

**FRIAR Form (Clinical Information Problem Solving Worksheet)**

**Frame:** What Is Your Clinical Question?

(If possible, use PICO format: **P**atient, **I**ntervention, **C**ontrol/Comparison, **O**utcome)

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**Relevant Search Concepts:** *(Break your question into its 2-4 most important concepts, ordered by priority. Top priority is usually the P-concept of a PICO question; 2nd priority is usually the I-concept; 3rd priority is the concept.)*

(Priority 1 Concept)

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(Priority 2 Concept)

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(Priority 3 Concept, opt/)

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Other:

**Irrelevant Search Concepts:** (NOTE: May include clinical concepts. Must include overly general terms. NOTE: Discipline specific terms may be problematic if topic is cross-disciplinary in scope.)

(1)

(2)

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(3)

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(4)

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Other:

**Alternate Terms for Relevant Concepts:** *(How many ways can you describe these core ideas?)*

(Terms for Priority 1 Concept)

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(Terms for Priority 2 Concept)

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(Terms for Priority 3 Concept)

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More Terms to Consider in Searching:

**Review** *(Has working through this process given you any new ideas for approaching your question? If not, you may not have examined your question closely enough. Continue to review the information above and make changes and corrections based on your search process.)*

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**FRIAR = Frame, Relevance, Irrelevance, Alternates/Aliases, Review**

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**SECT Form (Searching Worksheet: Evidence-Based MEDLINE Searching)**

If you are looking for an answer in the clinical professional *literature*, you will probably want to use Medline. Medline will give you citations for articles, but you will still need to go find and look at the article itself, probably in your library. If you want an immediate answer, the concept is new or the question is not well represented in the published literature, you may want to try the Internet. Medline can be searched either through UM-MEDSEARCH at <<http://medsearch.lib.umich.edu/>> or through PubMed at <<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/>>. Below, begin by refining the search strategy you developed with the FRIAR form. You can use this process for your own Medline search, or to work with a librarian or expert searcher. Take a minimal approach — only select limits critical to your question. Begin with a few, and then add more limits only as necessary to focus the search.

**Key articles.**

List, on an attached sheet, citations for no more than 3 to 5 articles which are relevant to your search topic and which should be retrieved by a well designed search.

**Limits**

Human		Geographic Limitations (most topics are international in scope, and this limit can be risky to implement)
Animal		
Years: Start date =		
English		
Other Lanugages (specify: _____)		

**Age groups**

Pick all that apply to **this** search question only.

MEDLINE Age Groups	EMBASE Age Groups
<i>No equivalent</i>	Embryo
Neonate (birth-1 month)	<i>No equivalent</i>
Infant (1-24 months)	Infant (birth to 12 months)
<i>No equivalent</i>	Child (unspecified age)
Preschool 2-5	Preschool 1-6
School age 6-12	School age 7-12
Adolescent 13-18	Adolescent 13-17
Adult 19-64	Adult 18-64
Aged 65+	Aged 65+
Aged, (80 and over)	<i>No equivalent</i>

**Focus for Search Strategy**

Pick **one**. This is used to select a searching hedge or filter to focus results, in the event that the search strategy retrieves too large a number of citations to be manageable.

Etiology/Harm/Prevention	Diagnosis
Treatment/Therapy	Outcomes/Prognosis

**Study Types**

Case Study	Comparative	Evaluation	Methodological	RCTs	Statistical
Case-Base	CCTs	Feasibility	Multicenter	Reproducibility of Results	Theoretical
Case-Control	Cross-Over	Follow-up	Outcome	Retrospective	Time Study
Clinical Protocols	Cross-Sectional	Intervention	Pilot Projects	Sampling	Transcultural
Clinical Trials	Delphi	Longitudinal	Prevalence	Sensitivity and Specificity	Twin
Clinical Trials, Phase ____	Double-Blind Method	Matched Pair Analysis	Prospective	Seroepidemiologic	Other:
Cohort	Epidemiologic	Meta-Analysis	Random Allocation	Single Blind	<b>ALL/ANY</b>
				Small-Area	

**SECT Form (Searching Worksheet: MEDLINE Searching, continued)****Search in which of the following databases?**

Standard databases for health systematic reviews:

1. MEDLINE	2. EMBASE	3. Cochrane	4. Web Of Science
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## Other databases (health &amp; life science):

AIDSLine	CAB Health	Health and Psychosocial Instruments	HSRProj	NORD
Bacteriology Abstracts (Microbiology B)	CancerLit	Health & Safety Sciences Abstracts	MD Consult	Nucleic Acids Abstracts
BioethicsLine	ChemID	Health Reference Center	MDX Health Digest	
Biosis (Biological Abstracts)	Clinical Trials	HealthSTAR	Neurosciences Abstracts	Current Contents

## Other databases (allied health):

CINAHL - Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health	International Nursing Index	Registry of Nursing Research
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## Other databases (alternative &amp; complementary):

AMED (Allied and Complementary Medicine Database)	Alt-HealthWatch	Dr. Duke's	RX-List
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## Other databases (evidence-based health care):

Best Evidence	Cochrane	DARE
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## Other databases (genetics):

Entrez	Genetics Abstracts	Human Genome Abstracts	Multiple Congenital...Syndromes (Jablonski)
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## Other databases (pharmacy and pharmaceuticals):

AMED (Allied and Complementary Medicine DB)	EMBASE	International Pharmaceutical Abstracts (IPA)	Micromedex	Physicians GenRx
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## Other databases (population group &amp; geographic):

African Index Medicus	Ageline	Ethnic NewsWatch
GenderWatch	LILACS (Latin American and Caribbean Health Sciences Literature)	Native Health Research Database

## Other databases (psychology &amp; social sciences):

Health and Psychosocial Instruments	Mental Measurements Yearbook	PsycINFO	PsycLit
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## Other databases (sports):

Atlantes (Spanish)	Heracles (French)	SPORT Discus (Sport Information Resource Center)
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**SECT Form (Searching Worksheet: MEDLINE Searching, continued)**  
**Sample Articles**

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**Terms/Concepts Represented in Sample Articles**

<i>#</i>	<i>Concept 1: Term(s)</i>	<i>Concept 2: Term(s)</i>	<i>Concept 3: Term(s)</i>

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## OTHER DATABASES

Agricola  
Agricultural and Environmental Biotechnology Abstracts  
Algology Mycology & Protozoology Abstracts (Microbiology C)  
Animal Behavior Abstracts  
Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts - Biological Sciences & Living Resources (ASFA 1)  
ArticleFirst  
Beilstein Crossfire plusReactions  
Biology Digest  
Biotechnology and Bioengineering Abstracts  
Cambridge Scientific Abstracts Internet Database Service  
Ceramics Abstracts  
Chemical Abstracts  
Chemoreception Abstracts  
CHRIS (Chemical Hazards Response Information System)  
Conference Papers Index  
ContentsFirst  
Copper Data Center Database  
DAI (Dissertation Abstracts International)  
DIPPR (Design Institute for Physical Property Data) Chemical Database  
Ecology Abstracts  
EI Compendex  
EIS: Digests of Environmental Impact Statements  
Entomology Abstracts  
Enviroline  
Environmental Routenet  
ERIC  
FSTA (Food Science and Technology Abstracts)  
GEOBASE  
GeoRef (GREF)  
Gmelin Crossfire  
HSDB (Hazardous Substances Data Bank)  
Industrial & Applied Microbiology Abstracts (Microbiology A)  
Inspec (INSP)  
IRIS (Integrated Risk Information System)  
JICST (Japanese Science and Technology)  
NTIS (National Technical Information Services indexes)  
Nucleic Acids Abstracts  
OHMTADS (Oil and Hazardous Technical Assistance Data System)  
PAIS (Public Affairs Information Services)  
Plant Science  
Pollution Abstracts  
PopLine  
RTECS (Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances / Toxic Substances List)  
SDILine  
SIGLE (System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe)  
Sociological Abstracts  
SpaceLine  
Toxicology Abstracts  
ToxLine  
TSCA (Toxic Substances Control Act)  
Water Resources Abstracts  
Waternet  
Wilson Indexes to Journal Articles (WILO & WILS)  
World Ceramics Abstracts  
Zoological Record