Ovid MEDLINE

MEDLINE

MEDLINE is maintained by the U. S. National Library of Medicine and is considered the premier source for bibliographic and abstract coverage of biomedical literature. More than 9.5 million records from more than 3,900 journals are indexed, including 65 of the most popular veterinary journals.

GETTING STARTED
1. Go to the libraries homepage at: http://library.tamu.edu
2. Search for “Medline” in the “Find an E-Resource” box. Be sure to select the “Indexes/Databases” link.
3. Click on “Medline (OVID) Version. Other databases to try include – Pubmed, Biosis, Agricola, Current Contents and CAB Abstracts.

SEARCHING
• By Keyword
  This is the default form of searching. Enter the word(s) you would like searched into the box. It is best to search for each word separately and then combine them rather than to put all in the box at once. For phrases, simply enter the words into the box.

• Search by Author
  Click the author button to search for documents written by a certain person. From the resulting Index Display choose all applicable author names.

• Search by Title
  Click the Title button to search for a word or phrase contained within the document title. If you type in words from the title, they must be consecutive in the title for it to locate a specific article. If you are unsure, search each word separately in the title field and then combine the searches.

• Search by Journal
  Click the Journal button to search for documents that appear in a particular journal. Enter the first few words of the journal name, without abbreviations.

Mapping Keyword Searches
1. Enter a single concept to search on the command line.
2. Click the Mapping checkbox and the click the Perform Search button.
3. Click the Select checkbox to the left of desired term(s). If none of the terms appears to match your desired subject, click the checkbox for the last line, “search as keyword.” OR Click any term to see its Tree or Thesaurus display.
4. To combine terms from the list of terms with AND or OR, use the pull down menu at the top of the page.
5. If available, click the Auto Explode checkbox(es) for any term(s) to search the terms(s) with all its more specific terms. Choose Auto Explode for the most
comprehensive retrieval – in other words, this will result in the greatest number of papers on your topic.

6. If available, click the Focus checkbox(es) to specify whether the chosen term should be the main topic discussed in the retrieved documents. This limits the results to those papers that have your topic as the main focus, and thus reduces the number of papers in the results.

7. Click the Continue button to move to the next step.

8. This brings you to the subheading display page. Here you can choose to include all possible subheadings associated with your search term. However, if you are only interested in “metabolism” for example, then you could select only metabolism to further limit your search.

Combining Searches
To combine searches click on the combine button. Click on the searches you would like combined and the Boolean operator (AND or OR) you would like used in between the searches.

Limiting Searches
- If you use the limit boxes on the main search page, the limits will apply to the search at the bottom of the list or your current search. To bring a search to the bottom of the list you can type the number of the search you wish to limit into the box and press enter.
- More limits are available by clicking on the limit button. From here you can limit a variety of criteria, such as age groups, gender, or animal.

Displaying Searches
- Every time you click the “Perform Search” button, Ovid keeps a record of your search in the search history window. Each search (also known as a set) is numbered consecutively in the “#” column. The quantity of documents retrieved by each search is listed in the “results” column.
- Once you have created some searches, a new column appears, called “Display”. Click the “Display” link to view the results of any search.
- By default the Search History Window shows your last four searches. When you have four or more search sets, then you must click on the Expand Tab to display all of the search sets. At this point, a Contract tab appears that can be clicked to shrink the window again.

Viewing Articles
- The default for viewing articles is called the citation. Other choices include an abstract view, and a complete reference view (this view does not show full text).
- The default for sorting is by date from the most recent to the oldest. This can be changed at the bottom of the screen.
- To view full text click the SFX button to link to full text (if available) or other options.
**Printing, Saving, and Emailing**
After marking the records from a search and choosing the viewing and sorting options from the citation manager box at the bottom of the screen, you can print, save or email it.

- To print a search, use the print icon on your browser.
- To save a search, choose the type of system you will use the text document on (Unix, Mac, etc.) and click on save.
- To email a search, click email and then enter your email address for both the sender and receiver.

**Logging Out**
Please log out of OVID when you are finished as there is a limited number of users and this will allow others to log in.

**Changing Databases**
You can switch databases by clicking the “Change Database” button. You will then be given a choice to rerun your searches in the new database.

**For Assistance**
Call the Medical Sciences Library at (979) 845-7428.