

# CINAHL Subheading, Publication Types, and Limiting Information



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. Further help is available from Mulford Reference Assistance (call 419-383-4218; send an e-mail to [MulfordReference@utoledo.edu](mailto:MulfordReference@utoledo.edu); or chat with a librarian using IM [see <http://www.utoledo.edu/library/mulford/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. Free-floating subheadings can be searched using the MJ (major subject) or MW (all subjects) fields. For example: *MJ drug therapy* or *MJ "dt"* with quotes. For more information, contact Mulford Reference Assistance.

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

## CINAHL Publication Types

Limit your results to desired publication types from the Publication Type drop-down menu located within Search Options. To search a publication type, you can also enter a search such as *PT interview*.

Abstract	Commercial website	Journal article	Quick lesson
Accreditation	Computer program	Journal description	Research
Advice & referral website	Conference	Legal cases	Research instrument
Algorithm	Consumer/patient teaching materials	Letter	Research instrument utilization
Anecdote	Corrected article	Listservs	Research instrument validation
Audiovisual	Critical path	Masters thesis	Research term definition
Bibliography	Diagnostic images	Nurse practice acts	Response
Biography	Directories	Nursing diagnoses	Review
Book	Doctoral dissertation	Nursing interventions	Search strategy
Book chapter	Drugs	Obituary	Software
Book review	Editorial	Other	Standards
Brief item	Equations & formulas	Overall	Statistics
Care plan	Evidence-based care sheet	Pamphlet	Systematic review
Cartoon	Exam questions	Pamphlet chapter	Tables/charts
Case study	Forms	Pictorial	Teaching materials
CEU	Games	Poetry	Tracings
Chat groups	Glossary	Practice acts	Website
Classification term	Historical material	Practice guidelines	
Clinical innovations	Individual testimonial website	Proceedings	
Clinical trial	Information website	Protocol	
Code of ethics	Interview	Questionnaire/scale	
Commentary		Questions and answers	

## CINAHL Limits

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Before or after running a search, it can be limited within the Search Options menu. Limiting *will never* result in a larger set of records.

<b>Research Article</b>	Limits to only research articles
<b>Peer-reviewed</b>	Limits to references from peer-reviewed publications
<b>EBP</b>	Limits to references which have <b>Evidence-Based Practice</b> as a special interest descriptor
<b>Publication Year</b>	Limits by the year(s) of publication
<b>Publication Type</b>	Limits to references of specific type(s). See the front of this guide for a list of the available publication types
<b>Exclude MEDLINE</b>	Excludes citations that are indexed in MEDLINE (this is helpful if you are searching in both CINAHL and MEDLINE and want to avoid duplicate results)
<b>Clinical Queries</b>	Filters search results to different categories of high quality research evidence
<b>Age Groups</b>	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.
<b>Gender</b>	Limits to references which refer to either one or both sexes
<b>Pregnancy</b>	Limits to references on pregnancy and pregnant women
<b>Inpatients</b>	Limits to references on inpatients
<b>Outpatients</b>	Limits to references on outpatients
<b>Special Interest</b>	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, MEN'S 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, WOMEN'S HEALTH, WOUND CARE
<b>Articles with Images</b>	Limits results to publications that have images or graphics
<b>Number of Pages</b>	Limits to only those articles that meet a maximum or minimum number of pages
<b>Journal subset</b>	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 (ALLIED HEALTH, ALTERNATIVE/COMPLEMENTARY THERAPY, BIOMEDICAL, COMPUTER/INFORMATION SCIENCE, CONSUMER HEALTH, CORE NURSING, HEALTH PROMOTION/EDUCATION, HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, NURSING, ONLINE, ONLINE/PRINT, PEER-REVIEWED and PUBLIC HEALTH); and review status (BLIND PEER-REVIEWED, DOUBLE-BLIND PEER-REVIEWED, EDITORIAL-BOARD REVIEWED, EXPERT PEER-REVIEWED, PEER-REVIEWED)
<b>CE module</b>	Limits to continuing education modules available from CINAHL. To get to the CE module, view the record and click on the link beside <b>CE Module</b>
<b>Exclude Pre-CINAHL</b>	Excludes citations not yet indexed in CINAHL
<b>EBSCO Full Text</b>	Limits to articles that are available full text in the EBSCOhost databases. Note that the library has access to many more online journals than just those from EBSCOhost. This option is <b>not recommended</b> because it limits the search too much and may exclude relevant references
<b>Language</b>	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
<b>References Available</b>	Limits to references that have cited references in the database