Nursing Searching Databases & Giving Credit

Articles should be
  • published within the past 5 years
  • from a nursing journal (or nurse practitioner OK)
  • published in the U.S. or U.K.
  • peer reviewed

Best Bets for Nursing Content

EBSCO
  • CINAHL Plus with Full Text
  • Nursing Reference Center
  • Nursing & Allied Health Database
  • Health Management Database
  • Research Library: Health & Medicine

Proquest
  • Nursing & Allied Health Database
  • Health Management Database
  • Research Library: Health & Medicine

Gale
  • Nursing & Allied Health Collection

Web
  • MEDLINE

To get to the databases, go to the Learning Commons home page https://guides.cmcc.edu/LearningCommons and select A-Z Databases. https://guides.cmcc.edu/az.php? You can limit to just the nursing databases from here.

Searching individual databases gives you more search options.
Use your student ID number and last name as your login

CINAHL Plus full text (EBSCO database)
  • You land on the advanced search screen. Use the limiters on this page before you add your search terms
  • Limit to Peer Reviewed
  • Published Date fill in for the last five years
  • Geographic Subset – this is where the journal is published, pick U.S. and/or U.K – clarify with your Nursing Professors
  • Journal Subset – pick Nursing – this limits to Nursing Journals (Core Nursing journals are a subset of the Nursing Journals)
  • If your Professor requires your author to be a nurse, select First Author is a Nurse or Any Author is a Nurse
  • CINAHL is the only database that allows you to search specifically for nurses as authors
  • You could select language is English, yet if you’ve already picked the U.S. as your Geographic Subset, then your article should be in English
  • The Evidence Based Practice limiter will be helpful for some assignments as well
  • The drop down box at the top (next to the search boxes) has a default set to search the abstract, subject heading, and title if you don’t switch it to search something else

Nursing & Allied Health Database (Proquest database)
Works somewhat the same, except you can’t search on Nursing Journals as easily, and you can’t limit to Nurses as authors. What you can do:
  • In Proquest pick PUB Publication and add nurs* the asterisk is a wild card that adds alternate endings to your search like nurse nursing nurses
**Boolean Operators**  AND OR NOT – Geeky Library speak for combining words

**AND** use this between words to narrow or focus a search.
- Polypharmacy AND elderly retrieves results that have both the word polypharmacy and the word elderly

**OR** use this when including synonyms (or like concepts)
- Elderly OR Aged
- aspirin or ibuprofen or NSAIDS

**NOT** use this to exclude results
- ticks AND Lyme disease NOT dogs

**Keyword vs. Subject & Specialized Subjects**

The default searches in the EBSCO and Proquest databases search multiple fields, these are the broadest kinds of searches. The default search will give you more results, but some may be off topic. This is a broad search, it will give you more results, but some may be off topic
If you have too many results, or results that are not exactly what you wanted, pick **SU Subject** from the drop down box

**MeSH** (Medical Subject Headings) – used in PubMed
**CINAHL** headings are often used in nursing databases
CINAHL/MeSH headings reflect the vocabulary used by nurses and other health professionals – searching by subject is like a topic search

**ILL – Interlibrary Loan** -Library staff can order articles that are not full text. Give yourself several days advance time for this. Fill out the request form in the database. Don’t forget to add your student ID number and email. More than likely, your article will be emailed to you as an attachment.

**NoodleTools** – this is a resource for managing your references. The CMCC login and password will be given to you, then you create your own personal login that you’ll use most of the time to get into NoodleTools. You will have to ‘revalidate’ every so often with the CMCC login and password so save it somewhere.

**Adjacency Searching** – finding terms near each other – some databases are set up to do this automatically, some are not

**CINAHL Plus with Full Text**
Right now, this database automatically searches the words within 5 words of each other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Query</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elderly polypharmacy</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elderly N5 polypharmacy</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>polypharmacy and elderly</td>
<td>1,005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Nursing & Allied Health Database** Proquest automatically puts an AND between terms.
If you want play with adjacency searching in Proquest, the near search has a slash and the default search (anywhere except full text) does not automatically search within 5 words of each other.

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<tr>
<th>Query</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elderly polypharmacy</td>
<td>457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elderly n/5 polypharmacy</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elderly and polypharmacy</td>
<td>457</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>