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## OVID MEDLINE vs. PUBMED MEDLINE

### AREN'T THEY THE SAME?

By Peter Cole, University of Pittsburgh Intern

Everyone who isn't presenting at their first professional conference tomorrow is asleep. Although your colleagues were impressed with your paper, you know that this one article you found in PubMed will make your presentation *that much* better. But you've been ransacking the Ovid-Medline database for 2 hours, and the article is still not showing up. Why does this always happen at 5 a.m., when everyone is sleeping?

Mistaking Ovid-Medline for PubMed can happen to even the most seasoned searchers. However, by remembering a few facts you can prevent these nightmares from happening.

**Medline** (MEDlars onLINE), the primary component of PubMed, is a bibliographic database created and maintained by the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and other international centers, also known as MEDLARS (MEDical Literature and Analysis Retrieval System) centers. Information in the database is proprietary; but 99% of it is leased to private vendors.

**Ovid**, the most popular vendor of databases like PsycINFO and CINAHL, is also the most popular vendor of Medline. And with good reason. Ovid's interface allows users to search Medline by MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), a controlled vocabulary of more than 22,000 terms that was created by MEDLARS center indexers. MeSH are arranged hierarchically and alphabetically, and can be searched automatically in Ovid by clicking the "Map Term to Subject Heading" box. Ovid-Medline also permits users to build a search strategy, and displays their search history, enabling them to easily combine or revisit parts of a search. Ovid's simple interface to Medline contains icons that allow searching by article title, journal, and author with one click. Results are then listed chronologically, with the option of linking to the article's abstract, complete citation, or full text, and with additional options such as searching your library's holdings, or purchasing an article.

**PubMed**, a product of the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at the NLM, has been available at no cost

and for public use since 1997. It is a part of the Entrez system of databases that includes Nucleotide and Genome. Unlike Medline, with 13 million citations dating back to 1963, PubMed offers over 15 million citations going back to 1950 (there is minimal information on some earlier citations as well). In addition, PubMed's scope is much wider, covering fields such as astrophysics and geological science, while Medline covers mostly biomedical research. PubMed is updated daily from Tuesday through Saturday, and although Medline has been increasing in efficiency, it still tends to be about 2 weeks behind.

PubMed's main features include:

- single citation matcher
- relevant articles link
- clinical queries search filters page
- spellchecker
- save search option
- automatic updates option (this emails updates to you on specific searches, using "My NCBI—Cubby")
- LinkOut, which connects users to full-text articles and other Entrez databases.

*Last issue introduced you to **Peter Cole**, the Library's intern for the Spring semester. With this issue we bid him farewell, as he graduates with his Master's Degree in Library and Information Sciences. Best wishes, Peter, and thanks for all your help!*



CRS Advisor

## PATIENT EDUCATION - CLINICAL REFERENCE SYSTEM

**In case you haven't heard...** The Clinical Reference Systems (CRS) Advisor Series allows you to deliver comprehensive education customized to each patient in a convenient and easily accessible format. This product can help enhance communication between provider and patient, encouraging better compliance and improved understanding of treatment directions.

CRS icons and mouse pads have been placed next to computers that have access to CRS. Mouse pads can be picked up in the Nursing Education office. Please contact Toni Hammond at 412-578-5367. If you would like to have access to CRS from your computer, from anywhere on the West Penn Hospital campus, please contact Mary Jo Dorsey at [mjdorsey@wpahs.org](mailto:mjdorsey@wpahs.org).

### **Patient and Family Education Center**

When searching for reliable health information, don't forget the Patient and Family Education Center at West Penn Hospital.

## LIBRARY COMMITTEE

A Library Committee meeting was held April 25. Because many members could not attend, the presentation has been rescheduled for Friday, **June 10**, from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Karen Jones Conference Room. RSVP to Elaine Schmid at 412-578-4694 or Mary Jo Dorsey at 412-578-4708 or [mjdorsey@wpahs.org](mailto:mjdorsey@wpahs.org).

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Library Committee, please contact Mary Jo Dorsey.

## APPRECIATION FOR LIBRARY FUND SUPPORT

If you are interested in making a donation to the Library Fund, please contact Mary Jo Dorsey at 412-578-4708 or [mjdorsey@wpahs.org](mailto:mjdorsey@wpahs.org) or Beverly Beisgen at the West Penn Hospital Foundation at 412-578-4049.

## OTHER NEWS

### **EndNote®** ENDNOTE REFERENCE MANAGER

For those of you who are into research and need a smart way to manage your references, access to EndNote is now available on all Library computers. EndNote is a software application that stores, organizes, and formats bibliographic references. Here's what the company says about its product:

*"Millions of researchers, scholarly writers, students, and librarians use EndNote® to search online bibliographic databases, organize their references and images, and create bibliographies and figure lists instantly. Instead of spending hours typing bibliographies, or using index cards to organize their references, they do it the easy way—by using EndNote!"*

## SURF'S UP!



Thanks to **everyone** who helped make the Surfing Party (aka "Library Fair") a **huge** success. Almost **300** people visited the Wintergarden on March 11 for a look at the latest and greatest in Web, electronic and book resources that the Library has to offer.

## HOW DO YOU GOOGLE?

### ZEN AND THE ART OF THE GOOGLE

*By Mary Jo Dorsey, MLS, AHIP*

"Google"? Huh? How would you like to be able to find exactly what you need, when you need it, practically any time you search the Internet? Search engines, such as Google, Yahoo, AltaVista, and others have been improving since their inception in the mid to late 1990s. My personal favorite, Google, is operated by a very progressive company that offers more ways to use the Internet than most people can shake a stick at!

Calm thyself. Find solace in my Zen class and learn the art of the Google. I will show you the in's and out's of using some of the most effective, high quality Web searching and Web-based resources available to anyone with Internet web access. Just contact me (info. below) to arrange a time in the Library or for a Library Education and Outreach program in your department.

## LIBRARY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH WORKSHOPS

### The Internet (basic searching)

- *Zen and the Art of the Google*

### Library Resources (overviews)

- *The Library Website for Dummies (or the Time-Challenged)*
- *Medline: Ovid vs. PubMed, an overview*

### Literature searching

- *Searching CINAHL on Ovid*
- *Searching Medline on Ovid*
- *Searching Medline on PubMed*

If your department would like to schedule a Library Orientation presentation at a noon conference or any other time, please contact: *Mary Jo Dorsey, MLS, AHIP, at 412-578-4708 or [mjdorsey@wpahs.org](mailto:mjdorsey@wpahs.org).*

## LIBRARY WEBSITES

The Richard M. Johnston Health Sciences Library  
at the Western Pennsylvania Hospital

Need information? Access the resources of the Richard M. Johnston Health Sciences Library on the 'Net:

West Penn Hospital Intranet:

<http://home.wpahs.org/wph/library/index.htm>

World Wide Web (Internet):

<http://www.wpahs.org/education/library/wph/index.html>

Patient and Family Education Center:

<http://www.wpahs.org/education/library/wph/pfec/pfec.html>

Bookmarks with these Library Web addresses may be picked up in the Library.