

Step-by-Step Searching in CINAHL



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This help sheet will walk you through a sample search in CINAHL.

For detailed information, consult the **Using CINAHL** help sheet

(http://www.utoledo.edu/library/mulford/pdf/Using_CINAHL_REVISED.pdf) or ask a librarian.


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Access

- Access CINAHL through the UT Libraries website: <http://www.utoledo.edu/library>
- You can find the link to CINAHL in the **Research Databases by Name** or **Subject** pages under the **Quick Links** menu on the left side of the page


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Starting the search

- **Sample topic:** treating hypertension in elderly patients with diabetes
- On CINAHL'S Advanced Search page, type in **hypertension** in the first box
- Make sure Suggest Subject Terms is checked
- Click the  button

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Using Subheadings and Combining Search Terms

- From the resulting list of subject headings, check the box next to **Hypertension**
- Check the boxes next to Hypertension, **Explode** and **Major Concept** (Explode will include narrower ways to describe hypertension and Major Concept will limit our search to citations that have hypertension as the main focus)
- Under the **Subheadings** column on the right side of the screen, check off Diet Therapy/DH Drug Therapy/DT Prevention And Control/PC and Therapy/TH
- Toward the bottom of the screen, click [Browse Additional Terms](#)
- In the box, delete hypertension and enter **diabetes** and click **Browse**
- From the resulting list of subject headings, check the box next to **Diabetes Mellitus** and the **Explode** option
- In the far right column in the box, choose AND under **Combine selections with:**
- Click the  button to view results





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Limits

- To narrow and refine your search results, under **Refine your Results** on the left side of the screen, click **Show More** to see all available limits
- Under **Age Groups**, select **Aged: 65+ years** to limit to articles focusing on the elderly
- Choose other limits as necessary
- After selecting your limits, click **Search**

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Full-text

- For each article reference, you will see specific links for connecting to the full-text
- You may see  PDF Full Text or  HTML Full Text links, or links directly from the journal publisher such as  [JAMA Full Text](#)
- If you do not see any of the above links, always be sure to click  to look up the article in both our online and print journal collections
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