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Where does one look for evidence? An introduction to searching

Facilitator

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Objectives

- Understand the need for a comprehensive search
- Know what databases and types of literature to search
- Know how to identify key concepts for a search and the search terms
- Understand Boolean operators and MeSH terms and how to use them
- Understand how to build a search strategy
- Understand how to conduct a search in PubMed and the Cochrane Library using a search strategy

Brief description of content

This session will consist of an interactive illustrated lecture on searching for studies using a transparent and structured methods. We will cover why searching is important, include practical activities on developing effective searches.

Readings/resources

1. Levay P, Raynor M, Tuvey D. The contributions of MEDLINE, other bibliographic databases and various search techniques to NICE public health guidance. *Evid Based Libr Inf Pract*. 2015;10:50–68. doi: 10.18438/B82P55.
2. Akobeng AK. Understanding systematic reviews and meta-analysis. *Arch Dis Child* 2005; 90:845–848