



CINAHL Basics

The Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL) is an online database that allows you to search the bibliographic records of journal articles, books and book chapters, pamphlets, CE materials, and even web sites using single words or word phrases. Nursing is the prime focus of the CINAHL database, but Allied Health, Biomedicine, Consumer Health, and Alternative/Complementary Medicine are also well represented.

Using keywords is the broadest way of searching and often times can result in a large number of citations. Use keyword searching when you

- are searching for an esoteric topic
- just want to see how much has been written on the topic
- don't know what specific search terms to use to narrow the topic
- are just beginning your search

Note: NU386 students must first apply filters to their search before following the steps below.

Search Box

When you enter a keyword or word phrase in the search boxes and utilize the default fields selection, CINAHL will only look for these words within the *Title, Abstract, and Subject Heading* fields of each record. If you are searching for an article by its author, you must click on the drop down arrow and select **Author** from the list of available fields.

<input type="text"/>	in	Select a Field (optional) ▼	<input type="button" value="Search"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>	<input style="border: none; padding: 0 5px;" type="button" value="?"/>
and ▼ <input type="text"/>	in	Select a Field (optional) ▼			
and ▼ <input type="text"/>	in	Select a Field (optional) ▼	Add Row		

Field Searching

Searching in only certain fields is a useful way to locate very specific information. A good use of field searching is when you are looking for a specific author or trying to verify that a citation is correct.

For example, you know that the author *Yeaworth* wrote an article about *Dementia* but you do not recall the name of the journal, the year, or the page numbers. Click on the pull down menus to the right of the search box. You will have the option of selecting which field you want CINAHL to search.

yeaworth	in	AU Author ▼	<input type="button" value="Search"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>	<input style="border: none; padding: 0 5px;" type="button" value="?"/>
and ▼ dementia	in	Select a Field (optional) ▼			
and ▼ <input type="text"/>	in	Select a Field (optional) ▼	Add Row		

Search Concepts

Truncation/Wildcard

When keyword searching, the terms you enter in the search box are cross checked against the exact spelling of the terms in the Title, Abstract, and Subject Headings. If you enter the term *nurse* or *nurses*, for instance, and the citation record only contains the term *nursing*, you will not retrieve that record. To ensure that terms with various endings are retrieved, use a truncation or wildcard symbol (*). For example:

*nurs** retrieves *nurse*, *nurses*, and *nursing*

*diabet** retrieves *diabetes*, *diabetic*, *diabetics*,
etc.

Boolean Operators

The default search page consists of three search boxes. It is recommended that each concept (which may include multiple synonyms) be placed in a separate search box. With an individual concept in its own search box, you can then combine it with other concepts. Combining terms within a search box or between search boxes requires use of the conjunctions or Boolean Operators **AND** or **OR**.

- OR broadens your search – gives you more results
 - Use OR to combine synonyms of the same concept
 - Use OR when you will accept any of the terms for the concept
 - *Example: breast cancer OR breast neoplasms*
 - *Example: diabetes OR heart disease*
- AND narrows your search - gives you fewer results
 - Use AND to combine different concepts
 - Use AND when every term must show up in the article
 - *Example: breast cancer AND drug therapy*
- NOT eliminates a concept from a search. It is not used for general searching purposes.

Putting It All Together

Step 1: Defining Concepts

Example: JD is a 55 year old male who is recovering from a spinal injury. He is currently immobilized and will be for several months. You have been asked to locate information on positioning an immobilized patient to prevent pressure ulcers.

What terms or phrases should you use to search?

1. positioning
2. prevention of pressure ulcers

Note: When choosing concepts, try to eliminate those which could be considered implied through the use of another concept. For instance, *immobilized* could be implied within the pressure ulcer concept because pressure ulcers often occur due to immobilization. Also, adding *spinal injury* to our search would eliminate possibly helpful articles that cover other immobile conditions.

Step 2: Term/Phrase Searching

The search interface includes three separate search boxes. If there are any concepts which you will be ORing together, place them in the same box and separate them with **OR**. Place the **AND**ed concept in the other boxes. To run the search, click the **Search** button.

Note: *Pressure ulcers* can also be referred to as *pressure sores*, *bedsores*, and *decubitus ulcer*. To ensure that you retrieve articles that use these varying phrases, separate them with OR. Also remember to truncate (e.g. *pressure ulcer* OR pressure sore* OR bed sore* OR decubitus ulcer**).

position* in 

and

and in [Add Row](#)

This search statement will retrieve results with *positioning* and its variations, at least one of the *pressure ulcer* terms, and *prevention* and its variations.

Result Display

CINAHL indexes various **publication types**, such as journal, books, and videos. If your results contain these different types, they will be listed at the top of the result list. To narrow your results down to a specific type, simply click the type. You can also narrow your results further by selecting the **suggested subject headings** located on the left-hand side of the result list.

[Advanced Search](#) | [Visual Search](#) | [Search History/Alerts](#) | [Preferences](#) »


Narrow Results by	All Results: 1-30 of 46 Page: 1 2 Next Sort by:
▼ Source Types	 Results for: position* and (pressure ulcer* OR pressure sore* ...
All Results	
Periodicals	
Pamphlets	
Dissertations	
CEUs	
▼ Subject	
Pressure Ulcer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of pressure ulcers: a descriptive study in 3 intensive care units in Turkey. (includes abstract); Ozdemir H; Karadag A Journal of Wound, Ostomy & Continence Nursing, 2008 May-Jun; 35 article) ISSN: 1071-5754 CINAHL AN: 2009940022 Abstract: PURPOSE: The aim of this descriptive study was to describe the level of preventive care provided to ii patients at risk for development of pressure ulcers (PU). SETTING AND SUBJECTS: Our study population com at coronary ICU, cardiovascular surgery ICU, or a gastroenterology ICU of State Hospital in the Republic of Turk consisted of 30 nurses selected from these units using a layered sampling method. INSTRUMENTS: Data were following 4 forms: (1) ICU evaluation form, (2) demographic questionnaire form, (3) Braden Scale, and (4) obs observation form was developed by the investigator to record PU prevention interventions made by the study nu were observed while giving care to patients at risk according to Braden Scale scores and each action of the nur recorded. Data were collected until 90 observations (3 observations with each of 30 nurses) were completed. F consistently engage in interventions recommended for prevention of PU. Subjects did not consistently use the ri document position changes on the appropriate form, and train auxiliary personnel about PU prevention. The r behaviors for PU prevention were avoiding hot water when cleansing the skin, helping the patient eat, avoiding on a trochanter, refraining from using improper support material, and use of pressure-redistribution surfaces. behaviors were (1) application of a skin barrier or protectant on moist skin and (2) application of a moisturizer skin, protecting the skin during patient transfer, repositioning, and documenting prevention interventions. CONC demonstrates that critical care nurses do not consistently provide preventive care for PU. Add to folder  Check Here For Full Text Save our skin: periop teams rally to prevent pressure ulcers in OR. Mathias JM OR Manager, 2008 Mar; 24 (3): 1, 11-3 (journal article) ISSN: 8756-8047 CINAHL AN: 2009871455 PDF Full Text Cited References (14) Add to folder Pressure mapping: a new path to pressure-ulcer prevention. (includes abstract); Hanson D; Thompson P; Langemo D; Hunter S; Anderson J American Nurse Today, 2007 N article - pictorial, tables/charts) ISSN: 1930-5583 CINAHL AN: 2009722916
Patient Positioning	
Beds and Mattresses	
Female	
Aged	
Male	
More »	
▶ Subject: Major Heading	
▶ Age	
▶ Gender	
▶ Publication Type	

From the initial result list, you will be able to view the majority of the record's details, including the abstract if available. Some records include a link to the article's cited reference list and the number of times the article was cited by other articles within the CINAHL database.

- [NICE pressure ulcer guideline: summary and implications for practice... National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence.](#)
 (includes abstract); Stephen-Haynes J British Journal of Community Nursing, 2006 Jun; 11 (6): Wound Care: S18, S20-4 (journal article - pictorial, practice guidelines) ISSN: 1462-4753 PMID: 16835566 CINAHL AN: 2009226674
 Abstract: This article outlines the principle areas for consideration form the *NICE* (2005) *guideline for pressure ulcer* prevention and treatment. All key areas are included and recommendations made for their implementation into clinical practice. A conclusion is made that *pressure ulcer* prevention is a key indicator of quality care and that all professionals have a responsibility for its implementation.
[PDF Full Text](#)
 Cited References (22) [Add to folder](#)

To view the full record, click on the title of the record item.

In addition to the information in the initial results screen, the subject headings will be displayed. Subject headings are assigned to each record. They describe the topic of the article. **Major Subjects** are those which describe the primary topic of the article, while **Minor Subjects** are peripheral topics.

	
Title:	NICE pressure ulcer guideline: summary and implications for practice... National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence.
Author(s):	Stephen-Haynes J
Affiliation:	Consultant Lecturer/Practitioner, Tissue Viability, Worcestershire Primary Care Trusts and University of Worcester, jackies_h@btopenworld.com
Source:	British Journal of Community Nursing (BR J COMMUNITY NURS), 2006 Jun; 11(6): Wound Care: S18, S20-4 (23 ref)
Publication Type:	journal article - pictorial, practice guidelines
Language:	English
Major Subjects:	Pressure Ulcer -- Therapy Wound Care
Minor Subjects:	Patient Positioning ; Pressure Ulcer -- Classification ; Pressure Ulcer -- Etiology ; Pressure Ulcer -- Prevention and Control ; Risk Assessment ; United Kingdom ; Wound Assessment
Abstract:	This article outlines the principle areas for consideration form the <i>NICE</i> (2005) <i>guideline for pressure ulcer</i> prevention and treatment. All key areas are included and recommendations made for their implementation into clinical practice. A conclusion is made that <i>pressure ulcer</i> prevention is a key indicator of quality care and that all professionals have a responsibility for its implementation.
Journal Subset:	Double Blind Peer Reviewed; Editorial Board Reviewed; Expert Peer Reviewed; Nursing; Online/Print; Peer Reviewed; Public Health; UK & Ireland
Special Interest:	Public Health; Wound Care
ISSN:	1462-4753
MEDLINE Info:	PMID: 16835566 NLM UID: 9815827
Publisher Info:	URL: www.cinahl.com/cgi-bin/refsvc?jid=1806&accno=2009226674
Entry Date:	20060901
Accession Number:	2009226674
Persistent link to this record (permalink):	https://library1.unmc.edu/login?url=http://search-preview.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=c8l        
Database:	CINAHL with Full Text
	

Refining Results with Limits (Optional)

The Limit feature allows you to refine your results in a variety of ways. The Limits are available in the "Advanced Search" menu and can be applied either before or after a search. Always be cautious when applying limits, as you may inadvertently block out relevant results.

A variety of limit options are available. The most used limits are

- Published Date
- Language
- Peer Reviewed
- Research Article
- Journal Subset (can limit to Nursing publications only)

Search Options	
Search modes ?	<input type="radio"/> Boolean/Phrase <input checked="" type="radio"/> Find all my search terms <input type="radio"/> Find any of my search terms
	Apply related words <input type="checkbox"/> Also search within the full text of the articles <input type="checkbox"/>
Limit your results	
Publication Year from <input type="text"/> to <input type="text"/>	Peer Reviewed <input type="checkbox"/>
Language All Afrikaans Chinese Dutch	Research Article <input type="checkbox"/>
Age Groups All Fetus, Conception to Birth Infant, Newborn 0-1 month Infant, 1-23 months	Clinical Queries All Therapy - High Sensitivity Therapy - High Specificity Therapy - Best Balance
Publication Type All Abstract Accreditation Algorithm	Gender All Female Male
Articles With Images All PDF Text with Graphics	Exclude MEDLINE records <input type="checkbox"/>
	Journal Subset All Africa Allied Health Alternative/Complementary Therapies
	Special Interest All Advanced Nursing Practice Case Management Chiropractic Care

Note: When beginning a new search, you must undo all limits.

Accessing Articles (Online or Print)

From within a results set, you can search and access the library's entire online journal collection and check for print holdings.

Full-text linked directly to record

If you see any of these symbols and links, the article will be immediately available upon clicking them.

 [Linked Full Text](#)  [PDF Full Text](#)  [HTML Full Text](#)

Search online/print journal collections

If a full-text link does not appear in a record, you will see a link labeled *Check Here For Full Text*. By clicking this link, you will be able to search the library's complete online journal collection, search the library's print journal collection, and order an article if it is not available.



After you click the *Check Here For Full Text* link, a window will open with one or more of the following choices:

A screenshot of a web browser window showing the McGoogan Library of Medicine website. The browser address bar shows "http://www11.tdnet.com - TDNet Resolver Results - Microsoft Internet Exp...". The website header includes the McGoogan Library of Medicine logo and the text "McGoogan Library of Medicine". Below the header, there is a "TOUR" logo. The main content area displays "Item Details:" with the following text: "Title: prevention of pressure ulcers in patients being managed on clrt: is supplemental repositioning needed?... continuous lateral rotation therapy." and "Source: Journal of WOCN: Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing 1071-5754, vol: 33 (4) 2006 p:381". Below the details, there is a button labeled "Get full text for this citation". Underneath this button, it says "From Ovid (Lippincott Williams and Wilkins Total Access Collection)". To the right of this text is a red box with the letter "A.". Below this, there are two options: "Click here to Order Articles" with a red box containing "B.", and "Click here to check for print holdings in the Library Catalog" with a red box containing "C.". At the bottom, it says "Create XML file in EndNote / Reference Manager format."

Choice A: If a link appears, it will take you either directly to the article or to the journal contents page where you must browse for the issue and article.

Choice B: If there is no online or print article, clicking this link will take you to the Interlibrary Loan / Photocopy order form (Note: You must register if you are a first time user of this form)

Choice C: If there is no online article, click the Catalog link to find out if the library has the journal in print.

Note: Even though a full-text link appears, the article may still not be available online. This discrepancy is due to embargo dates placed by the publisher or if the library does not have access to a particular volume or issue in the journal. If you have any questions, please contact the library.

Saving Results

Results can be saved by printing, emailing, and saving to a computer or disk.

Add to folder

In order to save results, you must add each citation to the Folder. Do this by clicking the Add to folder link at the bottom of each citation you want to save.

Once citations are added, the right sidebar will indicate that items are now in the Folder. Click Go to: folder view to access the marked records.

[« Search Options](#)

Folder has items

[Prevention of pressure ul... ❌](#)

Go to: [Folder View](#)

Once inside the folder, the results will be listed and the choice to print, email, save, or export will appear above them with the following icons.



Print Email Save Export