

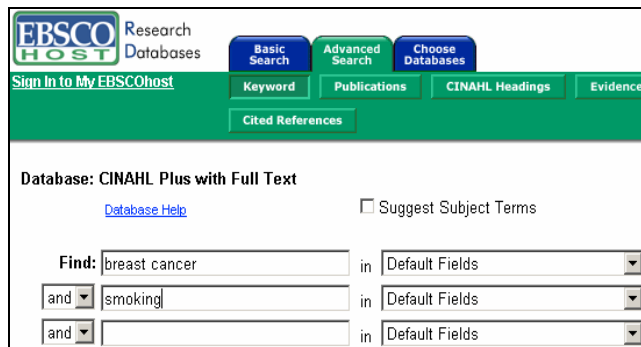


## Introduction

CINAHL (available through EBSCOhost), is the definitive database for nursing and allied health. It indexes more than 3000 journals in nursing, biomedicine, alternative medicine, consumer health and allied health professions, as well as selected books and other media, dissertations, conference proceedings, standards of practice and more. The full text of more than 300 journals is included.

## Searching

The search screen provides you with search boxes where you can enter and combine terms.



The example above will yield articles dealing with smoking and breast cancer.

Using the pull-down menus on the right enables you to focus your search by specifying fields in which to search for your term, such as author's name, journal title, title (of article), subject heading, and much more.

## Refine Search



You can also focus your search by using some of the many options under the *Refine Search* tab. Some of those options enable you to limit your search by criteria such as:

- Peer reviewed articles
- Language of publication
- Publication type (e.g. research instrument, practice guidelines, consumer information)

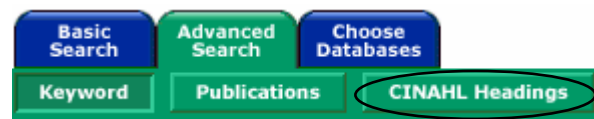
- Specific interest (e.g. evidence based practice, nursing administration, nutrition)
- Journal subset (e.g. published in USA, core nursing journals, complementary/alternative health)
- Publication year
- Age groups

## Subject Headings

Many databases, including CINAHL, have a standardized vocabulary that they use to describe articles. Using the standardized vocabulary in a subject search results in a more accurate and precise search.

To find the appropriate subject headings in CINAHL, you can look up terms in *CINAHL Headings* (sometimes referred to as the thesaurus).

Click *CINAHL Heading* from the menu at the top of the search screen:



Type in a word you would like to look up.

Click **Browse** to get a list of possible subject headings. Click on the desired subject heading. Here you will find information on preferred terms to use in searching the database, how the terms are used, how they relate to other terms, and more. Entries provide the following:

- **“Tree” view** – Provides a hierarchical context for your search term, showing you broader terms (which can be useful if you need to expand a search) and narrower terms (which can be useful if you need a more specific term to better focus your search). A term may be represented in more than one hierarchy, depending on what aspect of the subject you are interested in.
- **Scope** – Notes describing how terms are defined and used in this database.
- **Related Headings** - Also known as "See Also" terms, these are suggestions for other terms that are related to the one you looked up.

- **On Search:**  
*Explode* – If your subject heading has narrower headings that fall under it in the hierarchy, clicking on *explode* will include those narrower headings in the search  
  
*Major concept* – will only retrieve articles for which this concept is the main focus of the article
- **Qualify Subheadings** – enables you to find articles that look at specific aspects of your topic. You can select one or several of these.
- **Used For** – This note tells you what concepts the term you looked up is used for.

Click  to add the term to the search box on the search screen.

**Combining subject headings:**

If you would like to combine this concept with another concept, enter your second concept into the *Browse for* box and click .

- If your concepts are similar and you are looking for articles that mention *either* one or the other (such as tobacco *or* smoking), make sure that OR is selected from the dropdown menu in front of the *Add* button.
- If you are looking for articles that deal with *both* of your concepts (such as pregnancy *and* smoking) make sure that AND is selected from the dropdown menu in front of the *Add* button.

Click  to run your search.

## Viewing Results

The result list contains the records that your search found. Click on the title to view the record. In some cases you will get just a citation (information about the article) and an abstract (summary of the article). In other cases you get the entire article.

Your results may include some of the following:

PDF Full Text Linked Full Text HTML Full Text	Clicking on any of these links will retrieve the entire article online. You can print it, save it to a file or email it to yourself. (Note: you must be viewing the full-text to print or save it. Otherwise only the citation/abstract will be saved.)										
Cited References	Lists the sources cited in this article										
Times Cited in this Database	Lists other articles in the CINAHL database that cite this article										
	<p>If one of the full text links above is not available, click the Find It button to find out where you can get a copy of the article. You will get one or more of the following messages:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Message</th> <th>What it means</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Full text available via...</td> <td>The article is available online in one of the library's other databases. Click on the link to go to the article.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Print version in Periodical List</td> <td>The article is available in print. Click on the link to find the physical location of this journal in the library.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Print version in McIntyre Library Catalog</td> <td>Another option for finding the physical location of the print journal in the library. Will indicate the most recent issues received.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Request through Interlibrary Loan...</td> <td>Our library doesn't have this article but you can request a copy of it from another library.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Message	What it means	Full text available via...	The article is available online in one of the library's other databases. Click on the link to go to the article.	Print version in Periodical List	The article is available in print. Click on the link to find the physical location of this journal in the library.	Print version in McIntyre Library Catalog	Another option for finding the physical location of the print journal in the library. Will indicate the most recent issues received.	Request through Interlibrary Loan...	Our library doesn't have this article but you can request a copy of it from another library.
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