

## **Introduction to literature searching:**

**iSkills workbook for MSD students & researchers**

## **Search tools: [Subscription resources](#)**

### **Books & Journals**

- Search via [SOLO](#) – access with your Oxford SSO
- How to search for books & journals - [SOLO: Top tips](#)

### **Bibliographic databases – Health Care**

For a complete list see [Databases A-Z](#) (Subject: Medical Science) - access with your Oxford SSO

- General health & medicine – use Medline, Embase...
- Multidisciplinary – use Scopus, Web of Science Core Collection...
- Nursing & allied health – use AMED, CINAHL...
- Population health – Global Health...
- Psychology & Psychiatry – use PsycINFO...

For advice on choosing appropriate databases to search for you review, just contact your [outreach or subject librarian](#)

## Search tools: **Freely available resources**

### **Bibliographic databases**

- [Cochrane Library](#) – for systematic reviews and trials
- [Global Index Medicus](#) - for research from LMICs
- [PubMed](#) – for general health & medicine

### **Evidence gateways for health care**

- [Epistemonikos](#)
- [TRIP database](#)

### **Full-text databases**

- [Europe PMC](#) - for general health & medicine
- [Google Scholar](#) – multi-disciplinary
- [LENS.org](#) – multi-disciplinary
- [PubMed Central](#) - for general health & medicine

### **Preprint archives**

- [bioRxiv](#) - biology
- [medRxiv](#) – health sciences

Preprints also included in Europe PMC and Google Scholar – see links above

### **Trial registers**

- [ClinicalTrial.gov](#)
- [WHO ICTRP](#)

Trial protocols also included in Cochrane Library – see links above

## Additional information:

### Searching:

- Medical Sciences: [Research Resources](#) – see training & guides for videos
- [Online tutorials](#) from McMaster University: Health Sciences
- [Searching skills toolkit](#) : finding the evidence. De Brún, Caroline. | Pearce-Smith, Nicola | 2014 - access with your Oxford SSO
- Bramer WM, et.al. [A systematic approach to searching: an efficient and complete method to develop literature searches](#). Journal of the Medical Library Association. 2018;106(4).
- [Polyglot](#) via Systematic Review Accelerator – a tool for translating search strategies between databases

### Managing your references

- [Managing your References LibGuide](#) – links to useful information and training materials
- [Cite Them Right](#). (2018). Palgrave Macmillan (Firm) - access with your Oxford SSO
- [SRToolbox](#) for software tools to support the conduct of systematic reviews

### Writing up your search

- Rethlefsen M. et. al. [PRISMA-S: an extension to the PRISMA Statement for Reporting Literature Searches in Systematic Reviews](#). Syst Rev. 2021;10(1):39.
- [CRD's guidance for undertaking reviews in health care](#) – Appendix 2 & 3