Finding evidence-based clinical information

Access
Find links to these resources at the Library's list of databases. Off-site access requires an OpenAthens login (see the notes accompanying each resource's link at the website, and Fact Sheet 13: Remote access for more detail).

Part 1. Drug-related queries
Use the following resources:
- Micromedex (Drugdex & Poisindex)
- MIMS Online
- Australian Medicines Handbook
- Australian Medicines Handbook Children's Dosing Companion
- Therapeutic Guidelines
- RCH Paediatric Pharmacopoeia
- RCH Paediatric Injectable Guidelines
- Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook
- RWH Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide
- AusDI
- Lexicomp
- Stockleys Drug Interactions
- Natural Medicines
- TOXINZ Poisons Information
- Toxnet

Part 2. Other clinical queries

OvidMD
- Searches books, journals, patient information, drugs, guidelines and UpToDate (subscription required to view Full Text)
- Off-site access is via Athens
- Automatically expands queries with synonyms and considers all word variants – singular, plural, past tense – and prioritises the most important words
- No need to use: truncation/wildcard (*)
- Does not support Boolean operators AND, OR, NOT
- Does not support parentheses ( )
- Use quotes for “exact phrase”

BMJ Best Practice
- Off-site access is via Athens.
- Use the Search BMJ Best Practice box or Show conditions.
- Each topic includes: Highlights, Basics, Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment, Follow Up and Resources.
- Some Treatment sections include an Evidence subsection with links to Clinical Evidence.
- Automatically expands queries with synonyms and considers all word variants.
- No need to use truncation/wildcard (*).
- Search terms automatically connected by AND.
- Supports Boolean AND, OR, NOT (must be in caps).
- Does not support parentheses ( ).
- Use quotes for “exact phrase”.
- Get the mobile version:
  1. Go to BMJ Best Practice (while on-site at RCH)
  2. Select My BMJ Best Practice and Register for a personal account
  3. Log out of your account after registration and log in again (this activates remote roaming)
  4. Download the app on your device from the Apple Store or Google Play
  5. Log in with your My BMJ Best Practice username and password.

Recommendations
1. Start broad, for example: fever
2. Refine your query, for example: fever treatment
3. Be specific, for example: Is acetaminophen superior to ibuprofen in the treatment of children with fever?
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ClinicalKey
- Searches books, journals, the Clinics of North America, patient education, drugs, multimedia and guidelines
- Off-site access is via Athens
- Enter a natural language search term into any Search field
- Does not support Boolean operators AND, OR, NOT
- Does not support truncation/wildcard (*)
- Does not support parentheses ()
- Use quotes for “exact phrase”
- Register/Login to use Presentation Maker and to create a Reading List
- Content type ‘Journals’ denotes available in Full Text (content type ‘MEDLINE’ is indexed in Medline but is not Full Text).

The Cochrane Library
- Must search both keywords and thesaurus (MeSH).
- Use asterisk (*) for truncation.
- Use Advanced Search for keyword searching, and Medical Terms (MeSH) for thesaurus searching.
- See Fact Sheet no.5: The Cochrane Library for search tips

SUMSearch 2
This free database searches the National Guideline Clearinghouse (USA), DARE (Other Reviews in The Cochrane Library), and PubMed.
- Supports parentheses ()
- Supports keyword and MeSH (thesaurus) searching
- Search terms automatically connected by AND
- Supports OR but not NOT
- No truncation/wildcard
- No phrase searching
- Does not automatically find synonyms or word variants

Ovid Medline
Applying the appropriate clinical queries in Ovid is an effective way to limit search results.

Limit to Clinical Queries
1. Perform a search.
2. Select Limits.
3. Select Additional Limits.
4. Select the appropriate query from the Clinical Queries list.

Help
- Sign up for Library Training
- Contact us: call x55107, or email poh.chua@rch.org.au