INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE SEARCHING USING MEDLINE VIA OVID

Our OVID suite of databases provides extensive coverage of literature relating to health and social care. Titles include: Embase, Medline, HMIC (Health Management Information Consortium), PsycINFO, AMED (Allied and Complementary Medicine), British Nursing Index and Maternity and Infant Care.

To log onto these databases:
Log on at [www.athensams.net/myathens](http://www.athensams.net/myathens)
Enter your NHS Athens username and password

and then click on Resources tab
Click on Local Resources tab

Scroll down and click on OVID Online.

Select the database you wish to search.
Think about your search. What are the important subject areas and words that will need to be in your search?

In basic search mode you are allowed to use natural language and type in a phrase as you would say it (like google). Click search.

Results are displayed as below.

Results are displayed providing, the title of the article, author and journal details. If you see Full Text within the record details (as below) that means you can download the article from the screen, just click on the Full Text link and follow the steps.
Please be aware that publishers may place an embargo on the article, even though it says full text is available it may not be available until after 6 months has elapsed for example or however long the embargo is for.

You may get too many results or maybe they are not specific enough so try limiting your search.

Applying limits focuses your search and reduces the number of records in your results set, – eg. choosing limit years will only retrieve those records that were published between your chosen dates. Choosing full text will only give you hits that are available full text. If you want to be more specific then try using Additional Limits.
Make your choices then click *Limit a Search*.

Having applied all of these limits you now have more relevant results.

**Tick** any items you want to keep as below.

When you have enough references choose how you want your results to be saved or displayed, ie print, email.
The screen below is the email selection. Enter the recipients email address then choose how you want your results to be displayed, i.e., citation only, citation and abstract. Then click send email.

You will then be taken back to the **Main Search Page**.

Ovid posts and tracks result sets in a search history window. Click **search history** tab to open or close this section and revisit any of your searches.

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