

When to use UM-MEDSEARCH:

To search for articles in medicine, health care, pharmaceuticals, nursing, allied health areas or health care administration. This database primarily serves physicians, health care administrators, and students in health care fields.

How to use UM-MEDSEARCH:

1. From the library's home page (lib.umflint.edu), click **Periodicals: Indexes & Full Text**
2. In the left column under **Databases**, click the last item in the list: **UM-MEDSEARCH**.
3. This resource is based on the Ann Arbor campus, so you must use your Ann Arbor password (also known as the "Kerberos" password) to logon. Click **Authenticated sign-on** in the middle of the display under **UM-MEDSEARCH**.

Note: You must set up an account the first time you use this resource. Click the gray **account setup form box**, and then click **Kerberos method**. Enter your username and Ann Arbor password (which may be different from your campus LAN password), and click the gray **Apply changes and continue** bar at the bottom. Click **OK** in the license agreement box. A message will appear confirming your account setup. Click **Continue**.

4. After signing on, click **MEDLINE**, or choose from the other available databases (see note at bottom of handout).
5. Choose distinctive **keywords** to describe your topic, and type them into the **Search** box.

Note: If you want to look for articles that discuss two different topics--for example, pregnancy and diabetes--this database works best if you search one topic (diabetes), then the other (pregnancy), then combine the results afterwards. Instructions appear below (see number 10).

6. From the resulting list of **subject headings**, choose the most appropriate heading by clicking the box to its left; then click **Continue** (button will appear toward the top of the screen).
If the system is unable to find a **subject heading** that matches your topic closely enough, you may choose to have your topic searched as a **keyword** by clicking the box for that option (at the bottom of the list of the resulting subject headings).
7. From the list of **subheadings** that displays, choose as many of these **aspects** of your topic as are appropriate by clicking the box to the left of each. You may choose one, several, or all of them. Then click **Continue** toward the top left of the display. Your results will display in the **Search History** table.
8. You may limit your results to English language articles, articles focusing on humans rather than animals, and to the publication years you would like to

specify by clicking the appropriate boxes under **Limits** at the bottom of the display. Other limits are also available.

9. Display the authors and titles of resulting articles by clicking the blue **Display** button to the right of the article set you would like to see. The journal title, author, article title, and issue information will display for 30 articles at a time. Click **Abstract** to see a summary of the article or **Complete Reference** to see more information about the article. Please note that MEDLINE is not a full-text database. You may find occasional complete articles on the computer when searching MEDLINE, though.

Note: If you click the "Does Library Own?" link on the title display, you will get information on whether UM-Ann Arbor campus owns that article, not UM-Flint!

10. To look for articles that discuss two or more topics, repeat the above process with your second topic, until a second set of articles displays on the **Search History** chart. Combine the two sets by clicking the **combine** icon (two overlapping circles) at the bottom of the Search History. You will be prompted to select the article sets you want to combine, then click **Continue**. The sets will be combined using the logical operator "and" (see handout "Getting Started Searching in Databases" for more information on logical operators and how they are used), unless you select the operator "or" at the top of the display.
11. The results will be a set of articles about both of your topics. Browse through them as described in no. 9 above.

Note: The primary database offered by UM-MEDSEARCH is MEDLINE, which indexes the medical literature published from 1966 to the present, but it also provides access to the following databases:

BIOSIS Previews: The world's most comprehensive reference database for life science research.

Medline In Process & other non-indexed citations : provides basic access to new articles in the medical field before complete indexing (with medical subject headings) is provided in MEDLINE.

EBM Reviews: from the leading database on evidence-based medicine, these two databases analyze and synthesize information from relevant controlled clinical trials, to provide state-of-the-art health care information.

Ovid Old Medline: Indexes medical articles published from 1950 to 1965.

Please note that UM-MEDSEARCH is a large and complex database that offers many ways of making your search very precise and/or very comprehensive. Please see a librarian if these instructions do not meet all your needs.