

Searching CINAHL Plus: Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature

What is CINAHL Plus?

CINAHL Plus with Full Text provides access to the literature in nursing and 17 allied health disciplines dating back to 1937. Over 3800 journals are indexed including virtually all English language nursing journals along with selected titles in biomedicine, alternative therapies, and consumer health. It also offers access to Evidence-Based Care Sheets, searchable cited references, and over 350 research instrument descriptions.

Getting Connected

Connect through the HealthLinks > Resources > Databases page, or type CINAHL Plus in the Search box on the upper right corner of HealthLinks and follow the link.



Search HealthLinks cinahl plus Go

Searching

Step 1: Enter your terms

- Type your search terms into the search boxes on the Advanced screen. Choose the field(s) you want to search from the pull down boxes and click .
- Use the asterisk (*) to search word roots, e.g. *transplant** retrieves transplant, transplants, or transplantation

Step 2: Limit your results

- Narrow your search to a lower number of more precise results by selecting desired Age Groups, Language, Publication Type, Peer Reviewed, Research Article, etc. from the options available below the search boxes, and click .
- Note the Clinical Queries refinement, which limits search retrieval to scientifically sound and clinically relevant study reports in five research areas: therapy, prognosis, review, qualitative and causation (etiology).

- Searching for research instruments:
 - Search for a description of an instrument and possible full text using the research instrument Publication Type (PT): Type *Rosenberg self esteem scale* in one Search box and *research instrument* in another box and select the Publication Type field.
 - Search for studies that use a particular instrument by using the Instrumentation field (IN): Type *Rosenberg self esteem scale* and choose the Instrumentation field.

Step 3: Combining Sets/Search History

- Click next to the search boxes to remove the current search terms.
- Click and select the search sets to combine by clicking the Add to Search box. Choose the desired Boolean operator (AND, OR, etc.) from the *Combine searches with:* drop down box, and then and .
- Alternatively, combine results by typing a search number into a new Search box, i.e., *s1 and s2 or (keyword(s) and s1)*, and click .

Search using CINAHL Headings, Subheadings, Major Concept, and Explode

In most cases, the most efficient way to search is by using **CINAHL Headings**, the thesaurus terms used to assign subject headings to the articles in the database. Click at the top of the page and type your term in the Search box. Click Browse. Click to see a definition of the term. Clicking on the Subject Heading itself will lead you to more information about the heading in the Tree, or hierarchical view of terms. You can select **Subheadings** if needed and may also specify that the term be a major focus of the article by checking the Major Concept box. Some terms are marked Explode, indicating there are narrower, more specific terms in the hierarchical list of subject headings. If you click this option, you will 'explode' the number of results by automatically including all the narrower terms in your search with the Boolean operator "OR".

Other Search Options

Visual Search - search across broad subject terms and view results in blocks or columns, organized by subject. Click on the squares to show more details in the lower right Summary pane.

Evidence-Based Care Sheets - search or browse 2- page summaries of treatment care for many conditions and include all reference used in producing the summaries.

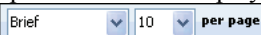
Quick Lessons - search or browse 2-page summaries with references for diseases and conditions.

Cited References - search through supporting cited references to 1994.

Viewing Results

Click on the article title link for more information on that item.

Change the way all results are displayed using the [Preferences »](#) link above the search results.

Click [Save](#) to enact changes. Alternatively, select options from the Display Results drop down box  at the bottom of each page.

If the full text of an article is contained within CINAHL Plus, images found from within the article, such as tables and figures, may appear below the citation in the search results.

Find Full-Text of Articles



Look for links to HTML or PDF Full Text below each citation.

If no direct link appears, click on [Check for UW holdings](#) to search the UW Library Catalog for the journal.



Printing, Emailing, Saving Results

Click [Add to folder](#) below your desired citations to add to your folder. Or click [Add \(1-10\)](#) to move all results on the page to the folder.

Open your folder by clicking [Folder](#) near the top of the page. Select items by checking boxes or Select all.

-  Print: Select from the options of output format. Click [Print](#).
-  Email: Fill out the form including full

email address, subject to appear in the email subject line, and click [Send](#).

-  Save: Choose your options as above. Click [Save](#).
-  Exporting Results to citation software such as EndNote or RefWorks. Check the radio button beside Direct Export to RefWorks or Direct Export to EndNote, ProCite, or Reference Manager. Click [Save](#). Your reference managing software should now activate. Check your references after import, to make sure they have imported correctly.

NOTE: After choosing Print, Email or Save, you can format the citations according to APA and other styles by using the drop-down menu under Citation Format. Double check the citations for format errors.

Saving Searches and Alerts

Save your search to be rerun at another time or create automatic email updates.

- Create a personal account by clicking on [Sign In to My EBSCOhost](#). Go to [I'm a new user](#) and set up your profile, or sign in by entering your user name and password.
- Enter a search.
- Click [Alert / Save / Share »](#) and then [Create an alert](#).
- Enter a name for your search and select type of saved search:
Saved Search (Permanent): use this option to save your search to be rerun at another time.
Alert: runs your search on a regular basis against the updated database and emails you the updated results. Specify preferences for frequency or email alerts, format, etc.
Click [Save](#).
- To access your saved searches, click [Search History/Alerts](#) above the search results and then [Retrieve Searches](#) or [Retrieve Alerts](#). The retrieved search can either be rerun or revised.

RSS feed urls are also available when you create an Alert.

Help

Click on [Help](#) on any page, or submit a question using [Ask a Librarian](#) or contact your library liaison directly.