

# Step-by-Step Searching in PubMed

This help sheet will walk you through a sample search in the database **PubMed**. For more detailed information on the **PubMed** database, please consult the **PubMed** help sheet or contact Mulford Reference Assistance at [MulfordReference@utoledo.edu](mailto:MulfordReference@utoledo.edu) or 419-383-4218.

## Our topic:

We are looking for research articles in English on treating hypertension in older people who also have diabetes.

1. From the library's homepage (<http://www.utoledo.edu/library/mulford/index.html>), go to the **PubMed@UT** link in the Mulford Quicklinks menu (<http://www.utoledo.edu/library/mulford/medline.html>). Click on the **PubMed 1949-present** link
2. On PubMed's search page, click on **MeSH Database** on the sidebar
3. Type in **hypertension** and click **Go**
4. Click on the first blue **hypertension** link
5. Below the definition of **hypertension** is a listing of subheadings. Select **diet therapy, drug therapy, and therapy**
6. For our search, select **Restrict Search to Major topic headings only** (this will limit our search to citations with Hypertension as one of the main subjects). Do not select **Do Not Explode this term** (this will allow the database to search for our term plus the narrower ways to describe our term)
7. From the **Send to** drop down menu at the top of the screen, select **Search Box with AND** (this will send our subject heading to the **Search Box**)
8. After selecting **Search Box with AND**, the **Search Box** will appear with our subject heading and subheadings in it. Now, click on the **Search PubMed** button
9. On the result page, click on the **MeSH Database** link on the sidebar
10. Now we need to add the second concept to our search. Type in **Diabetes Mellitus** and click **Go**
11. Click on the first blue **Diabetes Mellitus** link
12. Click in the box next to **Diabetes Mellitus** (do not choose any subheadings or **Restrict Search to Major Topic headings only** and do not select **Do Not Explode this term**)
13. From the **Send to** drop down menu at the top of the screen, select **Search Box with AND**
14. Click on the **Search PubMed** button
15. Now we need to combine our two searches. Select the **History** tab (between the **Preview/Index** and **Clipboard** tabs)
16. Next to the **Go** button, click on the **Clear** button
17. Left click on the search number to the left of your first search



18. In the display options menu click on **AND:** in the **Search box** at the top of the screen there will be a number sign followed by your search number (i.e. **#3**)
19. Now, Left click on the search number to the left of your second search
20. In the display options menu click on **AND:** in the **Search box** at the top of the screen there will be a number sign followed by your search number (i.e. **#3**)
21. Click on **Go**
22. To narrow our search down to a specific age group and language, click on the **Limits** tab under the **Search Query Box**.
23. In the **Ages** menu box, select **Aged: 65+ years** and **80 and over: 80+years**.
24. Under **Language** select any desired language
25. Click on **Go** at the bottom of the page