (5)
Materials Science - Electronic Journals (3)
Materials Science - General and Reference Resources (7)
Materials Science - Internet Gateways (13)
Materials Science - Patents (2)
Materials Science - Standards and Conference Proceedings (5)
Mathematics (25)
Mathematics - Additional Databases (1)
Mathematics - Core Databases (1)
Mathematics - Dissertations and Theses (2)
Mathematics - Electronic Books and Monograph Series (6)
Mathematics - Electronic Journals (3)
Mathematics - General and Reference Resources (1)
Mathematics - Internet Gateways (7)
Mathematics - Standards and Conference Proceedings (3)
Medical Sciences (64)
Medical Sciences - Bibliographic Databases (20)
Medical Sciences - e-Book Collections (a selection) (22)
Medical Sciences - Open Access journals (3)

W X Y Z #

LIVE CHAT (click to open)

Use of Oxford e-resources

Oxford subscribes to a wide range of e-resources, e-journals and e-books to support your research and study. Use of these is governed strictly by licence agreements.

Remember:

- E-resources may be used for study and research but NOT for commercial purposes
- You may NOT share your password or pass content from e-resources to anyone else
- Systematic downloading or viewing of

Different access to Medline Database

MEDLINE (Web of Science)

[more...](#)

MEDLINE (Ovid)

[less...](#)

MEDLINE is the United States National Library of Medicine's (NLM) premier bibliographic database providing information from the following fields; Medicine; Nursing; Dentistry; Veterinary medicine; Allied health; Pre-clinical sciences.

The MEDLINE database is the electronic counterpart of Index Medicus, Index to Dental Literature, and the International Nursing Index.

The Ovid MEDLINE database contains bibliographic citations and author abstracts from more than 4,600 biomedical journals published in the United States and in 70 other countries. The database contains well over 13 million citations dating back to 1950, including more than 130,000 population-related journal citations (unique to the former POPLINE database) that were added to MEDLINE in October of 2002. Although coverage is worldwide, most records are derived from English-language sources or have English abstracts. Abstracts are included for more than 75% of the records.

PubMed  

[more...](#)

Ovid SP 

[more...](#)

Medline on Ovid Search Platform

The screenshot displays the Ovid search platform interface. At the top, the Ovid logo is visible. Below it, a navigation bar includes links for Search, Journals, Books, Multimedia, My Workspace, and What's New. A search history section is present, showing a search for "Searches" with options to save, remove, and combine with other searches. A red box highlights the search options: Basic Search, Find Citation, Search Tools, Search Fields, **Advanced Search**, and Multi-Field Search. Below this, a search bar is shown with the search type set to "Keyword". The search bar contains the text "Medline (Ovid MEDLINE® Epub Ahead of Print, In-Process & Other Non-Indexed Citations, Ovid MEDLINE® Daily and C". The search bar is followed by a "Search" button. Below the search bar, there are several filter options: "Limits" (close), "Include Multimedia", and "Map Term to Subject Heading". The "Limits" section includes checkboxes for "Abstracts", "Review Articles", "English Language", "Humans", "Full Text", and "Latest Update". The "Publication Year" section has two dropdown menus. The "Age Groups" section has a dropdown menu with options for "All Infant (birth to 23 months)" and "All Child (0 to 18 years)".

Ovid®

Search Journals Books Multimedia My Workspace What's New

▼ Search History (0)

Searches

Save Remove Combine with

Search All Save My Workspace View Saved

Basic Search | Find Citation | Search Tools | Search Fields | **Advanced Search** | Multi-Field Search

1 Resource selected | Hide | Change

Medline (Ovid MEDLINE® Epub Ahead of Print, In-Process & Other Non-Indexed Citations, Ovid MEDLINE® Daily and C

Enter keyword or phrase (* or \$ for truncation)

Keyword Author Title Journal

Search

+ Limits (close) Include Multimedia Map Term to Subject Heading

Abstracts English Language Full Text
 Review Articles Humans Latest Update

Publication Year: - -

Age Groups

All Infant (birth to 23 months)
All Child (0 to 18 years)

Ovid Search Modes

Basic Search | Find Citation | Search Tools | Search Fields | **Advanced Search** | Multi-Field Search

Basic Search

- works like internet search engines
- doesn't require search techniques
- Useful as a starting search to scope out literature, keywords, subject headings

Search Fields

- List all searchable indexed fields in a database
- Useful for restricting a keyword search to title and abstract

Advanced Search

- Default search
- Search MeSH
- Search concepts at one time and combine

Require search techniques

```
graph LR; A[Require search techniques] --> B[Search Fields]; A --> C[Advanced Search]
```


Planning a search

Research topic:

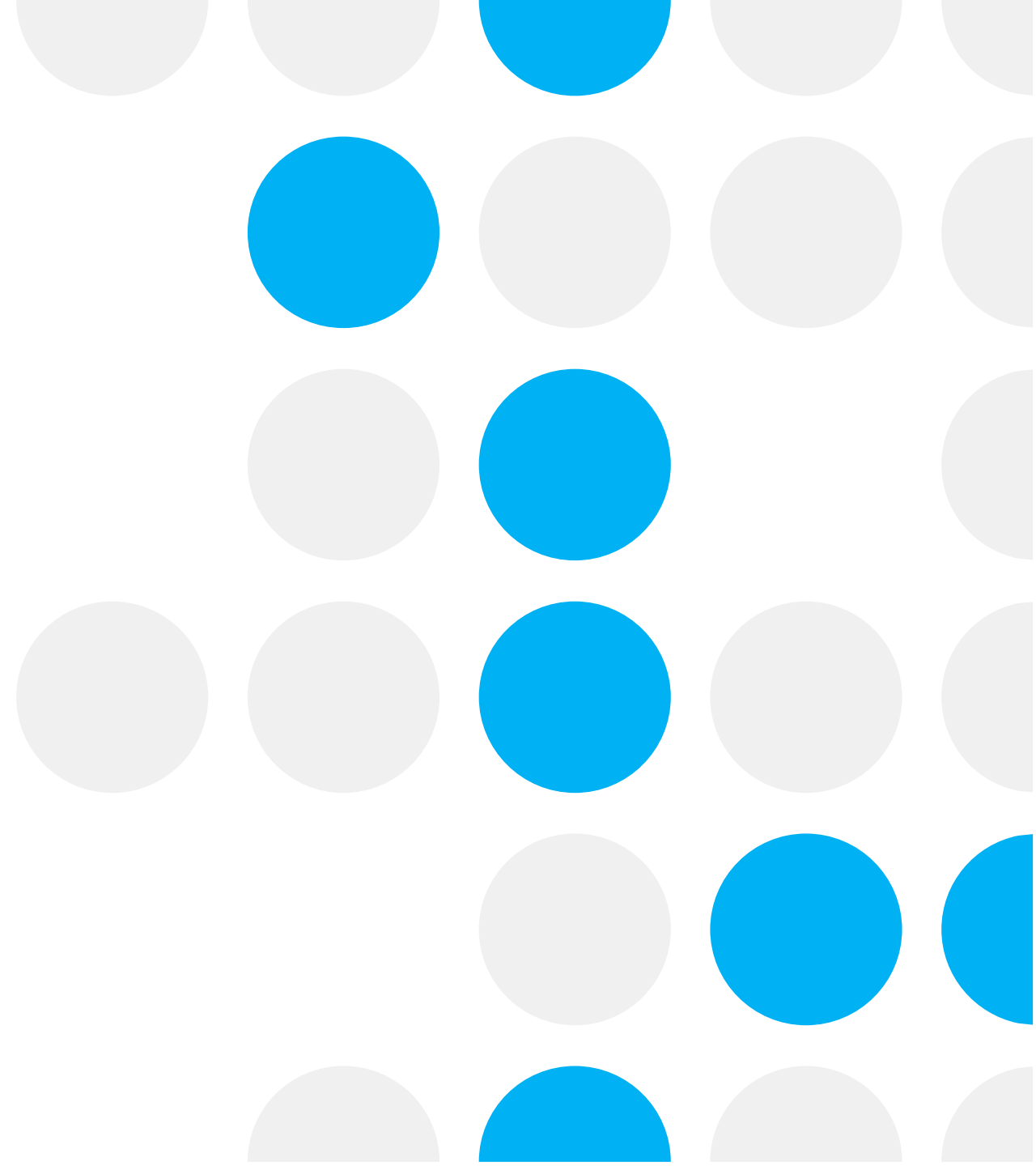
Do vitamin D supplements increase immune response against covid-19?

Breaking down a research topic in concepts

Do vitamin D supplements increase immune response against covid-19?

	Drug/substance	Treatment/effect	disease
Keywords	Vitamin D supplements	Improve immunity	Covid 19
	Alternative term	Alternative term	Alternative term
		Alternative tem	

Activity with padlet – Alternative Terms



Breaking down a research topic in concepts

Do vitamin D supplements increase immune response against covid-19?

	Drug/substance	Treatment/effect	disease
Keywords	Vitamin D supplements	Improve immunity	Covid 19
	Alternative term	Alternative term	Alternative term
		Alternative term	

Phrase searching

Medline on Ovid platform

- "quotation marks" for:
 - phrases and for terms appearing next to each other - "influenza immunisation", "coronary heart disease"
 - **ADJn** for words near to one another within a specified number (n) in any order
 - Surgery adj5 delay
-

Truncation and wildcards

Medline on Ovid Platform

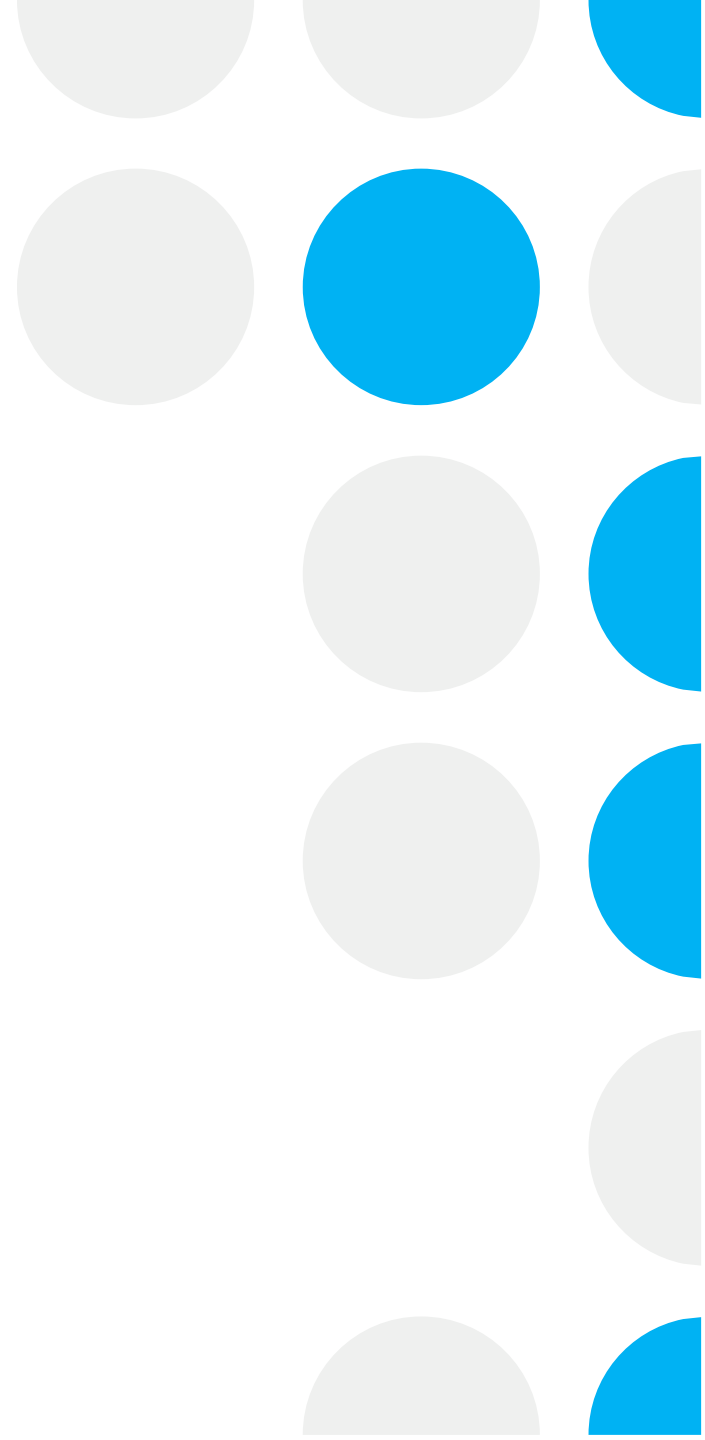
Truncation: asterisk *

Unlimited *accura** for accuracy, accurate

Limited *car*3* for carer, carers, caring but not cardiovascular

Wildcards: question mark ? or #

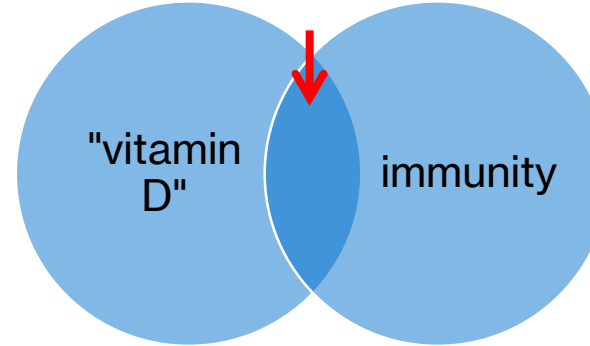
Characteri?ation for different spelling



Boolean commands

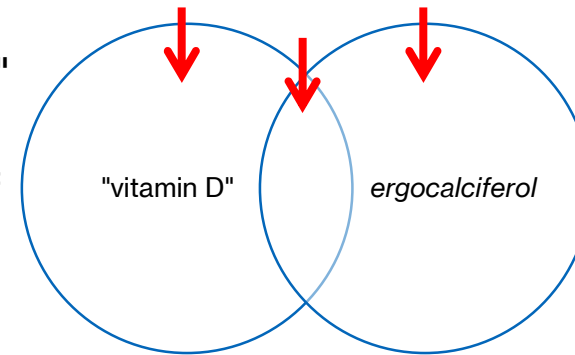
- **AND** – includes

"vitamin D"
AND
immunity



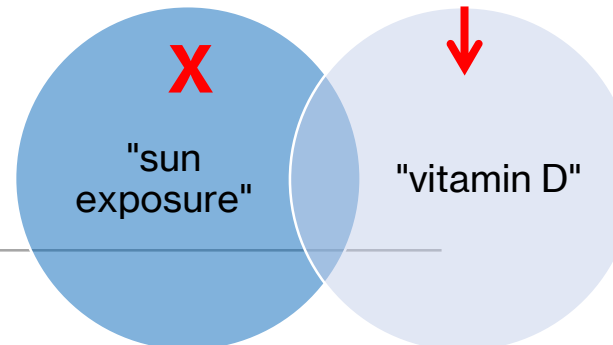
- **OR** – broadens out

"vitamin D"
OR
ergocalciferol



- **NOT** – excludes

"vitamin D"
NOT
"sun exposure"



Boolean operators and parentheses for nesting

- **OR: synonyms and keywords for the same concept:**
- " Coronovirus diseases" **OR** "SARS-COV-2"

AND: different concepts:

- ("Vitamin D2" **OR** "ergocalciferol")

AND

- ("immunity boost*" **OR** "T cell response*")
-

Activity with padlet – Add truncations, wildcards, connectors

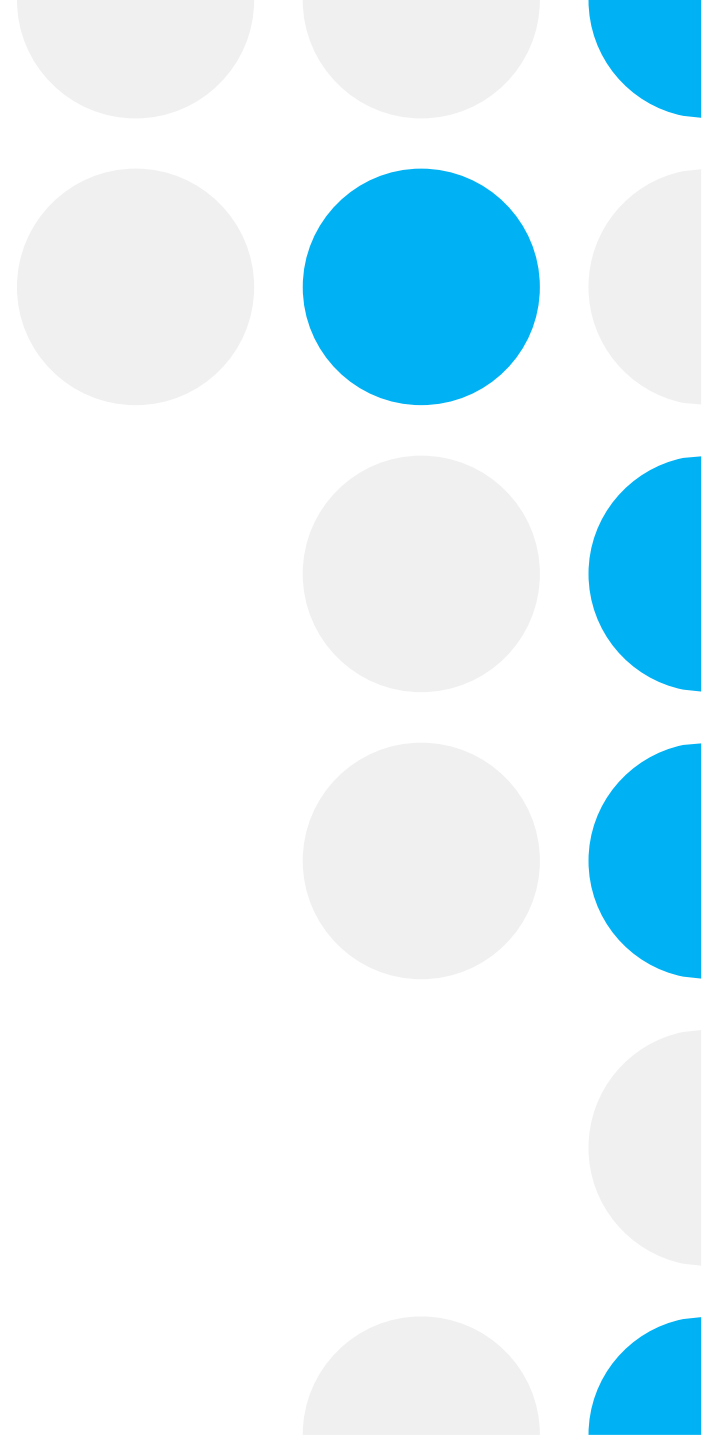


	Drug/substance	Treatment/effect	Disease
Keywords	Vitamin D supplements	improve immunity	Covid-19
	Vitamin D2	Immune response	Coronavirus diseases
	ergocalciferol	Immunity booster	SARS-COV-2
	Vitamin D3		
	cholecalciferol		

	Drug/substance	Treatment/effect	Disease
Keywords	“Vitamin D supplement*”	“ improve ADJ3 immunity”	“Covid-19”
	“Vitamin D2”	“Immune response*”	“Coronavirus diseases”
	ergocalciferol	“Immunity boost*”	“SARS-COV-2”
	“Vitamin D3”		
	cholecalciferol		

Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) Headings

- Controlled vocabulary produced by the US National Library of Medicine
 - Includes main concepts (main headings), related terms, and aspects of a concept (adverse effects, diagnosis, metabolism, therapy) arranged in a hierarchy
 - Used by NLM cataloguers to describe the subject content of journal articles indexed in Medline
-



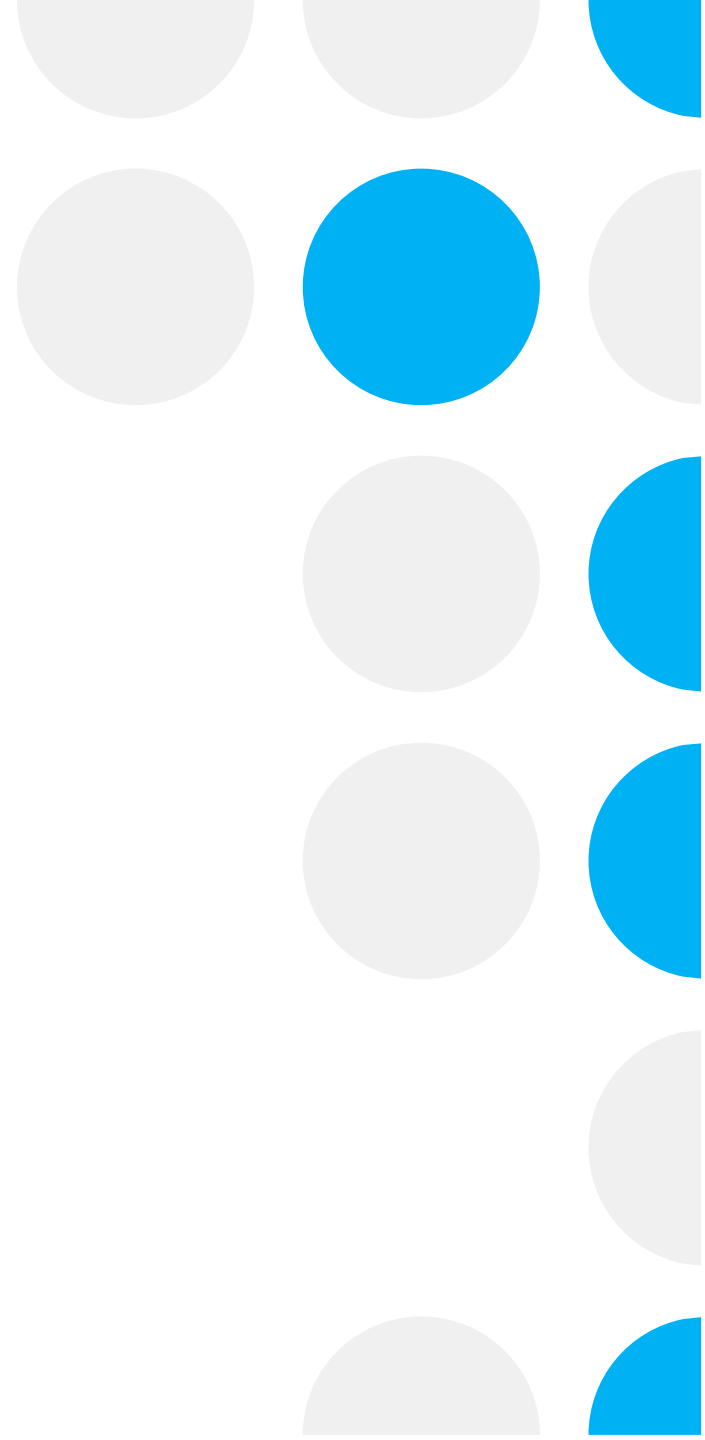
Why search MeSH?

- Retrieve records on a subject
- Include records with a different terminology for the same subject
- Optimise the retrieval of relevant results in combination with a keyword search

Select	Subject Heading
<input type="checkbox"/>	COVID-19
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coronavirus Infections
<input type="checkbox"/>	Humans
<input type="checkbox"/>	SARS-CoV-2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pneumonia, Viral
<input type="checkbox"/>	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
<input type="checkbox"/>	Severe acute respiratory syndrome-related coronavirus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pandemics
<input type="checkbox"/>	Female
<input type="checkbox"/>	Betacoronavirus

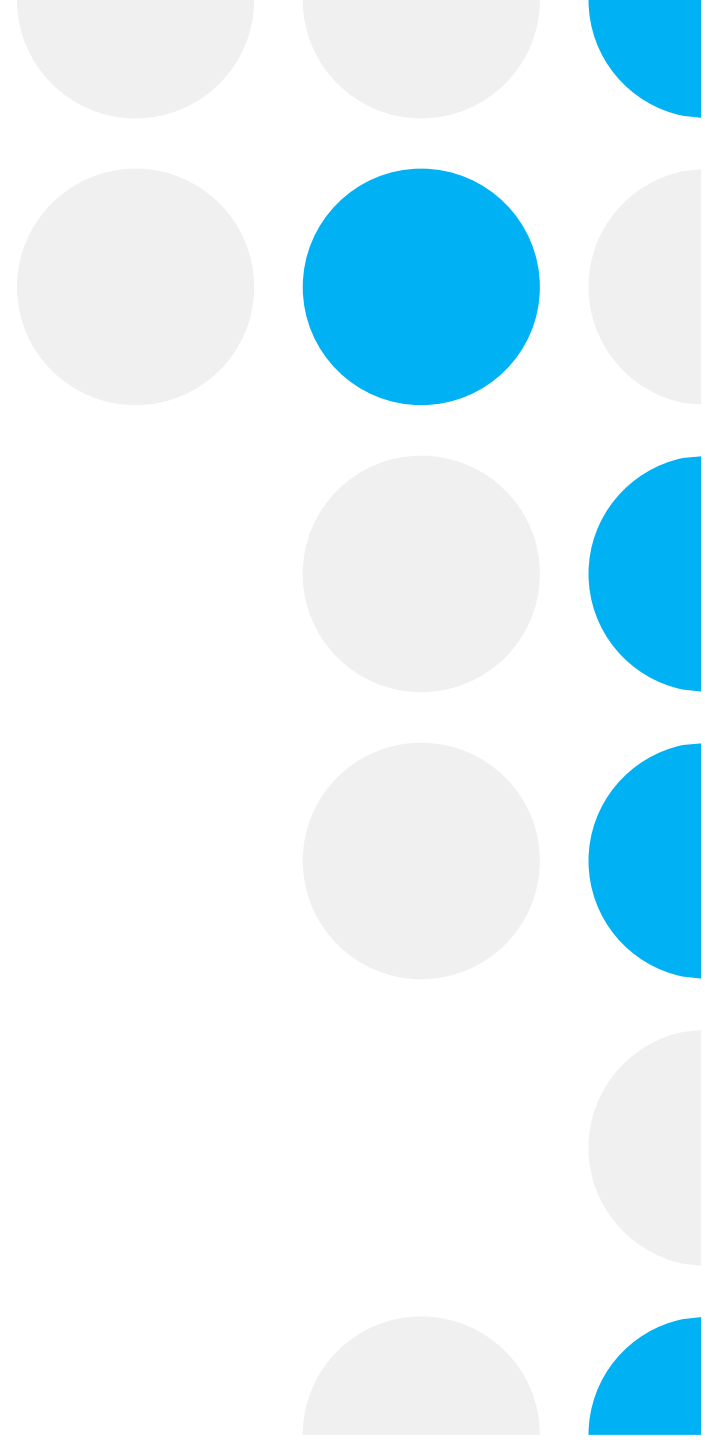
Citation Counts

- Some databases count citations to papers.
 - You can use these citations to find papers which have cited a piece of research you are interested in.
 - Citations can also give you clues as to what might be widely read or particularly important papers in a field.
-



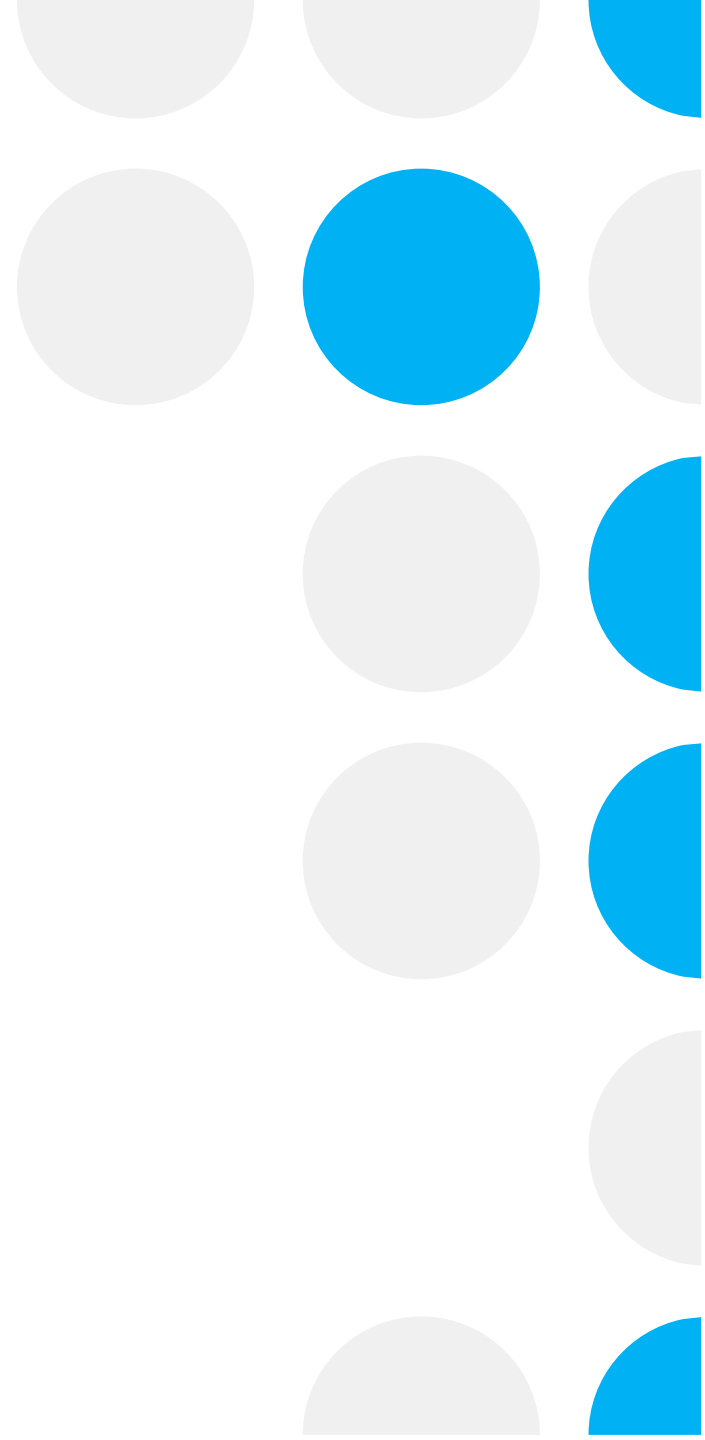
Live Demo: Searching databases

- Searching in basic and Advanced Mode
 - Searching MeSH
 - Applying search strategies
 - Filtering results
 - Looking at citing and cited articles, suggested articles, author's and indexed keywords
 - Saving results and searches
-



Medline Ovid Search

- Each concept are searched separately
 - 2 separate searches, MeSH and keywords, are executed for each concept
 - MeSH and keyword searches for each concept are combined with OR
 - MeSH and keyword results for each concept are combined with AND
-



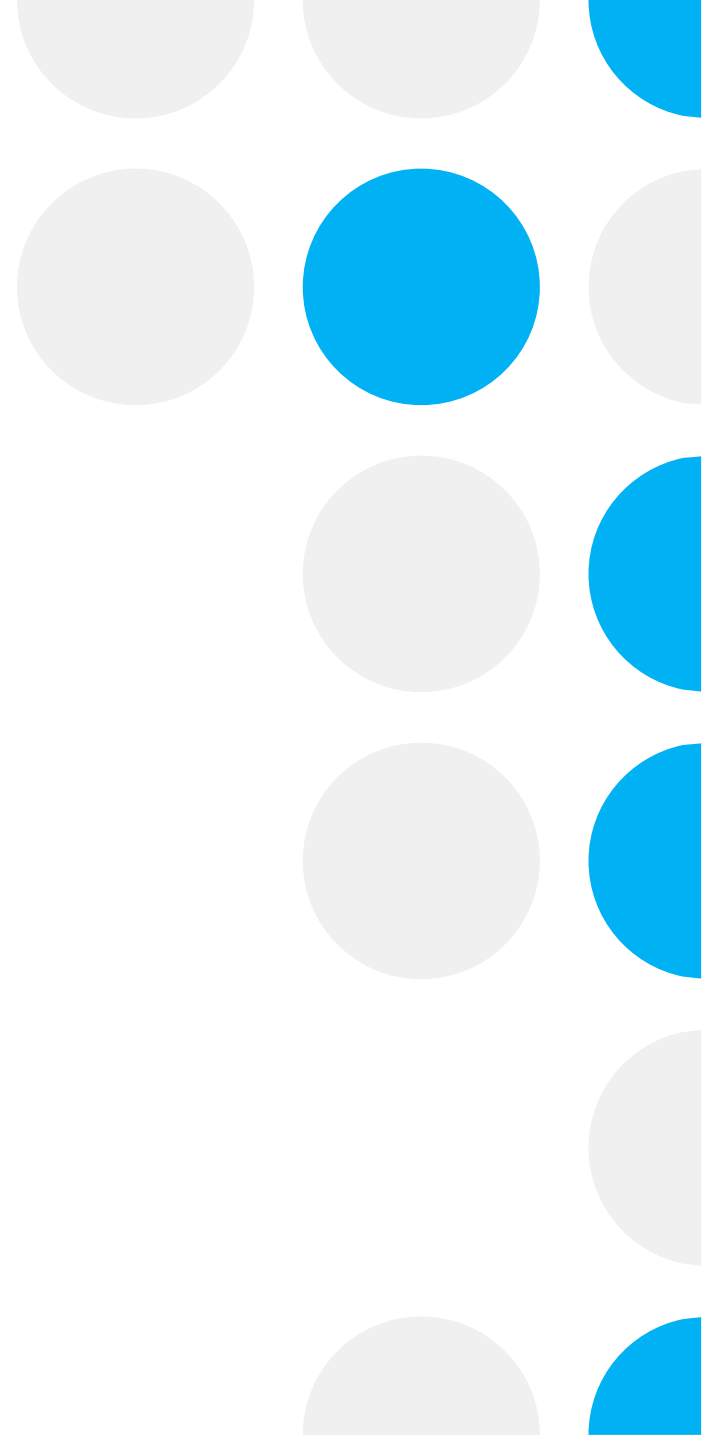
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
<input type="checkbox"/>	Severe acute respiratory syndrome-related coronavirus
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Troubleshoot your searches

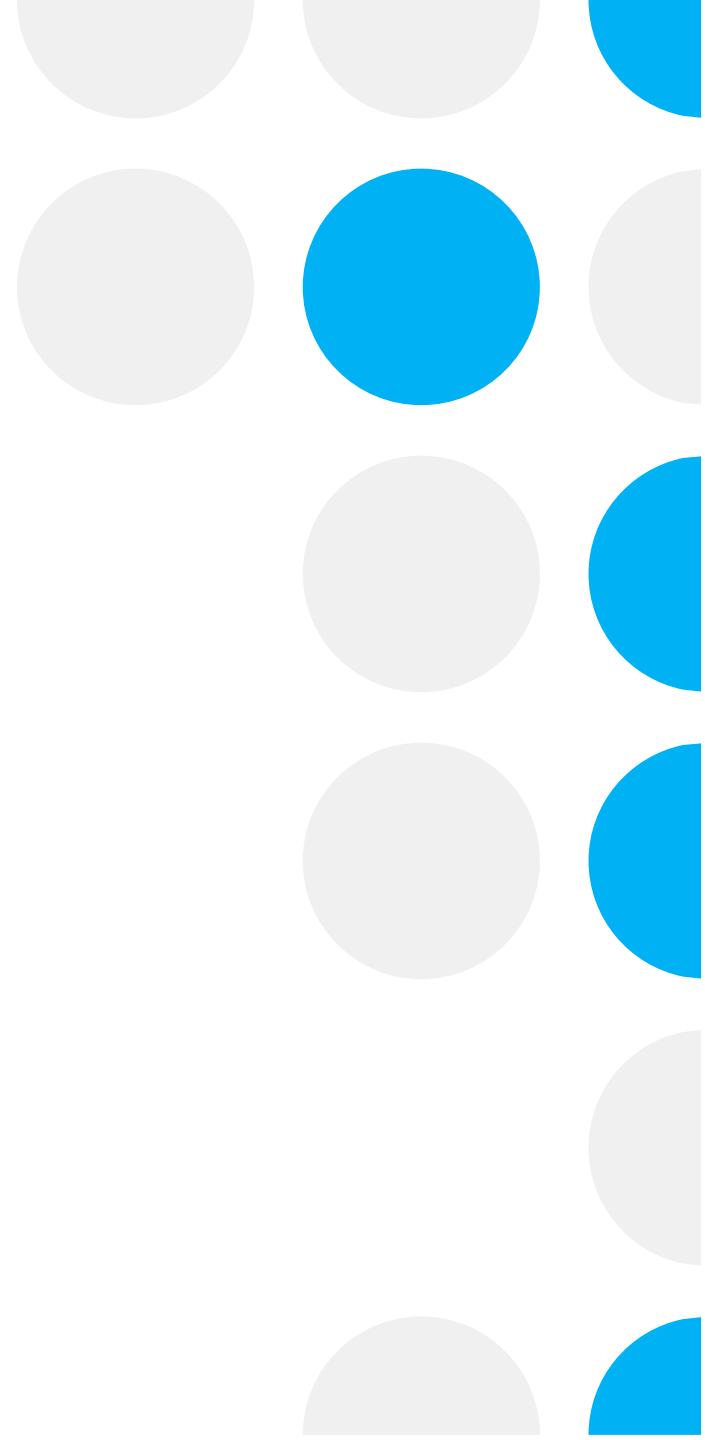
Use the padlet to enter your suggestions



Troubleshoot your searches

Too many results

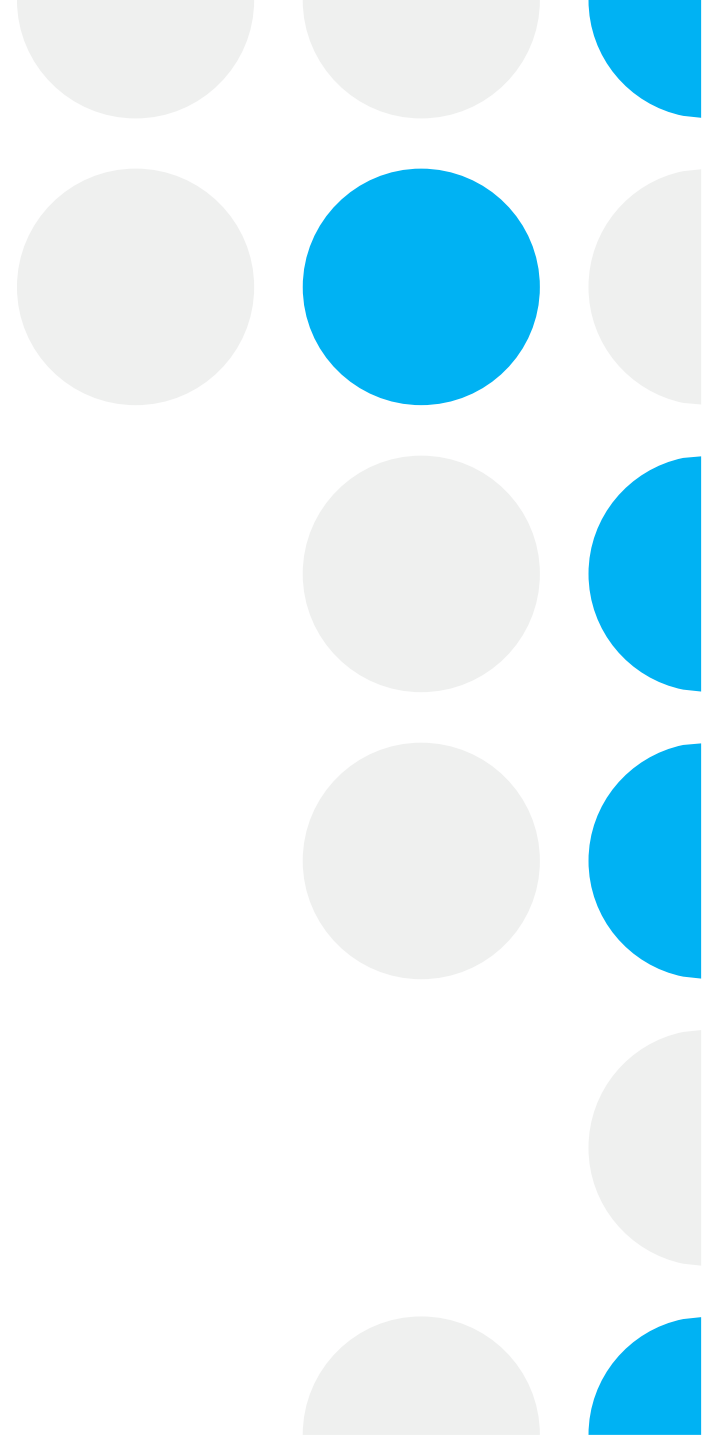
- Use filters
 - Use phrase searching
 - Limit truncation
 - Narrow search to title and abstract
-



Troubleshoot your searches

Too many irrelevant results

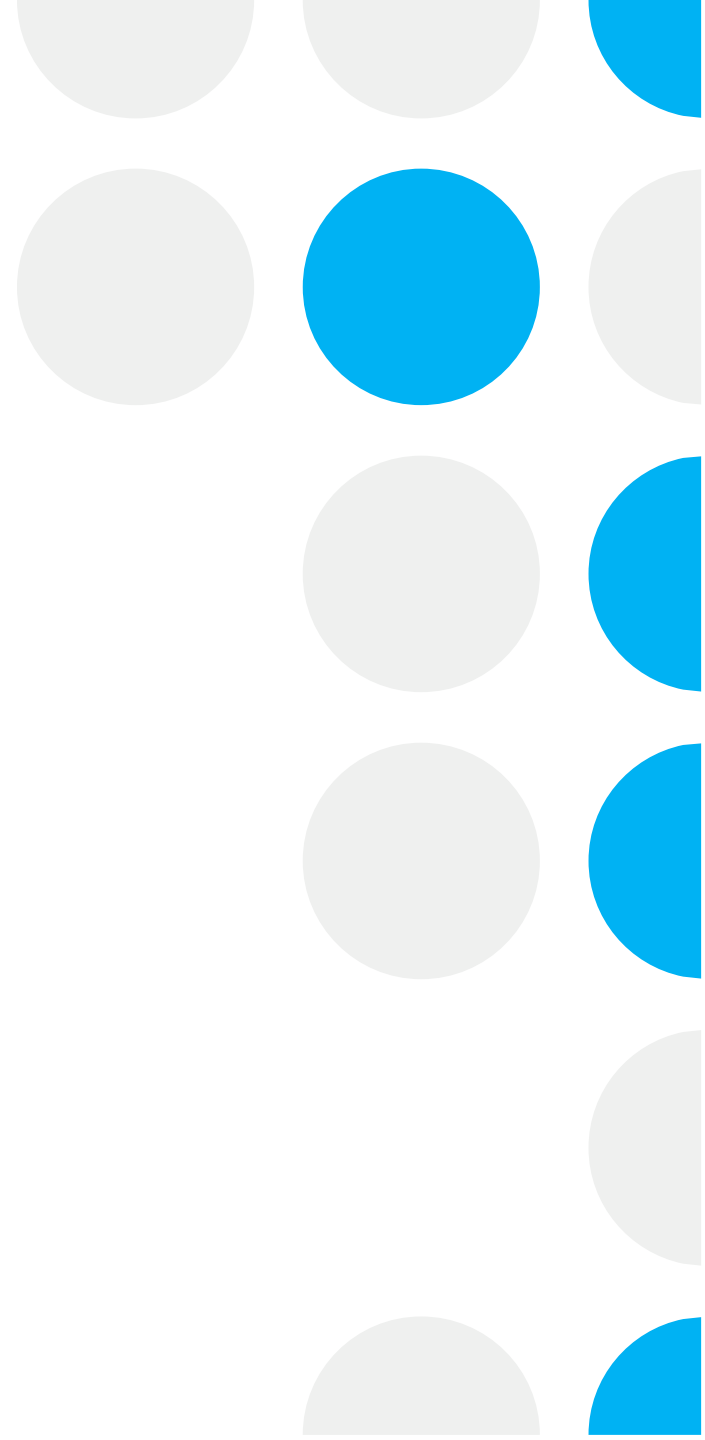
- Use **NOT**
 - Are all variant spellings included?
 - Limit truncation
 - Use proximity command
-



Troubleshoot your searches

No results

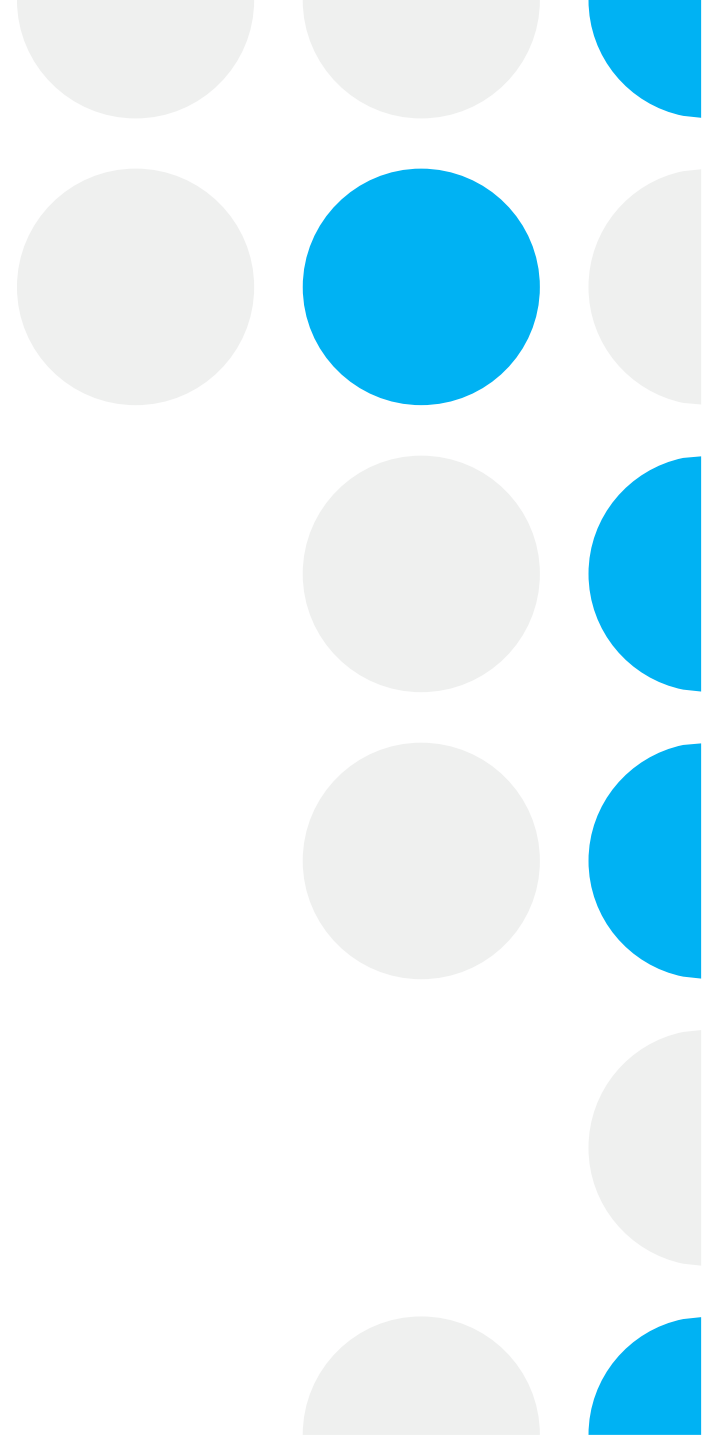
- Begin again with broader terms
 - Check if your search structure is correct
 - Check if truncation and wildcards are correct
-



Systematic Reviews

What are systematic reviews?

Open the padlet



Systematic review

1. Registered protocol
 2. Focused question
 3. Full report of search strategy
 4. Searches across multiple databases
 5. Includes grey literature
 6. Pre-specified inclusion/exclusion criteria
 7. Risk of bias assessment
-

Review (literature, narrative)

1. No protocol
2. General question
3. Brief report of search keywords
4. Searches of 1 or 2 sources
5. Includes known literature
6. No criteria for inclusion/exclusion
7. No quality assessment

Systematic review definition

A systematic review attempts to **identify, appraise and synthesize** **all the empirical evidence** that meets pre-specified eligibility criteria to answer a specific research question. Researchers conducting systematic reviews use **explicit, systematic methods** that are selected with a view aimed at **minimizing bias**, to produce more reliable findings to inform decision making.

<https://www.cochranelibrary.com/about/about-cochrane-reviews>

The background is a dense collage of colorful sticky notes in shades of pink, yellow, light blue, and light green. Each sticky note has a large, bold black question mark printed on it. The notes are scattered and overlapping, creating a sense of many questions. On the right side of the image, there are several decorative white circles of varying sizes, some of which are partially cut off by the edge of the frame. One solid blue circle is also visible on the right side.

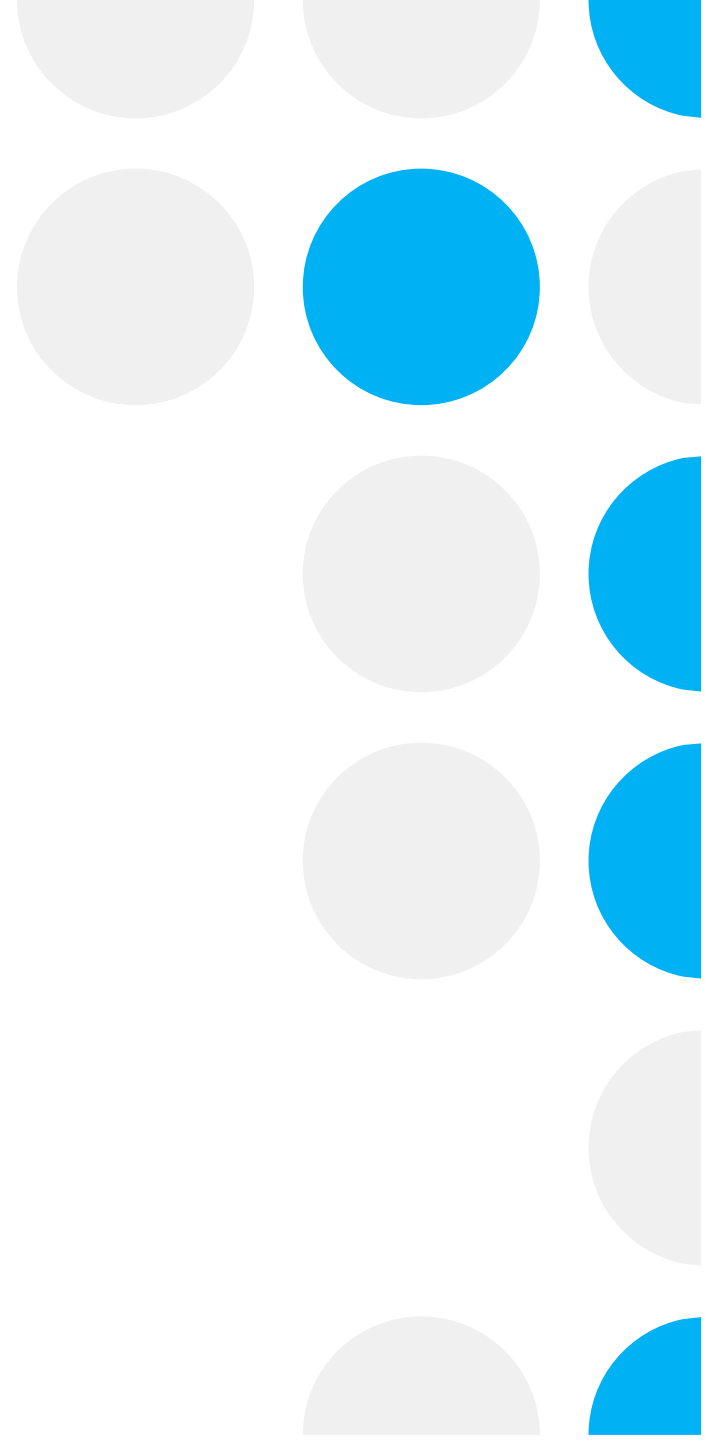
Questions?

Let's check the Padlet

Is there something we don't have in Oxford?

- If you can't access the electronic version :
 - Do we have the print version?
 - Open access version?
- Interlibrary loan

More information is available on the [Bodleian Interlibrary loan webpage](#)



Before you go

For any questions, please email your Subject Librarian:

Karine.barker@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Thank you

