Library Guide

Library
The Health Academy
Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

Pubmed

What is Pubmed?

PubMed provides **free** access to **MEDLINE**, a database of over 28 million citations covering the fields of medicine, dentistry, nursing and allied health.

How do I access Pubmed?

To access Pubmed go to:

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed

You can use the database straight away or create an account, which will allow you to save searches and collections.

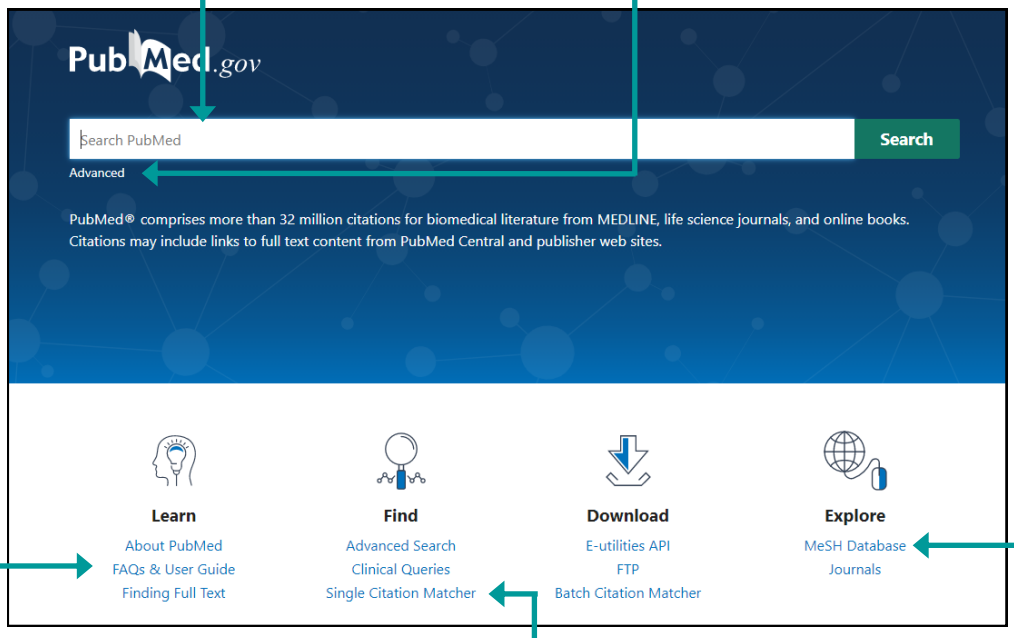
Using Pubmed

Basic Search - Quick but not always effective

Use this option for simple keyword searching. This is quick but a search may retrieve thousands of results.

Advanced Search - Most effective method

Use this option to undertake a more thorough search and to combine different search terms together using Boolean operators AND & OR.



See the User Guide and FAQs for help using the system

Find a specific journal article using the Single Citation Matcher

Find appropriate medical subject headings using the MeSH Database

Excellence in Education

Author: Joanne Taylor **Created:** July 2021 **Review:** July 2022

Basic search

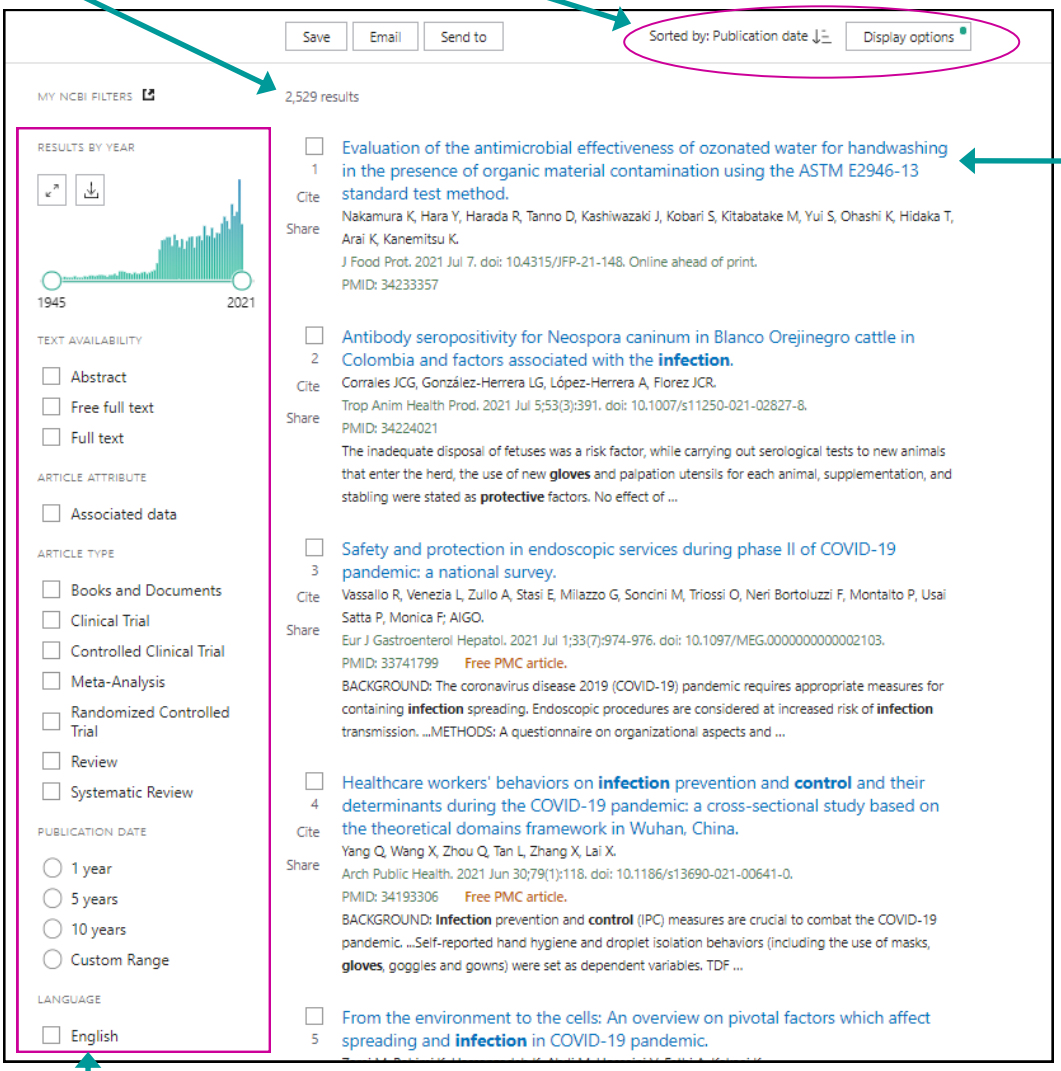
To do a basic search, place your keyword(s) in the search box and click **Search**

A results page will appear

Number of articles found

Sort results to view them in different ways and change the format to show abstracts

List of articles showing the title, authors and journal information. Click on the title of an article to see the full details.



Use the filters to refine your search results

Use the radio button at the bottom of the page to show more results

Advanced search

To do an advanced search, click on the **Advanced** link under the search box

Pubmed Advanced Search Builder will open

The advanced search option allows you to undertake a more comprehensive search.

The most effective way to search PubMed is to search for each concept within your question separately, and then combine them together with the Boolean operators AND and OR.

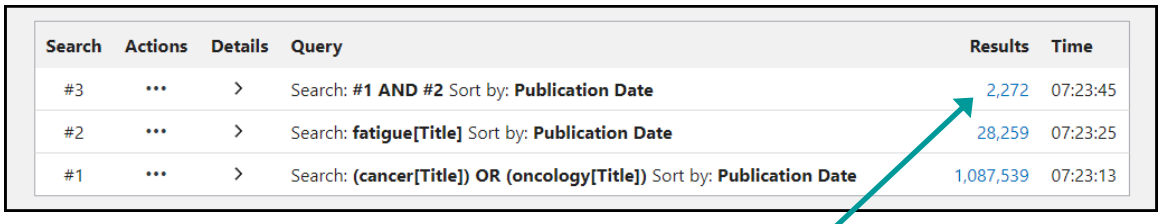
For help and guidance on planning a literature search and developing a full search strategy, please contact us on library.rph@lthtr.nhs.uk

Select which field(s) you would like to search in e.g. title, abstract, all fields

Enter your search terms into the box provided

Use the Boolean operators in the drop down box to combine parts of your search together

As you enter your terms and begin searching, a search history will appear



Search	Actions	Details	Query	Results	Time
#3	•••	›	Search: **#1 AND #2** Sort by: **Publication Date**	2,272	07:23:45
#2	•••	›	Search: **fatigue[Title]** Sort by: **Publication Date**	28,259	07:23:25
#1	•••	›	Search: **(cancer[Title]) OR (oncology[Title])** Sort by: **Publication Date**	1,087,539	07:23:13

The search history shows the number of results returned from each stage of your search. Click on the link to view the articles.

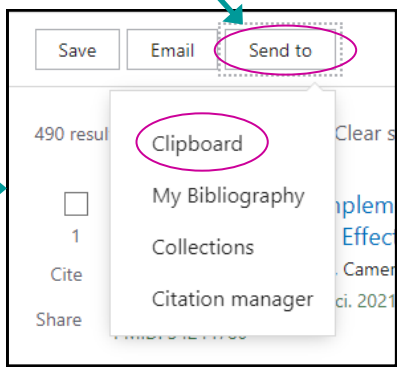
Other Pubmed features

Clipboard

Use the Clipboard to temporarily save selected articles for up to 8 hours

To add items to the clipboard, tick the boxes beside the article(s) you want to keep

Then under the Send to option at the top of the page, select **Clipboard**

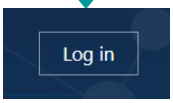


Collections

Setting up a free Pubmed account allows you to:

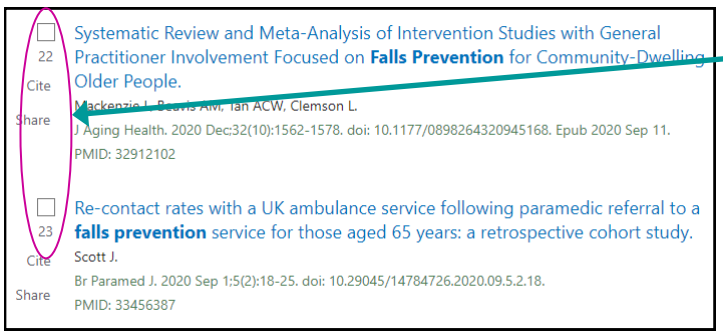
- Save searches permanently
- Save collections of citations
- Set up automatic email updates
- Set up your own display formats for Pubmed
- Customise filters

To set up an account, click on the Log in link in the top right hand corner



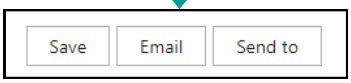
Saving and emailing search results

When you have completed your search, you can output your results from Pubmed



Tick the boxes beside the article(s) you want to output

Use the Save and Email options at the top of the page to output your results



To book onto a Pubmed training course, please contact:

Andrew Craig, E-Resources Officer, andrew.craig@lthtr.nhs.uk