HSCI 1130 Library Lab: PICO & Medline Searching
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To find library guides for Health Sciences:
→ Go to the library website: http://www.langara.ca/library/
→ Assignment Help → Health Sciences

1. Identify the main concepts / search terms in a PICO
Practice question for in-class searching:

Are teens aged 13-18 years (P) who do high amounts of video gaming (I) at increased risk for depression (O)?

Add alternate terms for each concept as you go along. A research topic may have 2 or more concepts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept 1</th>
<th>Concept 2</th>
<th>Concept 3</th>
<th>Concept 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>e.g. teen*</td>
<td>e.g. video*</td>
<td>e.g. gaming</td>
<td>e.g. depress*</td>
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teen* will search for teen, teens, teenagers, teenaged, etc.
* is the truncation symbol used in Google and most library databases

2. Search MEDLINE

a) Click on the link to MEDLINE
b) Enter your search terms from Step 1 as shown below:
3. **Examine a MEDLINE Detailed Record**
   a) Scan the results and click on the title link for the 3d article: *Clinical features and axis*...
      
      The Detailed Record will give you a good description of the article, including Keywords and an Abstract.
   
   b) Under Tools, Click on *Add to folder*. Note other Tools available (*Email*, *Cite*, etc.).
   c) Write down at least two *Subject terms* or *Abstract word/phrases* to improve this search:
   
   d) Is this a research article?  
      - Yes  
      - No

4. **Improve your search**
   a) Go to the top of the Detailed Record page. You’ll see your 3 search boxes there.
   b) Add at least one new word to your search using OR, as below, and click on Search.
      
      OR means that ANY term inside the box can be in the search results.
   
   c) Choose 2 more articles on the first page of results and add them to your folder.

5. **Choose research articles, NOT review articles**
   Select articles reporting original research, NOT reviews, systematic reviews, or meta-analyses. Usually, reviews can be easily identified by skimming the article title and/or the article abstract.
   You can search and choose an option under *Limit your results*, such as *Publication Type: Randomized Controlled Trial*, but you will find far fewer articles in your results list.

6. **Save your work in a temporary EBSCOhost folder to email to yourself**
   → Click on the folder link  
   → Select the articles & email them to yourself, choosing APA citation. Use any email address.  
   → You can also email yourself a link to a saved search (see below).