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7 Steps to an Effective PubMed/Medline Search and How to Find Primary Research Articles

- 1. Access PubMed via the Library's web site in order to have access to the full text of the journals the Library subscribes to.
- 2. Break your search into component concepts and enter terms for each concept separately so that you can take advantage of the auto-suggest terms feature
- 3. Use Advanced search to combine results
- 4. Change Display Setting to "Abstract", and apply
- 5. Review abstracts and send relevant citations to Clipboard
- 6. For the most relevant citations, click on Related Articles and send to Clipboard additional relevant citations; repeat till most relevant citations are identified
- 7. If necessary, further refine your search using the filters on the right and the left of the results page. Filters include article type, language, publication dates.

Your clipboard should now contain the list of citations most relevant to you query – you can now download articles with direct access, and send to the Interlibrary Loan Department of either Library Branch the citations not directly available that you need.

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To pull up a specific article so that you can check related articles click on single citation matcher

Enter basic information for identifying article such as author and first page of article and the click on search to pull up the articles citation – you can now click on see all under Relater Articles in PubMed on the right side of the page

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To search for research articles with a specific clinical research focus

To search for primary research articles go to the PubMed home page. Click on Clinical Queries – the 4th option in the PubMed Tools (the middle of 3 columns). Enter your search terms and click on the search box. Now click on See All and follow steps 3 to 5 above. This page automatically filters a PubMed search for research articles buy clinical study category and scope, systematic review and medical genetics (see below).

