CINAHL Subheadings

The *Cumulative Index of Nursing and Allied Health Literature* (CINAHL) uses controlled vocabulary for indexing. This guide lists (1) current subheadings that can be used in conjunction with subject headings, (2) document types that can be used to limit a search, and (3) a full list and explanation of available limits. More information on the use of these subheadings and limits can be found in online help in the CINAHL database. Additional assistance is available from Mulford Reference Assistance (419-383-4218, refdesk@meduohio.edu, or http://www.meduohio.edu/lib/resources.html.

**CINAHL Subheadings**

To the right of each subheading is the two-character abbreviation. Not all subheadings can be used with all subject headings; administration & dosage can apply to drugs but not nursing protocols. Year of introduction is given for subheadings added after 1982.

Free-floating subheadings can be searched using the MJ (major subject) or MW (all subjects) fields. For example: MJ microbiology or MJ “mi” with quotes. For more information, contact Mulford Reference Assistance.

| Abnormalities (83; AB)          | Administration & Dosage (AD) | Administration (AM) | Adverse Effects (AE) | Analogs & Derivatives (92; AA) | Analysis (AN) | Anatomy & Histology (83; AH) | Antagonists & Inhibitors (85; AI) | Blood (99; BL) | Blood Supply (02; BS) | Cerebrospinal Fluid (04; CF) | Chemically Induced (83; CI) | Classification (83; CL) | Complications (83; CO) | Contraindications (93; CT) | Deficiency (98; DF) | Diagnosis (DI) | Diagnostic Use (92; DU) | Diet Therapy (83; DH) | Drug Effects (83; DE) | Drug Therapy (DT) | Economics (83; EC) | Education (ED) | Embryology (97; EM) | Epidemiology (91; EP) | Equipment & Supplies (ES) | Ethical Issues (98; EI) | Ethnology (96; EH) | Etymology (83; ET) | Evaluation (EV) | Familial & Genetic (90; GE) | History (HI) | Immunology (99; IM) | Injuries (IN) | Innervation (IR) | Legislation & Jurisprudence (LJ) | Manpower (83; MA) | Metabolism (92; ME) | Methods (83; MT) | Microbiology (97; MI) | Mortality (95; MO) | Nursing (84; NU) | Organizations (83; OG) | Pathology (95; PA) | Pharmacodynamics (87; PD) | Pharmacokinetics (00; PK) | Physiology (PH) | Physiopathology (PP) | Poisoning (84; PO) | Prevention & Control (83; PC) | Prognosis (96; PR) | Psychosocial Factors (83; PF) | Radiation Effects (92; RE) | Radiography (83; RA) | Radiotherapy (83; RT) | Rehabilitation (83; RH) | Risk Factors (01; RF) | Standards (83; ST) | Surgery (83; SU) | Symptoms (96; SS) | Therapeutic Use (84; TU) | Therapy (83; TH) | Transmission (87; TM) | Transplantation (83; TR) | Trends (83; TD) | Ultrasonography (92; US) | Urine (99; UR) | Utilization (83; UT) |

**CINAHL Publication Types**

Year of introduction is given for document types added after 1983. Select desired publication types from the drop-down menu on the Refine Search tab. To search a publication type, you can also enter a search such as PT interview.
CINAHL Limits

Before or after running a search, it can be limited by selecting options under the Refine Search tab. Limiting will never result in a larger set of records.

**EBSCO Full Text**
Limits to articles that are available full text in the EBSCOhost databases. Note that the Medical University has access to many more online journals that just those from EBSCOhost. This option is not recommended because it limits the search too much and may exclude relevant references.

**Abstract Available**
Limits to references that have a summary. This may exclude relevant references, so it is not recommended.

**Publication Year**
Limits by the year(s) of publication

**Author**
Limits by author name

**Journal Title**
Limits by journal title; this is a keyword search of the journal titles, so it may not limit as much as expected.

**Peer-reviewed**
Limits to references from peer-reviewed publications

**CE module**
Limits to continuing education modules available from CINAHL. To get to the CE module, view the record and click on the link beside CE Module.

**EBP**
Limits to references which have Evidence-Based Practice as a special interest descriptor

**Publication date**
Limits by publication date (month/year)

**Journal subset**
Limits to a subset of journals: geographical (AFRICA, ASIA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, CANADA, EUROPE, MEXICO AND CENTRAL/SOUTH AMERICA, UK AND IRELAND, USA); topical (ALTERNATIVE/COMPLEMENTARY THERAPY, BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, BIOMEDICAL, COMPUTER/INFORMATION SCIENCE, CONSUMER HEALTH, CORE NURSING, HEALTH PROMOTION/EDUCATION, HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, INFORMATION SCIENCE, NURSING, ONLINE, ONLINE/PRINT, PEER-REVIEWED and PUBLIC HEALTH); and review status (BLIND PEER-REVIEWED, DOUBLE-BLIND PEER-REVIEWED, DOUBLE-BLIND REVIEW, EDITORIAL-BOARD REVIEWED, EXPERT PEER-REVIEWED, PEER-REVIEWED).

**Publication Types**
Limits to references of specific type(s). See the front of this guide for a list of the available publication types.

**Language**
Limits to one or more languages: AFRIKAANS, CHINESE, ENGLISH, FINNISH, FRENCH, GERMAN, HUNGARIAN, ITALIAN, JAPANESE, NORWEGIAN, PORTUGUESE, SPANISH, and SWEDISH. Non-English language articles have been included in CINAHL since 1994.

**Gender**
Limits to references which refer to either one or both sexes.

**Pregnancy**
Limits to references on pregnancy and pregnant women

**Inpatients**
Limits to references on inpatients

**Outpatients**
Limits to references on outpatients

**Age Groups**
Limits to references that deal with particular age(s) of human. Limits include FETUS, NEWBORN INFANT (BIRTH TO 1 MONTH), INFANT (1-23 MONTHS), PRESCHOOL CHILD (2-5 YEARS), CHILD (6-12 YEARS), ADOLESCENCE (13-18 YEARS), ADULT (19-44 YEARS), MIDDLE AGE (45-64 YEARS), AGED (65-79 YEARS), AGED 80 AND OVER. At the end of the list, there are multigroup headings: ALL INFANT, ALL CHILD, and ALL ADULT. PREGNANCY is a separate limit.

**Special Interests**
Focuses the search to a particular area: ADVANCED-NURSING-PRACTICE, CASE MANAGEMENT, CHIROPRACTIC, CONSUMER HEALTH, CRITICAL, DENTAL, EMERGENCY, EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE, GERONTOLOGIC, HOME HEALTH, HOSPICE/PALLIATIVE, INFORMATICS, MENS-HEALTH, MILITARY/UNIFORMED SERVICES, NURSING ADMINISTRATION, NURSING EDUCATION, NURSING LANGUAGE/CLASSIFICATION, NUTRITION, OBSTETRIC, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, ONCOLOGIC, PAIN & PAIN MANAGEMENT, PATIENT SAFETY PEDIATRIC, PERIOPERATIVE, PHYSICAL THERAPY, PSYCHIATRY/PSYCHOLOGY, PUBLIC HEALTH, QUALITY ASSURANCE, SOCIAL WORK, SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY/AUDIOLOGY, SPORTS MEDICINE, WOMENS-HEALTH, WOUND CARE.

**References Available**
Limits to references that have cited references in the database