
Features

1. Dropdown menu of search types: Title, abstract and subject combined, title only, author only, and abstract only.
2. Enter search terms in the search box and hit enter or click the magnifying glass.
3. Use the advanced search form to build more complex searches.
4. Refine search results by using an optional filter. Select from the full list of filters or select the desired filter type from the dropdown Add filter menu and click Apply to select only certain filter types. Filter types include full text, main subject, type of study, clinical aspect, language, year and journal. Click the Filter button at the top, or the right-facing arrow button at the bottom of the filter list to filter results.
5. Select from the dropdown menu to order search results by entry date increasing or decreasing, relevance, or year increasing or decreasing.
6. Slide left to display abstracts when available. Slide right to display citation information only.
7. Click buttons to email, export, or print results, create an RSS feed, or generate an XML.
Field Codes

Title/Abstract  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ti() OR ab()</td>
<td>Title/Abstract</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Generic Fields Ti, Ab, Su  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tw()</td>
<td>Generic Fields Ti, Ab, Su</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thesaurus Term Major Decs/MeSH  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mj()¹</td>
<td>Thesaurus Term Major Decs/MeSH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thesaurus Term Decs/MeSH  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mh()¹</td>
<td>Thesaurus Term Decs/MeSH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keyword Field  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kw()</td>
<td>Keyword Field</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exact phrase  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;straight quotes&quot;²</td>
<td>Exact phrase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Truncation  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ or *³,⁴</td>
<td>Truncation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Time period added to database  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>entry_date:([YYYYMMDD TO YYYYMMDD])</td>
<td>Time period added to database</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Citations added on date  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>entry_date:(YYYYMMDD)</td>
<td>Citations added on date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Boolean Operators  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AND, OR, AND NOT</td>
<td>Boolean Operators</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 only for MEDLINE citations  
2 use only straight quotes  
3 cannot be used with phrases  
4 can be used at the start & end of terms

Tips & Notes

- DeCs/MeSH is only available for MEDLINE sourced citations.
- Automatic term mapping: MeSH terms are mapped to synonym terms as well as non-exact Mesh terms are mapped to MeSH. Example: mh:("brain injuries, traumatic") - 40 results; mh:("traumatic brain injuries") - 40 results
- Hanging or duplicate "OR" unexplainably expands the search.
- Phrases must be enclosed in quotes; "AND" is assumed otherwise.
- Hyphens: If a phrase is enclosed in quotes, a hyphen is treated no differently than a space. Without quotes, the behavior is unclear.
- Clipboard: Selecting articles will add them to the List Items under "Selection of Citations". These items persist between searches during the same session. The list items link can then be clicked to show all selected articles.
- One can export a page of references, selected references, or all references. Format options are RIS, CSV, or citations.
Export tips

The database offers **five options** for **exporting citations**: email, export, print, RSS and XML. For all options, first run the search and refine results. If only certain citations are desired, click on the boxes in front of their numbers, making a checkmark appear. Then click the button for the desired export mode.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Fill in the email form. Clicking on Selected References will email only citations with checkmarks. Citations may also be emailed by page or all citations (limit 300).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Export</td>
<td>Citations may be exported in RIS, CSV or Citation formats, by page, selected references (those with checkmarks) or all references (all search results).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print</td>
<td>By page or selected references only.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any questions or suggestions or would like to request a working document of the search strategies, please email: library@who.int.

The WHO Global COVID-19 Database is a composite of other databases and citations captured directly from publishers’ websites. Citations have NOT been standardized across the various sources and there may be variations in journal titles, author names, and other fields. While some citations have been enhanced with MeSH and other keywords, this is a work in progress.