



PsycINFO: A Guide to Searching the Database

PsycINFO is the major database of psychology literature. The database covers academic, research, and practice literature in psychology, as well as material from related disciplines such as education, social work, law, medicine, psychiatry, criminology, and organizational behavior.

Searching *PsycINFO*

Under the **OVID Syntax** tab, enter a keyword or phrase and click **Search**. Use the **Limits** area to limit your search to full-text, English language, publication year, etc.

The screenshot shows the OVID Syntax search interface. The search field contains the word "depression" and the "Map Term to Subject Heading" checkbox is checked. The limits section includes options for Full Text, Abstracts, Latest Update, Human, PsycARTICLES Journals, English Language, and All Journals. There are also dropdown menus for Publication Year and an "Additional Limits" button.

Notice the **Map Term to Subject Heading** box is checked. When this box is checked, clicking **Search** will cause the mapping display page to appear (see below). This will list **subject headings** in the database related to that keyword or phrase. To go *directly* to your search results after clicking **Search**, make sure the **Map Term** box is not checked.

Your term mapped to the following Subject Headings:

Click on a subject heading to view more general and more specific terms within the thesaurus.

Any term you select will automatically be exploded to include all narrower terms. To select a term without exploding, clear the Explode checkbox for that term.

Term mapped through permuted index

Combine selections with:

This is the mapping display page. To continue from this page to your search results, checkmark the "select" box next to the section you want to perform and click continue.

Select	Subject Heading	Auto Explode	Focus	Scope
<input type="checkbox"/>	ANACLYTIC DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ATYPICAL DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	BECK DEPRESSION INVENTORY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	"DEPRESSION (EMOTION)"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ENDOGENOUS DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	MAJOR DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	REACTIVE DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	RECURRENT DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPREADING DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	TREATMENT RESISTANT DEPRESSION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ZUNGS SELF RATING DEPRESSION SCALE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="button" value="U"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	depression.mp. search as Keyword			

Using the Mapping Display Page

- Click on a **Subject Heading** to view its thesaurus - related terms that are more general and more specific.
- Select the **Explode** box if you wish to retrieve results using the selected term and all of its more specific terms.
- Select the **Focus** box if you wish to limit your search to those documents in which your subject heading is considered the major point of the article.
- If your search did not map to a desirable subject heading, select the box **Search as Keyword**.
- If you select more than one term, you can combine them using a boolean operator (AND or OR).

Viewing Your Search Results:

Your search results will display with a list of records as shown below. You can view the abstract or complete reference for the article, check article availability, and mark the item(s) you may want to print or email.

The Abstract link provides article summary information. An abstract can be a brief statement or a comprehensive digest of the research and findings described in the full text.

Dennis, Cindy-Lee. **Psychosocial and psychological interventions for prevention of postnatal depression: systematic review.** [References]. [Journal; Peer Reviewed Journal] *BMJ: British Medical Journal*. Vol 331(7507) Jul 2005, 15.

Year of Publication
2005

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Patel, Roshni R; Murphy, Deirdre J; Peters, Tim. **Operative delivery and postnatal depression: A cohort study.** [References]. [Journal; Peer Reviewed Journal] *BMJ: British Medical Journal*. Vol 330(7496) Apr 2005, 879.

Year of Publication
2005

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Click in the square here to select or mark those records you wish to look at in detail, print out, save to a disk, or send to an email account. When you click on the box, a checkmark will appear. If you change your mind, click on the marked box and the checkmark will disappear. You can review your selected results through the **Results Manager** at the bottom of the page.

The full-text of some articles will be contained within the Ovid database. Click on Ovid Full Text to see the entire article. Other articles will be available through one or more of the University's electronic databases. Click Library Holdings to find where the full-text of the article can be accessed. Need help finding the full-text of an article? **Ask a librarian.**

Searching Tips

In Keyword searching, you can use special operators to combine search terms and broaden or narrow your search.

Operator	Search Example	Finds Records Containing
AND	cloning and ethics	Finds records containing both cloning and ethics
OR	metaphor or simile	Finds records containing either metaphor or simile
NOT	chemistry not organic	Finds records containing chemistry but not organic. Use carefully because not eliminates records containing both terms
ADJn	Depression adj5 child	Finds records containing depression within 5 words or less of child.

Broaden your search by using *truncation*. In the keyword search box, type a word root and immediately follow it with a \$. For example, the search term "child\$" retrieves records containing child, child's, children, childhood, childlike, etc.

Results Manager

The **Results Manager** appears at the bottom of your **Search Results** screen. Use the **Results Manager** to display, print, email, or save your **Selected Results**.

Results Manager

Actions

Results

Selected Results
3, 4, 5

All on this page

All in this set (1-1810)

and/or Range:

Fields

Citation (Title, Author, Source)

Citation + Abstract

Citation + Abstract + Subject

Headings

Complete Reference

Result Format

Ovid

BRS/Tagged

Reprint/Medlars

Brief (Titles) Display

Direct Export

Include Search History

****If you have questions about using *PsycINFO* or any other research databases, finding information, or general library research questions, please ask a librarian or call the reference desk at x7295.**