Global Health
Resources for Nursing

NUR2-630

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Objectives

✓ Brief overview of services available to nursing students while travelling abroad
✓ Identify and demonstrate some of the core resources for global health
✓ Briefly review the principles of question formulation
✓ Briefly review the principles of online searching
✓ Hands-on practice
✓ Briefly review academic integrity / plagiarism
Library services when travelling abroad

Need assistance?

✓ Contact me, even when you are abroad! francesca.frati@mcgill.ca

✓ Life Sciences Liaison librarians are ready to assist you if I am unavailable.

✓ Scanning services request scanned copies of journal articles or book chapters from the print collections of the McGill Library, to be sent to a McGill email address

✓ Interlibrary Loans: request books or journal articles not held by McGill Library. Service is free of charge. Read the How to use Colombo information sheet prior to filling out the form. The easiest option to use is the “Create a request” option (last resort option 😊). Remember to indicate on the form that you are abroad and unable to pick up your articles at McGill
Subject guides

- **Health & Biological Sciences** – list of guides by topic
  - Nursing Subject Guide
  - Health Sciences Information Starter Guide
  - Global Health Subject Guide
  - Indigenous Health Subject Guide
Accessing resources from abroad

**EZproxy** allows easy, seamless access to the library’s resources when you are travelling around the world. VPN is more difficult and challenging. Use EZProxy!

![EZProxy Login](http://proxy.library.mcgill.ca/login?url=)

- Access resources via the McGill Library website OR use McGill Library *View Now* or *Find It* links from within databases
- **McGill Username** = your McGill email address
- **McGill Password** = your McGill email password

![McGill Library Login](http://www.mcgill.ca/library/services/connect/)

http://www.mcgill.ca/library/services/connect/
Inform yourself before you leave McGill

- McGill’s Predeparture Orientation – note country specific discussion lists on the right hand side of the page
- E-books on global health since 2010
- The World Factbook - produced by the CIA in the US, the Factbook is an excellent starting point for background information on more than 260 countries. Search by country
- Government of Canada – Travel > Travel advice & advisories > Destination
- World Health Organization - publications are provided in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.
  - Health topics: an alphabetical listing of WHO projects, initiatives, activities, information products, and contacts, organized by health and development topics.
  - Global Health Observatory Data: WHO's portal providing access to data and analyses for monitoring the global health situation
  - Countries: an alphabetical listing of the 194 member states. All countries which are members of the UN may become members of WHO by accepting its Constitution.
  - Programs and projects: lists WHO programs, partnerships and other projects in alphabetical order.
- If you know your placement, locate your country’s Department of Health or Public Health Unit
- HealthMap: Global Disease Alert Map - current global state of infectious diseases. Data is aggregated by disease and displayed by location on global and regional maps.
Background info- Practice questions

1. What are the official languages of the country you plan to visit? What is the life expectancy of men and women in your country of interest?

2. Locate a brief health outlook for your country of interest.

3. How many health alerts have been issued in the past month for Pakistan?

4. In 2010 the WHO drafted a landmark global policy document concerning the retention of health workers in rural and remote areas. Locate this document.

5. What is the most recent World Malaria Report?
Boolean operators: AND, OR, NOT

✓ **AND** = directs the database to search for every reference that contains all of the search terms specified—each term must be present in every reference. Decreases results.

✓ **OR** = tells the database to retrieve every reference that has at least one of the search terms—all terms do not have to be present in every reference. **Increases results.**

✓ **NOT** = tells the database to find only reference which DO NOT include the term or the result set. Use to compare one result set to another to see what one missed that the other found.
Using Boolean & terms to construct your search

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept #1</th>
<th>Concept #2</th>
<th>Concept #3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
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<td>AND</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;language disorders&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;parental education&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;language development&quot;</td>
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<td>OR</td>
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<td>&quot;hearing disorders&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocabulary:</td>
<td>CINAHL</td>
<td>MEDLINE</td>
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<td>International cooperation</td>
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<td>Capacity building</td>
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<td>NA use keywords</td>
<td>Community-based participatory research</td>
<td>NA use keywords</td>
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</tbody>
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Note similarities and differences in vocabulary. Be careful when you are searching!
Changing terminology

• Consider changes in terminology over the years...
  • Example:
    Third world countries ~1947-1990’s> developing/less developed/least developed/underdeveloped countries ~1990’s-2016> countries classified by income since 2016 (low-income, lower-middle income)

See: World Bank Country Classifications
Databases can be searched in 2 ways:

1. Using the specific **subject headings** or controlled vocabulary of the database.
   - These databases are *easier to search*.
   - Generates *more relevant results*.
   - And captures references which *do not include an abstract*.

2. **“Keyword”** or **“text-word”** searching; that is, searching a variety of fields of a record such as the title, abstract, etc.
   - This type of *searching is more difficult* to accomplish as the onus is on the searcher to compile a list of all possible synonyms for each and every concept.
   - Generates *more noise i.e. less relevant results*.
   - But captures *newer concepts not yet assigned a subject heading* or references that have not been well indexed.
   - *Truncation, wildcards and adjacency* are very helpful if available.
Subject Headings vs. Keywords

- Preferred list of terms used by indexers to index each article added to a database such as CINAHL or Medline / PubMed
- Provides a “controlled” or “consistent” way of retrieving information that may use different terminology for the same concept
- Indexers assign the most specific subject heading available to yield very precise results

- Search title and abstract for the exact word or words you type
- In many databases keywords do NOT search full text of article
- Examine article titles and abstracts to develop list of synonyms
- Find newer concepts not yet assigned a subject heading
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CINAHL Heading(s)</th>
<th>Keywords</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔ Poverty</td>
<td>✔ Poverty, poor, low income, destitute, impoverished, penniless, indigence/indigent, financially disadvantaged or distressed, extreme need, social inequality(ies) or disparity(ies), etc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Virus Diseases

- RNS Virus Diseases
  - Retrovirus Infections
    - HIV Infections
      - Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
      - AIDS-Associated Nephropathy
      - AIDS Dementia Complex
      - AIDS-Related Complex
      - HIV Seropositivity
      - HIV Wasting Syndrome

**Explode** “HIV Infections” to search it and **ALL** terms indented below it.

Click in the **Major Concept** box to retrieve documents in which your subject heading (HIV infections) is considered the major point or focus of the article. **NOT recommended.**
Keyword searching: Truncation

Truncation:

Truncation allows you to find plurals and multiple endings. Make sure the truncation symbol does not appear too early in the word.

Good example:
- computer
- computers
- computed
- computing

Bad example:
- care
- caring
- cared

Most databases use the * (asterisk) as the truncation symbol.
Keyword searching: Wildcards

Wildcards:

Wildcards are necessary when keyword searching to account for word variations and spellings (American vs. British spelling)

   Example:  
   
   hemorrhage vs. haemorrhage = h?emorrhage or h#emorrhage

*Most* databases use the ? or # as the wildcard symbol
Keyword searching: Adjacency

Adjacency allows you to find words that are near each other in the fields you wish to search (with x words in between) appearing in any order.

**Medline**: use adj\(x\) (\(x = \#\) words that can appear in between your terms)

Example: health adj₁ determinant* = determinants of health

health determinant
health determinants

**Cinahl**: use N\(x\) (\(x = \#\) words that can appear in between your terms).

You **must** untick “suggest subject heading” box!!

Example: health N₁ determinant* = determinants of health

health determinant
health determinants
Searching by geographic location

- Use subject headings AND keywords
  - Each database has different fields you can search using keywords
- Global health database:

  ![Fields Table]
  
  *Go: Table of Contents or Back*
Searching by geographic location

- Search “all fields” or “all text” if possible
- Search specific fields

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>9374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Tanzania/</td>
<td>8114</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Use filters
  - Filters to find studies of geographic locations
Indigenous health

• Use filters to guide you
  • Indigenous health search filters
10 Steps to Improving Your Search Results

1. Formulate a clear question: knowing what you want to find before you start searching is essential!

2. Use Google Scholar to find a few relevant articles quickly. See how these are indexed to help suggest terms and concepts.

3. Search **one** concept at a time. Use the “Suggest subject term” feature if available. **Save each separately and combine later.**

4. Use the *Explode* feature to search all narrower terms if they are relevant

5. Use **OR** to combine terms that represent the same concept. Remember that **OR** increases retrieval
10 Steps to Improving Your Search Results

6. Use **AND** to combine terms that represent different concepts. Remember that **AND decreases retrieval**.

7. Use **limits** and **filters** for geographic location, language, dates, publication type, age, question type etc.

8. Evaluate results & modify search strategy if necessary

9. Use the **View Now** or **FindIt@** icons to locate full text journal articles

10. Use the McGill Library’s **ILL service** to obtain articles or books not held by McGill.
Selected core databases

- **Africa Wide Information** - offers extensive coverage of all facets of Africa and African studies. Includes content from *African HealthLine* which focuses on health related issues. *Use of subject headings is rare and inconsistent.*  
  *McGill only*

- **CINAHL** – nursing & allied health. *Some full text.*  
  *McGill only*

- **GIDEON** (Global Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology Online Network) - provides health research and current trends in tropical and infectious diseases, epidemiology. Data sources include international literature, notes on the status of specific infections, > 5,000 images, 30,000 graphs, 347 interactive maps, and >150,000 linked references.  
  *McGill only*

- **Global Health** - covers international health, communicable as well as non-communicable diseases, public health, food safety, nutrition, hygiene, etc.  
  *McGill only*

- **MEDLINE** – biomedicine, nursing, population health etc. *Some full text.*  
  *McGill only*

- **PubMed with McGill Find it links** - **FREE** the open access version of MEDLINE. *Can limit results to free full text.* Need help with Pubmed? Watch the [PubMed for Nurses Tutorial](#).

- **PopLine (POPulation information onLINE)** – **FREE** covers family planning, reproductive health programs, maternal & child health, population law/policy, sexually transmitted diseases, and much more.

- **Web of Science** OR **Scopus** – two multidisciplinary, research oriented databases that cover the sciences as well as the social sciences.  
  *McGill only*

- **TRIP Database** - **FREE** find practice guidelines, WHO publications and reports, articles on global health topics
Additional resources in global health

- **BioMed Central (BMC): Global Health Gateway** – FREE provides access to latest BMC open access journal articles and resources in global health.

- **Community Tool Box** - is a FREE, online resource containing over 300 educational modules and other free tools for those working to build healthier communities. Content is currently available in English, Spanish, and Arabic.

- **JAMA Collections** - topic specific collections containing hundreds of articles from 1998 forward. 2 collections of interest include:
  - **Global Health**
  - **Infectious Diseases**

- **ProMED - the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases** - FREE provides rapid global dissemination of information on outbreaks of infectious diseases and acute exposures to toxins that affect human health. E-mail and social media enable ProMED to provide up-to-date and reliable news about threats to human, animal, and food plant. [Subscribe for alerts](#)

- **WHO Global Health Library** – FREE a cooperative, multinational initiative to increase access to information and scientific evidence on health, particularly in developing regions.

- **WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform** – FREE aims to provide a single searchable database of information about ongoing and completed clinical trials registered around the world in clinical trial registries including the US based [ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov)
Research Questions

1. Mobile technologies are revolutionizing the way we live. Have they had an impact on the management & transmission of AIDS in the developing world? **DEMO**

2. In 2010 a devastating earthquake hit Haiti. Locate articles on its impact on children’s health and welfare.

3. Locate articles on the effectiveness of interventions to prevent genital mutilation/cutting. Locate the latest practice guideline from the Canadian Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada.

4. Locate articles discussing the effectiveness of malaria related health education in Uganda.

5. Practice using your own question...
Academic Integrity at McGill

Academic integrity is a fundamental value of teaching, learning, research and scholarship in academia. If charged with plagiarism, students can no longer use the “I did not know” defense.

- Academic Integrity @ McGill
- Plagiarism and Cheating @ McGill
Thank you! Any questions?