Finding and using information – tutorial session

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www.lib.monash.edu.au
By the end of this session you will have worked on

- Constructing and implementing effective search strategies
- Assessing the usefulness and relevance of the information obtained
- Reflecting on the information seeking process
Health issues in the news

- Read the newspaper article ‘When doctor’s can’t be trusted’.

- Identify 3 issues raised in this article that require verification.
  - Working in groups, work through the worksheet provided. Please don’t exceed the times allotted to each task.
Turning questions into strategies

- Identify key concepts/words
- Consider synonyms/alternate terms e.g. pvs or persistent vegetative state
- Use ‘or’ between terms to include either e.g. euthanasia or right to die
- Use ‘and’ to include all terms e.g. persistent vegetative state and treatment
- Use truncation - note that the symbol varies between search engines
Where to search for scholarly information

- As discussed in the lecture, subject databases are a useful source of scholarly information.

- Monash University Library subscribes to a large number of subject databases – these can be accessed from the library web site using your authcate.
Databases and electronic resources

Many more electronic resources can be found by searching the Monash University Library catalogue.

Browse by name

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
Browse by subject

General and multidisciplinary databases

A
- Accounting
- Agriculture
- Anthropology
- Applied sciences
- Archaeology
- Architecture
- Art
- Art & design
- Arts
- Asian studies
- Astronomy
- Australian indigenous studies
- Australian law

E
- Econometrics
- Economics
- Education
- Electrical engineering
- Electronic commerce
- Engineering
- Environmental sciences
- Evidence based medicine

N
- News
- Nursing

P
- Performing arts
- Pharmacy & pharmacology
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political science
- Population
- Psychology & psychiatry

Find a database

Popular databases

- Business source premier
- eLibrary (newspapers)
- Expanded Academic
- Informit Online
- MEDLINE
- ProQuest
- PsycINFO
- Web of Knowledge
CINAHL (connect | more information)

International coverage with a US emphasis. Worth searching for Australian information by including Australia$ as a search term. Some full text available in the database plus links to Journals @ Ovid to which the Library subscribes. Most English language nursing journals are included. Strong coverage of publications by the American Nurses Association and the National League for Nursing (U.S.). Nursing dissertations, selected conference proceedings and standards of professional practice are also indexed. Other health areas covered include emergency services, health education, radiology and health informatics.
Accessing CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature)

• **For this session only** go to [www.lib.monash.edu.au/.training](http://www.lib.monash.edu.au/.training)
  – Ovid databases
    > Enter your authcate details
    > Select CINAHL from the list of databases
Enter **Keyword** or phrase: persistent vegetative state and diagnosis

Limit to:
- Latest Update
- Research
- Abstracts
- English
- Full Text
- Revised Date
- Publication Year 2000 - 2005
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Search History</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Display</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>(persistent vegetative state and diagnosis).mp. [mp=title, subject heading word, abstract, instrumentation]</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Display</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>limit 1 to (english and yr=2000 - 2005)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Display</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AN: 2004132734 NLM Unique Identifier: 12499414.

AN: 2004120997 NLM Unique Identifier: 14732829.
### Results Manager: Display, Print, Save, or Email Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Fields</th>
<th>Result Format</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ☐ Selected Results  
☐ All in this set (1-10) | ☐ Citation (Title, Author, Source)  
☐ Citation + Abstract  
☐ Citation + Abstract + Subject Headings  
☐ Complete Reference  
☐ ASCII Full Text (if available) | ☐ Ovid  
☐ BRS/Tagged  
☐ Reprint/Medlars  
☐ Brief (Titles) Display  
☐ Direct Export | ☐ Include Search History |

and/or **Range:**  

- **Select Fields**  

### Sort Keys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary:</th>
<th>Secondary:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Ascending**
Your term mapped to the following Subject Headings:

Click on a subject heading to view more general and more specific terms within the tree.

Term is a thesaurus term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Select</th>
<th>Subject Heading</th>
<th>Explode</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>Scope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✅</td>
<td>Persistent Vegetative State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✅</td>
<td>persistent vegetative state .mp. search as Keyword</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Count</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Consciousness Disorders</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Unconsciousness</td>
<td>198</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coma</td>
<td>479</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimally Conscious State</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persistent Vegetative State</td>
<td>184</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syncope</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subheadings for: Persistent Vegetative State

- Include All Subheadings (184)

- or choose one or more of these subheadings -

- /cl - Classification (1)
- /co - Complications (1)
- /di - Diagnosis (26)
- /dt - Drug Therapy (1)
- /ep - Epidemiology (2)
- /ei - Ethical Issues (13)
- /et - Etiology (6)
- /lj - Legislation and Jurisprudence (13)
- /mo - Mortality (1)

- /nu - Nursing (14)
- /pa - Pathology (1)
- /pp - Physiopathology (6)
- /pr - Prognosis (7)
- /pf - Psychosocial Factors (6)
- /rh - Rehabilitation (16)
- /ss - Symptoms (1)
- /th - Therapy (9)
### Search History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
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<th>Results</th>
<th>Display</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Persistent Vegetative State/</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>Display</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 and diagnosis.mp. [mp=title, subject heading word, abstract, instrumentation]</td>
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<td>Display</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>limit 2 to (english and yr=2000 - 2005)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Display</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional search strategies

• Search the subject index for a more focused search (tick ‘map term to subject heading’)
• Use date limits to restrict search to recent articles
• Evaluate results and modify your search if necessary
• Subject headings in a record are links that can be used for additional searches
Keep track of your search results

• Mark items that you may use

• Email, print or download these using ‘results manager’

• All the required information will then be available when you are citing and referencing.
Questions?

• Do you have questions about finding information for research?

• Do you have questions about finding information for your essays?
  – The remainder of this session is available for you to search for information for your essays and to get help as required.
Reflection

• Spend a couple of minutes thinking about what you have done in this session -

• What have you learned?

• What do you need to explore further
Any questions?

• **Access library help**
  – Come to the Information Desk
  – Check the online tutorials
  – Email queries
  – Phone
  – Online chat

• **Check** [www.lib.monash.edu.au/help/](http://www.lib.monash.edu.au/help/) for more information