

Finding Articles in The Cochrane Library (Wiley InterScience Version)

The screenshot shows the Wiley InterScience Cochrane Library interface. At the top, there are navigation links: Home, About Cochrane, Access to Cochrane, For Authors, Help, and Save Title to My Profile. The main header features the Cochrane Library logo and the tagline 'Evidence for healthcare decision-making'. Below the header, there is a 'BROWSE' section with links for Cochrane Reviews (By Topic, New Reviews, Updated Reviews, A-Z, By Review Group) and Other Resources (Other Reviews, Clinical Trials, Methods Studies, Technology Assessments, Economic Evaluations). A 'SEARCH' box is present with a search term field, a dropdown menu set to 'Title, Abstract or Keywords', and a 'Go' button. Below the search box are links for 'More Info', 'Advanced Search', 'MeSH Search', 'Search History', and 'Saved Searches'. The 'Search Results' section shows '24' results for the query 'pressure ulcers'. It includes a 'Show Results in:' section with counts for various database types: Cochrane Reviews (24), Other Reviews (10), Clinical Trials (667), Methods Studies (2), Technology Assessments (18), Economic Evaluations (77), and Cochrane Groups (0). There are also links for 'Export All Results', 'Save Search', and 'Edit Search'. The 'Record Information' section for the first result shows the title 'Support surfaces for pressure ulcer prevention', authors 'N Cullum, E McInnes, SEM Bell-Syer, R Legood', and year '2004'. It includes 'Record' and 'Review' buttons. At the bottom right of the record information, there are options to 'Restrict to: Reviews | Protocols' and 'Sort by: Record Title | Match % | Year'.

- ❑ The Cochrane Library is comprised of a number of databases. When you perform a basic search, all of the Cochrane databases are searched at the same time.
- ❑ **The two databases you will probably want to focus on are the full text Cochrane Reviews (The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews or CDSR) and Other Reviews.**
- ❑ Cochrane also allows you to browse articles by database or, through Advanced Search, allows you to specify the databases you wish to search or combine search fields.
- ❑ **The only FULL TEXT database is The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR or Cochrane Reviews). The Other Reviews Database contains structured abstracts.**
- ❑ **The Cochrane Reviews database provides full text reviews of the effectiveness of interventions for specific diseases.** They are available in PDF and html versions.
- ❑ **Other Reviews (Database of Abstracts of Reviews), contains summaries of articles published in medical journals.** These reviews were not written by the Cochrane reviewers. To find the original full text article, copy the title of the journal that the article was published in and search for it using the Gold Rush Journal Locator (on the library web page under “Articles & Information”). The full text of the article may be in one of the Regis Libraries databases.

SEARCHING

- ❑ Use **AND** to combine two different concepts *lung cancer AND smoking*
- ❑ Use **OR** to find either one word or another word that is similar *cancer OR neoplasms*
- ❑ Use **NOT** to eliminate a word or phrase *nursing NOT book*
- ❑ The Wiley version of the Cochrane Library will automatically search for plurals
drug will bring up *drug* or *drugs*
- ❑ The wildcard or truncation symbol is an asterisk (*). It can be used to search for variants of the root of a word and can also be used for variations on letters within a word and* will bring up aid, aided, aiding *hyp*tension* will match to *hypotension* or *hypertension*.
- ❑ Use lowercase (or uppercase) only. Don't mix cases unless you wish to search a word such as **pH**.
- ❑ **To search for a phrase** (more than one word in a certain order), there are several options:
 - Use quotation marks around the phrase *"breast cancer"* for the exact phrase
 - Use NEXT between the words *estrogen NEXT therapy* to find phrases that also contain variant spellings of words – estrogen therapy or oestrogen therapies
 - Use NEAR/ with the number of words that can be between the two words.
breast NEAR/3 cancer would find breast cancer as well as cancer of the breast. It will search for the terms within three words of each other

SEARCH HISTORY – to build complex search statements

- ❑ Click the "Search History" link. Combine search statements by listing the search statement numbers and combining them with Boolean Operators (AND, OR, NOT). To group concepts together, use parentheses (*#3 OR #4 OR #5*) **AND** (*#1 NOT #6*)
- ❑ To display the results of your search, scroll down and click the underlined link after the search statement number.

MeSH HEADINGS (MEDICAL SUBJECT HEADINGS)

- ❑ To search by subject (Indexing) terms from the National Library of Medicine's Medical Subject Headings list, click the MeSH link. This will search only subject terms assigned by indexers rather than the keywords that the computer finds in the title, abstract, and other fields of the journal articles. **Not all documents have been assigned MeSH Indexing terms so a MeSH search is not comprehensive.**
- ❑ After entering your search term, click the Thesaurus button. Scroll down and click the appropriate MeSH descriptor, click the "Search this term only" box, and click "Go" (to the right of Qualifiers).
- ❑ After entering your first MeSH heading, click the "Search History" link to continue your search with additional MeSH headings. Combine them using the techniques described in SEARCH HISTORY (above).

ADVANCED SEARCH FEATURE

- ❑ To combine terms in different fields, click on Advanced Search.
- ❑ The pull down menu lets you select fields to search including All text, Record title, Author, Abstract, Keywords, Tables, Publication, Source, and DOI.
- ❑ The Advanced Search feature allows you to limit your search to specific Cochrane databases.

TO DISPLAY AND PRINT SEARCH RESULTS

- ❑ The search results can be displayed in PDF or html format. The first page of html results are displayed automatically. Click the "next" link to go to the next page of the document. To print the html version, highlight the text, right click on it and select "print".
- ❑ It is easier to print the PDF file. To view the PDF file, click the link on the left side of the screen. Once you open the PDF file, use an icon on the gray bar above the document to print, save (to the computer or disk), or e-mail the document.

THE COCHRANE LIBRARY DATABASES

Cochrane Reviews (The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, CDSR)

Cochrane Reviews are full text articles reviewing the effects of healthcare. The reviews are highly structured and systematic, with evidence included or excluded on the basis of explicit quality criteria, to minimize bias.

Data are often combined statistically (with meta-analysis) to increase the power of the findings of numerous studies, each too small to produce reliable results individually.

Other Reviews(The Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness - DARE)

DARE includes structured abstracts of systematic reviews from around the world, which have been critically appraised by reviewers at the NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination at the University of York, England.

DARE also contains references to other reviews which may be useful for background information.

Clinical Trials (The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials)

Clinical trials is a bibliography of controlled trials identified by contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration and others, as part of an international effort to hand search the world's journals and create an unbiased source of data for systematic reviews. It includes reports published in conference proceedings and in many other sources not currently listed in MEDLINE or other bibliographic databases.

Method Studies (The Cochrane Database of Methodology Reviews)

Methodology Reviews includes the full text of systematic reviews of empirical methodological studies prepared by The Cochrane Empirical Methodological Studies Methods Group.

Economic Evaluations (The NHS Economic Evaluation Database)

A register of published economic evaluations of health care interventions. Economic evaluation records include a structured summary and a qualitative assessment together with details of any practical implications for the NHS.

Technology Assessments (Health Technology Assessment Database)

Contains information on healthcare technology assessments.

WHAT IS THE COCHRANE LIBRARY?

The Cochrane Library is a collection of evidence-based medicine databases providing a source of reliable evidence about the effects of health care.

No one can keep up to date with the relevant evidence in their field of interest. The major bibliographic databases cover less than half the world's literature and are biased towards English language publications. Of the evidence available in the major databases, only a fraction can be found by the average searcher. Textbooks, editorials and reviews which have not been prepared systematically may be unreliable. Much evidence is unpublished, but unpublished evidence may be important. More easily accessible research reports tend to exaggerate the benefits of interventions.

The Cochrane Library solves many of these problems. Published on a quarterly basis and made available both on CD-ROM and the Internet *it is the best single source of reliable evidence about the effects of health care.*

The Cochrane Library consists of a regularly updated collection of evidence-based medicine databases, including The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews - evidence based systematic reviews prepared by the Cochrane Collaboration which provide high quality information to people providing and receiving care and those responsible for research, teaching, funding and administration at all levels.

The Cochrane Collaboration is an international non-profit and independent organization, dedicated to making up-to-date, accurate information about the effects of healthcare readily available worldwide. It produces and disseminates systematic reviews of healthcare interventions and promotes the search for evidence in the form of clinical trials and other studies of interventions. The Cochrane Collaboration was founded in 1993 and named for the British epidemiologist, Archie Cochrane.

Those who prepare the reviews are mostly health care professionals who volunteer to work in one of the many Collaborative Review Groups, with editorial teams overseeing the preparation and maintenance of the reviews, as well as application of the rigorous quality standards for which Cochrane Reviews have become known.

The activities of the Collaboration are directed by an elected Steering Group and are supported by staff in Cochrane Entities (Centres, Review Groups, Methods Groups, Fields/Networks) around the world.

From the Cochrane Collaborative

