



National Library of Medicine report for EAHIL

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Tools to Assist Clinical Librarians

We know that busy Clinical Librarians want to be able to find high quality reviews; particularly systematic reviews for the health care practitioners they support. We know that PubMed contains a huge range of citations, including from some journals far afield of clinical practice. For this reason, we have created a set of Clinical Queries, which are pre-fabricated search strategies, that narrow your results to the most useful, clinically-relevant articles. You can find the Clinical Queries from the PubMed home page under PubMed Tools.

The screenshot shows the PubMed homepage with the 'PubMed Tools' section highlighted. The 'Clinical Queries' link is circled in red. Other links in the section include PubMed Mobile, Single Citation Matcher, Batch Citation Matcher, and Topic-Specific Queries. The 'Using PubMed' section includes links for PubMed Quick Start Guide, Full Text Articles, PubMed FAQs, PubMed Tutorials, and New and Noteworthy.

The Clinical Queries page has three sections: Clinical Studies Categories, Systematic Reviews and Medical Genetics. When using the Clinical Queries page, enter your topic in the search box. The results page shows a preview of the first 5 results. There is a “See All” link for each section at the bottom of the page.

The first set of pre-fabricated search strategies are the Clinical Study Category searches. You can refine the search to Etiology, Diagnosis, Therapy, Prognosis and Clinical Prediction Guides (CPGs); and select either a broad or narrow scope. CPGs are defined as tools that quantify the contributions of history, clinical examination, and diagnostic tests to stratify a patient in terms of the probability of having a target disorder (diagnostic CPR) or a future health outcome (prognostic CPR).

The screenshot shows the PubMed Clinical Queries search results page for the query 'probiotics allergy'. The search box contains 'probiotics allergy' and the search button is labeled 'Search'. The results are organized into three columns: Clinical Study Categories (5 of 903 results), Systematic Reviews (5 of 101 results), and Medical Genetics (5 of 111 results). Each column displays a list of search results with titles and publication information.

The center column returns Systematic Reviews results. Systematic Reviews are a rigorous, protocol-driven approach designed to minimize error and bias when summarizing the body of research evidence relevant to a specific scientific question. The results for this search include citations for systematic reviews, meta-analyses, reviews of clinical trials, evidence-based medicine, consensus development conferences, and guidelines.

The last column, Medical Genetics, displays citations related to various topics in medical genetics. These filters were developed in conjunction with the staff of GeneReviews: Genetics Disease Online Reviews at GeneTests, University of Washington, Seattle. You can refine the search to Diagnosis, Differential Diagnosis, Clinical Description Management, Genetic Counseling, Molecular Genetics and Genetic Testing.

All of these pre-fabricated searches employ MeSH topic terms and publication types as well as keywords for non-MEDLINE records, in order to retrieve the most relevant results for each search. At the bottom of the page you will find links to view the detailed search strategies.

Try PubMed Labs: New Experimental PubMed Search Interface

In the December 2017 issue of JEAHIL, I encouraged you to try PubMed Labs, a PubMed interface “sandbox”. The goal is to deploy a new version of PubMed 2.0 optimized for better user experience based on user feedback and system analytics. If you haven’t already jumped into the box to play around, there are even more features added since December and are now available for you to try out. We’ve added a new Help page and several features were added to the Abstract page, including:

- Publication types
- Easy to use citation navigation arrows
- Secondary source IDs
- Substances, Supplementary Concepts and Personal names sections

As a reminder, PubMed Labs only includes limited PubMed features, not the full set of tools, like MyNCBI at this time. The default results are “best match” based on relevance searching.

