



PubMed: Clinical Queries

Clinical Queries features specialized PubMed searches that filter citation retrieval by clinical study category, the systematic review subset and medical genetics topics. Clinical Queries is available at: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query/static/clinical.shtml>.

Search by Clinical Study Category: limits searches by the following question types or clinical study categories: etiology, diagnosis, therapy, prognosis and clinical prediction guidelines.

Two emphasis categories or filters are provided:

- narrow, specific search -- retrieves more precise, relevant citations but less retrieval
- broad, sensitive search -- includes relevant citations but probably some less relevant; will get more retrieval

Find Systematic Reviews: limits searches to systematic reviews, meta-analyses, reviews of clinical trials, consensus development conferences, and guidelines.

General tips for using Clinical Queries

- Use specific subject terms or medical subject headings (MeSH). For example, if you want clinical studies on the diagnosis of a heart attack, type in myocardial infarction. Using the more specific term will help target your retrieval.
- Do not enter abbreviations for diseases. Type in urinary tract infection, not UTI.
- If you want to search for synonymous terms, such as lung radiograph or chest x-ray capitalize the OR connector and type your terms this way:
 - Lung radiograph OR chest x-ray
- If you want to combine two discrete concepts capitalize the AND connector:
 - Asthma AND Inhaled corticosteroid
- Note once you are examining your citations, there is an option "related articles". By selecting this option, you turn off the filters applied by Clinical Queries (and any limitations that you've selected, such as language or age).
- Lastly Clinical Queries simply allows you to search PubMed with value-added search filters, however, you are always manipulate your search by simply adding or subtracting terms in the search box or details tab.

Information for this handout was gathered from the National Library of Medicine, Boston University Alumni Medical Library and The New York Academy of Medicine Library.