

EBSCO User Guide

This guide covers the specifics of using the databases via the Ovid interface. For more information on how to search generally, please see the '[A step-by-step guide to searching for literature](#)' guide available on our website: www.uhl-library.nhs.uk/training

Contents

A: Accessing EBSCO Databases and Creating a Personal Account	1
B: Searching for Terms	3
C: Searching for Subject Headings	5
D: Combining Search Terms and Subject Headings	7
E: Filtering and Saving Results	8

A: Accessing EBSCO Databases and Creating a Personal Account

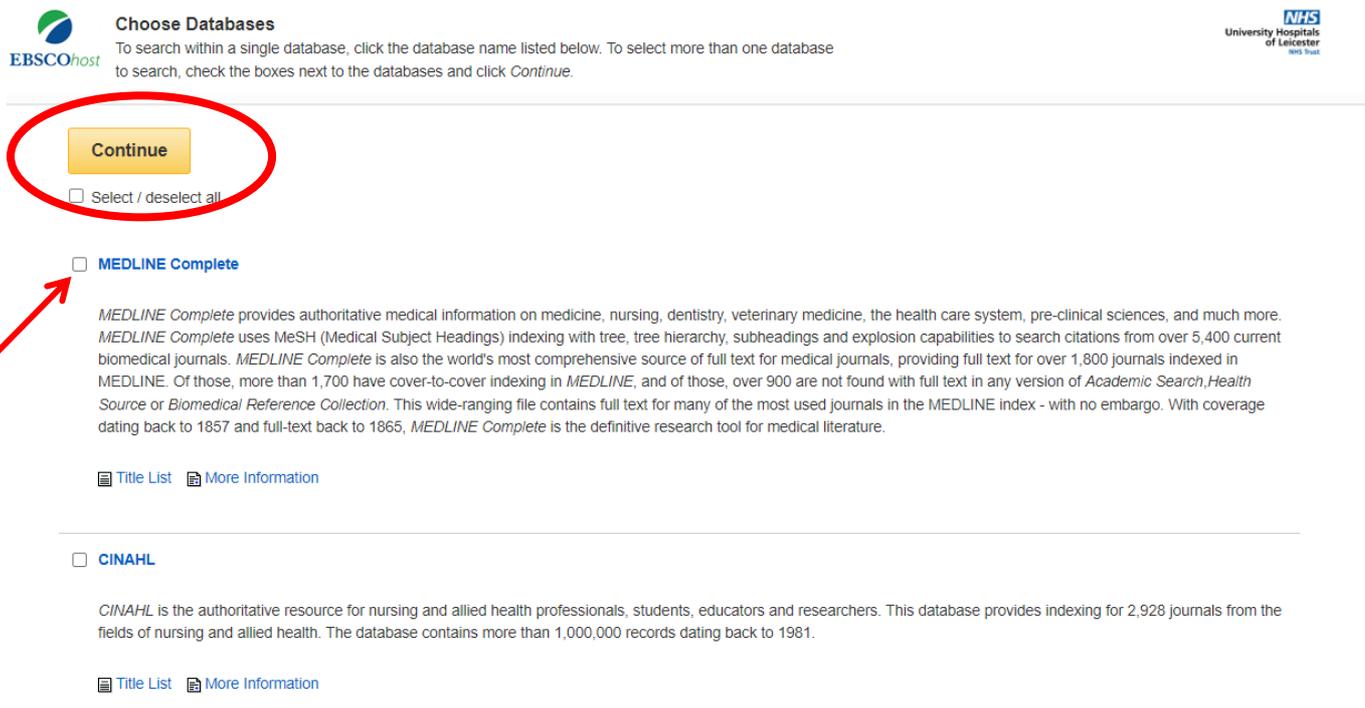
1. Accessing EBSCO Databases (CINAHL, Medline)

- Go to the UHL Libraries & Information Services website databases page (www.uhl-library.nhs.uk/databases) and under the column headed 'Supplier: EBSCO', use the link for the database that you want to search. Alternatively you can use the EBSCO databases redirect link: www.uhl-library.nhs.uk/ebSCO
- Then sign in using your OpenAthens account.

2. To enable full functionality (save searches and results) and allow access to your **Folder** (previous searches etc.), click the **Sign In** link on the top bar.



3. Select the database you want to search, for example **Medline**. Then click **'continue'**. **We recommend searching one database at a time.**



Choose Databases
To search within a single database, click the database name listed below. To select more than one database to search, check the boxes next to the databases and click *Continue*.

Continue

Select / deselect all

MEDLINE Complete

MEDLINE Complete provides authoritative medical information on medicine, nursing, dentistry, veterinary medicine, the health care system, pre-clinical sciences, and much more. *MEDLINE Complete* uses MeSH (Medical Subject Headings) indexing with tree, tree hierarchy, subheadings and explosion capabilities to search citations from over 5,400 current biomedical journals. *MEDLINE Complete* is also the world's most comprehensive source of full text for medical journals, providing full text for over 1,800 journals indexed in MEDLINE. Of those, more than 1,700 have cover-to-cover indexing in *MEDLINE*, and of those, over 900 are not found with full text in any version of *Academic Search*, *Health Source* or *Biomedical Reference Collection*. This wide-ranging file contains full text for many of the most used journals in the MEDLINE index - with no embargo. With coverage dating back to 1857 and full-text back to 1865, *MEDLINE Complete* is the definitive research tool for medical literature.

[Title List](#) [More Information](#)

CINAHL

CINAHL is the authoritative resource for nursing and allied health professionals, students, educators and researchers. This database provides indexing for 2,928 journals from the fields of nursing and allied health. The database contains more than 1,000,000 records dating back to 1981.

[Title List](#) [More Information](#)

4. If you would like to change your database, from the menu above the search bar you will see the database you are currently searching, and here you can change the database by clicking on **'Choose Databases'**.



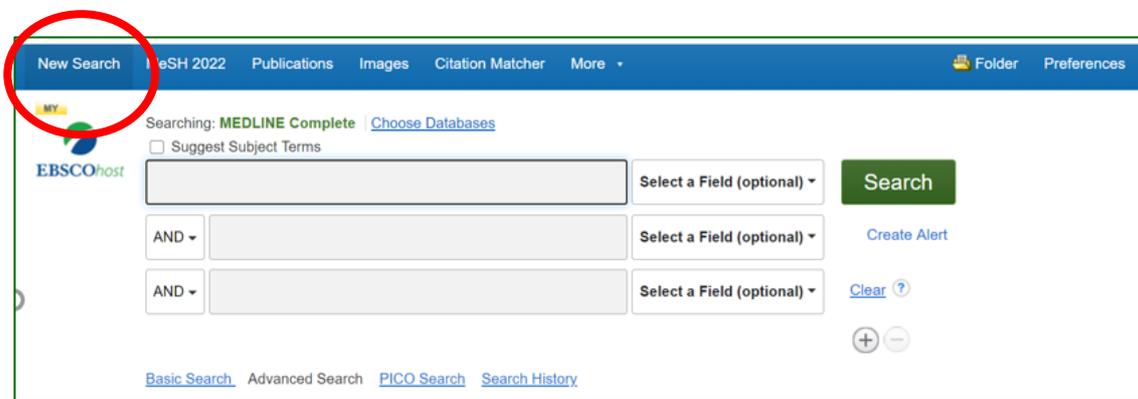
New Search MeSH 2022 Publications Images Citation Matcher More ▾ Folder Preferences Languages ▾ Ask-A-Librarian

MY
EBSCOhost Searching: **MEDLINE Complete** [Choose Databases](#)

Suggest Subject Terms

Select a Field (optional) Search

5. Once you have selected a database, you can begin searching. If the screen displayed below is not shown, click the **New Search** button in the top left.



New Search MeSH 2022 Publications Images Citation Matcher More ▾ Folder Preferences

MY
EBSCOhost Searching: **MEDLINE Complete** [Choose Databases](#)

Suggest Subject Terms

Select a Field (optional) Search

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) Create Alert

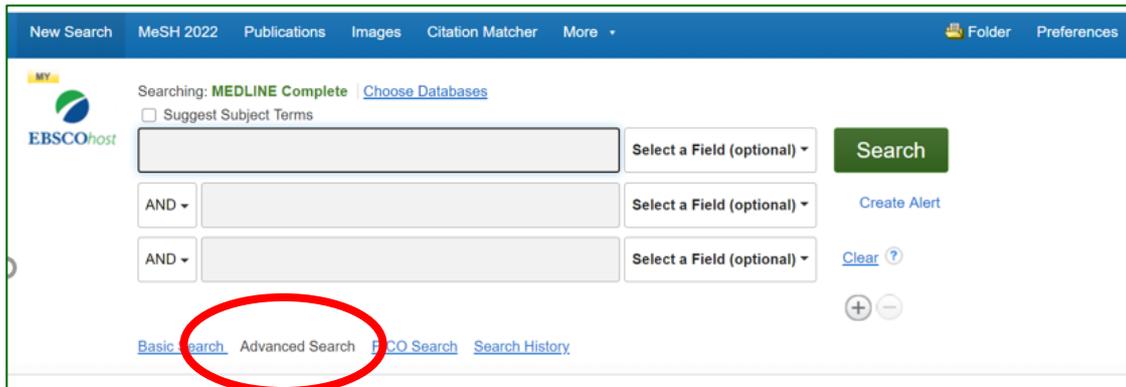
AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) Clear ?

+ -

[Basic Search](#) [Advanced Search](#) [PICO Search](#) [Search History](#)

B: Searching for Terms

6. To start a search, ensure 'Advanced Search' is selected and three search boxes are showing.



The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'New Search', 'MeSH 2022', 'Publications', 'Images', 'Citation Matcher', and 'More'. Below these, the search type is set to 'MEDLINE Complete'. There are three search input fields, each with a 'Select a Field (optional)' dropdown menu. The 'Advanced Search' tab is highlighted with a red circle. Other options include 'Basic Search', 'Full-Text Search', and 'Search History'. A 'Search' button is visible on the right.

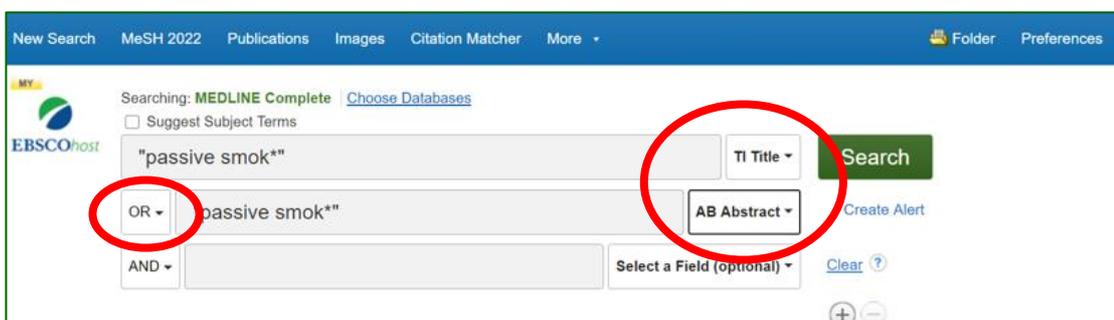
You can now start entering your search terms in the fields.

7. To select which fields you would like to search, use the drop-down menus. You can choose to search all text in an item's record, or narrow your search down to specific fields.



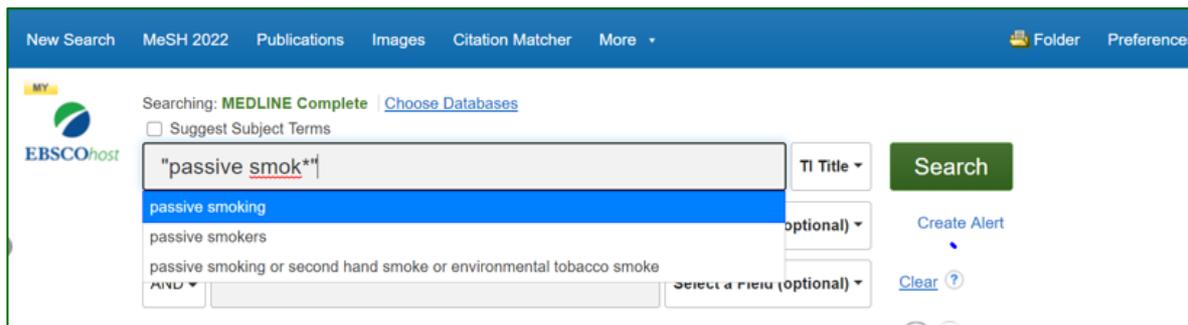
The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface with the field selection dropdown menu open. The dropdown menu lists the following options: 'TX All Text', 'AB Abstract', 'AF Author Address', and 'AU Author'. The 'Search' button is visible on the right.

8. If you want to search more than one specific field, for example, Title and Abstract, you need to search for these on separate rows using 'OR'. Once you've entered your search term(s), click on 'Search'.

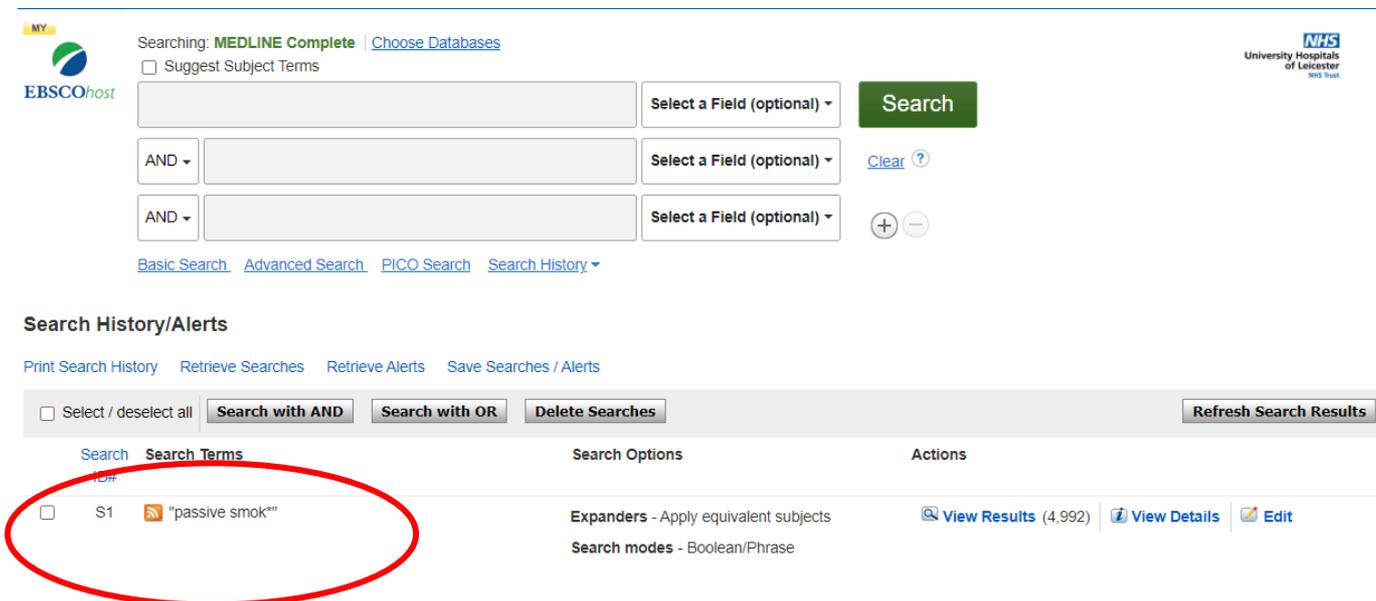


The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface with search terms and field selections. The search terms are '"passive smok**"' and '"passive smok**"'. The field selection dropdown menu is open, showing 'TI Title' and 'AB Abstract' selected. The 'OR' operator is selected between the two search terms. The 'Search' button is visible on the right.

Note that EBSCO will suggest similar concepts which may be useful as you type. These can be selected by clicking on them.



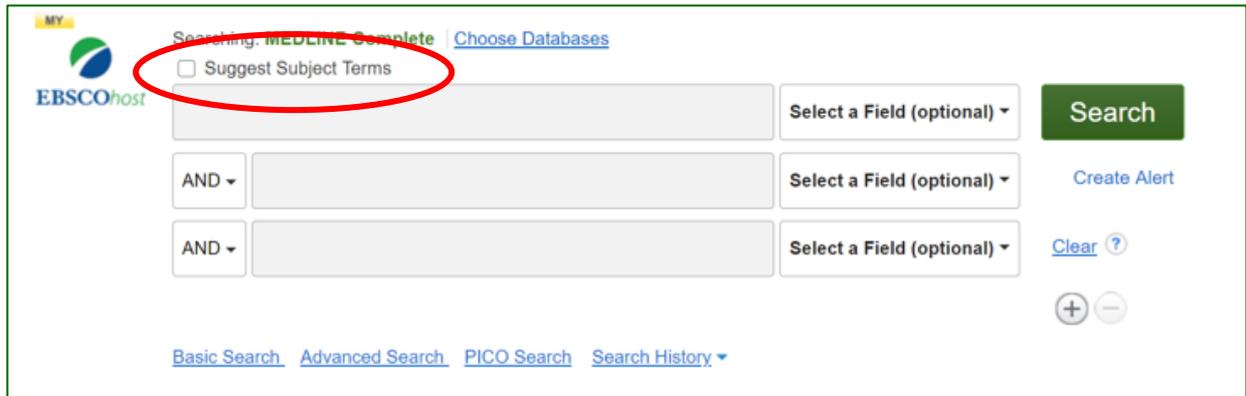
9. This will generate a results line for your search concept.



Repeat steps 7 & 8 for all keywords concepts.

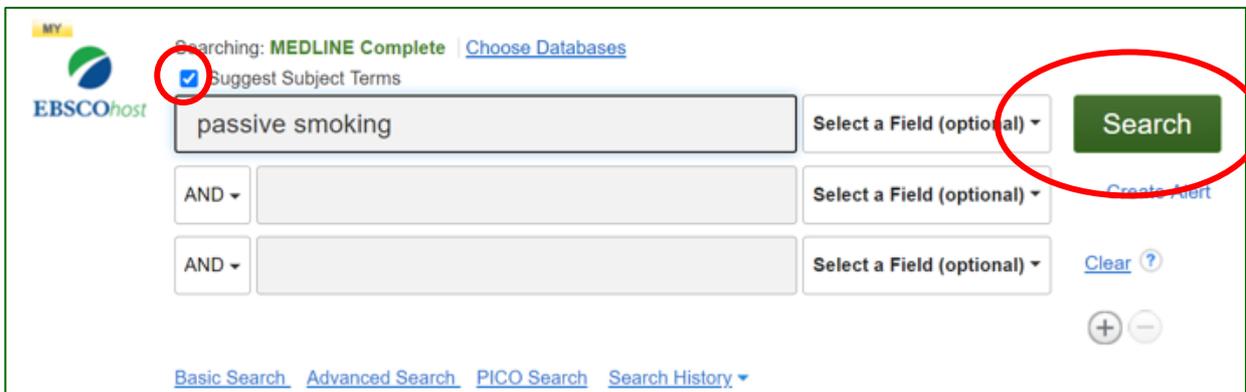
C: Searching for Subject Terms (MeSH Headings)

10. To search for Subject Headings, tick 'Suggest Subject Terms'.



The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface. At the top left, there is a logo for EBSCOhost and a search bar. Below the search bar, there is a checkbox labeled 'Suggest Subject Terms' which is highlighted with a red circle. To the right of the search bar, there are three dropdown menus labeled 'Select a Field (optional)'. Below these are three 'AND' buttons and three more 'Select a Field (optional)' dropdown menus. On the right side, there is a green 'Search' button, a 'Create Alert' button, and a 'Clear' button with a question mark. At the bottom, there are links for 'Basic Search', 'Advanced Search', 'PICO Search', and 'Search History'.

11. Type in a term you want to find a subject headings for and click 'Search'.



The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface. The search bar now contains the text 'passive smoking'. The 'Suggest Subject Terms' checkbox is now checked and highlighted with a red circle. The green 'Search' button is also highlighted with a red circle. The rest of the interface is the same as in the previous screenshot.

12. The Thesaurus (list of subject headings in that database) may have exactly the term you're looking for, or it may offer suggestions to other subjects – have a go at searching for alternative terms too. **Click on the relevant heading if there is one.**

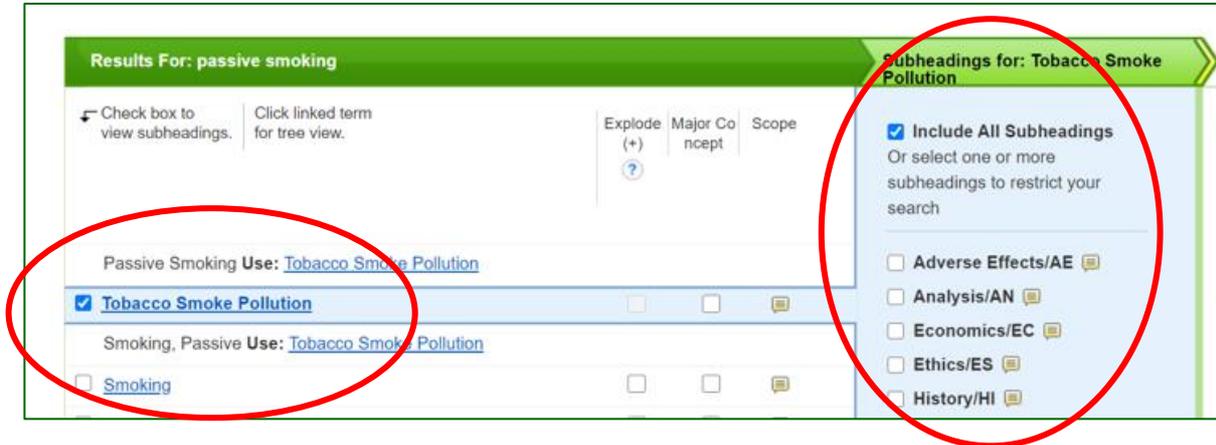


The screenshot shows the MeSH Thesaurus interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'Search Database'. Below it, there is a green banner that says 'Results For: passive smoking'. To the left of the banner, there are instructions: 'Check box to view subheadings.' and 'Click linked term for tree view.' To the right of the banner, there are three columns: 'Explode (+)', 'Major Concept', and 'Scope'. Below the banner, there is a list of search results. The first result is 'Passive Smoking Use: Tobacco Smoke Pollution' with a blue link. Below it, there is a checkbox and the text 'Tobacco Smoke Pollution'. This checkbox and text are highlighted with a red circle. To the right of the list, there is a yellow box with the text: 'Check a box to select a subject heading to begin building your search strategy.'

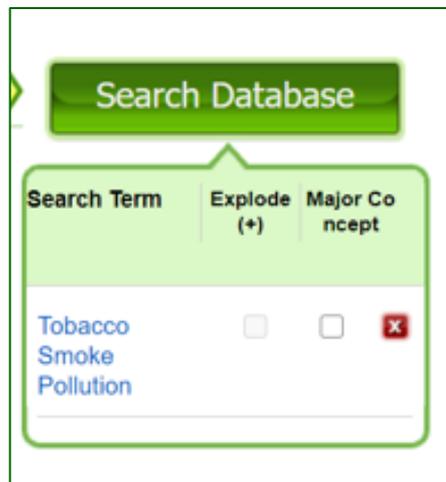
13. Tick the term(s) you want to use, and it will appear on the right hand side.

The database will also give you options to **Explode** the term (include more specific terms automatically) or make it a **Major concept** (a central focus of the article). You can also apply **subheadings** (a focus around a specific theme e.g. diagnosis or treatment) to it. These options can widen or narrow the search.

To find out more about each term, **click on the Scope icon** 



14. Click 'Search Database' to search for the subject heading.



Repeat steps 10-14 for all subject headings.

D: Combining Search Terms and Subject Headings

15. Combine your search terms and subject headings by selecting the line numbers you want to combine. Then click 'Search with OR' to combine terms that belong to the same concept.

The screenshot shows the 'Search History/Alerts' interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Print Search History', 'Retrieve Searches', 'Retrieve Alerts', and 'Save Searches / Alerts'. Below these are three buttons: 'Search with AND', 'Search with OR', and 'Delete Searches'. A 'Refresh Search Results' button is on the far right. The main area is a table with columns: 'Search ID#', 'Search Terms', 'Search Options', and 'Actions'. Two rows are visible: S2 and S1. Both rows have a checked checkbox in the 'Search ID#' column. The 'Search with OR' button is circled in red, and the checkboxes for S2 and S1 are also circled in red.

Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	Actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S2	(MH "Tobacco Smoke Pollution")	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (14,020) View Details Edit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S1	TI "passive smok*" OR AB "passive smok**"	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (4,828) View Details Edit

Repeat steps 6 - 15 to search for the rest of your concepts.

16. In the below example, line S3 combines the results for one concept (passive smoking) and line S6 for the second concept (cancer). Once you have searched all your concepts, **combine them using "Search with AND"**. (Use AND to combine different concepts).

The screenshot shows the 'Search History/Alerts' interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Print Search History', 'Retrieve Searches', 'Retrieve Alerts', and 'Save Searches / Alerts'. Below these are three buttons: 'Search with AND', 'Search with OR', and 'Delete Searches'. A 'Refresh Search Results' button is on the far right. The main area is a table with columns: 'Search ID#', 'Search Terms', 'Search Options', and 'Actions'. Four rows are visible: S6, S5, S4, and S3. The checkboxes for S6 and S3 are checked. The 'Search with AND' button is circled in red, and the checkboxes for S6 and S3 are also circled in red.

Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	Actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S6	S4 OR S5	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (4,376,534) View Details Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> S5	(MH "Neoplasms")	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (460,599) View Details Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> S4	cancer or neoplasms or oncology or tumour or malignancy	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (4,376,534) View Details Edit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S3	S1 OR S2	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (15,885) View Details Edit

E: Filtering and Saving Results

17. To filter or limit your results you will need to click **view results**.

Select / deselect all	Search with AND	Search with OR	Delete Searches	Refresh Search Results
Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	Actions	
<input type="checkbox"/>	S7 S3 AND S6	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (3,001) View Details Edit	
<input type="checkbox"/>	S6 S4 OR S5	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (4,376,534) View Details Edit	
<input type="checkbox"/>	S5 (MH "Neoplasms")	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (460,599) View Details Edit	
<input type="checkbox"/>	S4 cancer or neoplasms or oncology or tumour or	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects	View Results (4,376,534) View Details Edit	

18. On the results page, **you can filter down or limit your results** by publication date, language, gender etc. using the left-hand side options bar.

Refine Results

Current Search

Boolean/Phrase:
S3 AND S6

Expanders
Apply equivalent subjects

Limit To

Full Text
 Abstract Available
 English Language

From: 1970 To: 2022
Publication Date

Source Types

Search Results: 1 - 50 of 3,001

Date Newest Page Options Share

EBSCO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

DynaMed COVID-19 Topic

EBSCO COVID-19 Healthcare Resource Center

COVID-19 Portal

1. High-resolution metabolomics of exposure to tobacco **smoke** during pregnancy and adverse birth outcomes in the Atlanta African American maternal-child cohort.

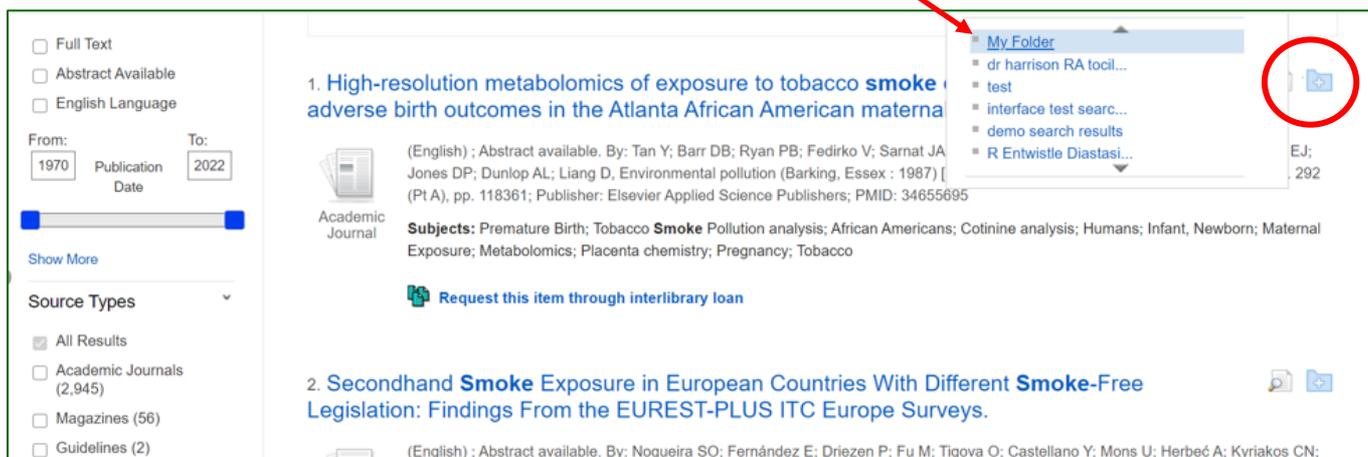
(English) ; Abstract available. By: Tan Y; Barr DB; Ryan PB; Fedirko V; Sarnat JA; Gaskins AJ; Chang CJ; Tang Z; Marsit CJ; Conwin EJ; Jones DP; Dunlop AL; Liang D. Environmental pollution (Barking, Essex : 1987) [Environ Pollut]. ISSN: 1873-6424, 2022 Jan 01; Vol. 292 (Pt A), pp. 118361; Publisher: Elsevier Applied Science Publishers; PMID: 34655695

Academic Journal

Subjects: Premature Birth; Tobacco **Smoke** Pollution analysis; African Americans; Cotinine analysis; Humans; Infant, Newborn; Maternal Exposure; Metabolomics; Placenta chemistry; Pregnancy; Tobacco

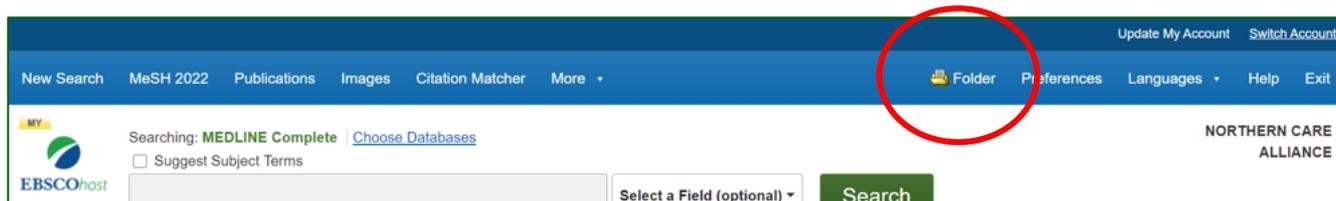
Request this item through interlibrary loan

19. You can save individual results by **clicking the folder icon**. The database will display folders to which you can save the result; **My Folder** is the default option. **Click the link** and the item(s) selected will be saved.



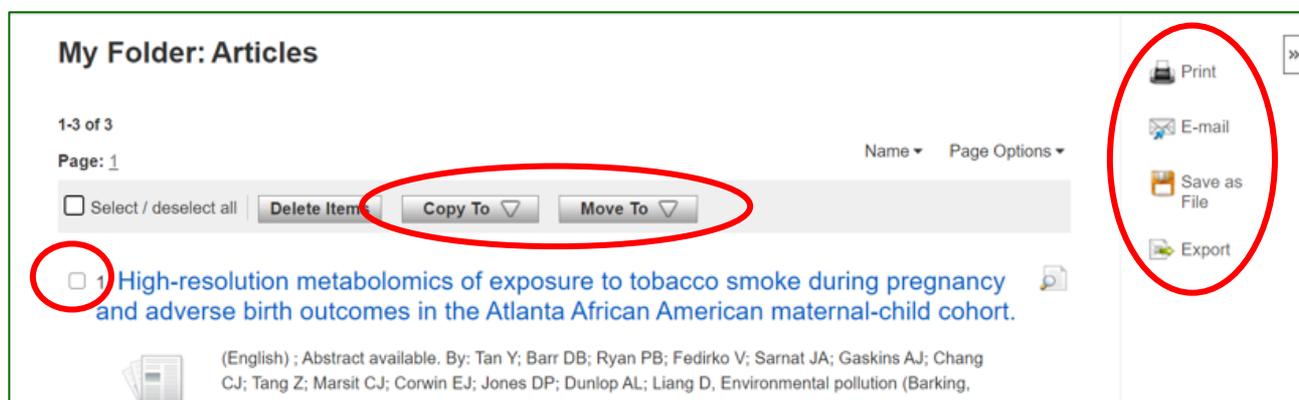
Should you wish to keep the results long term or do multiple search queries we would suggest that you set up individual folders.

20. To export results, click on **Folder** in the main menu bar.

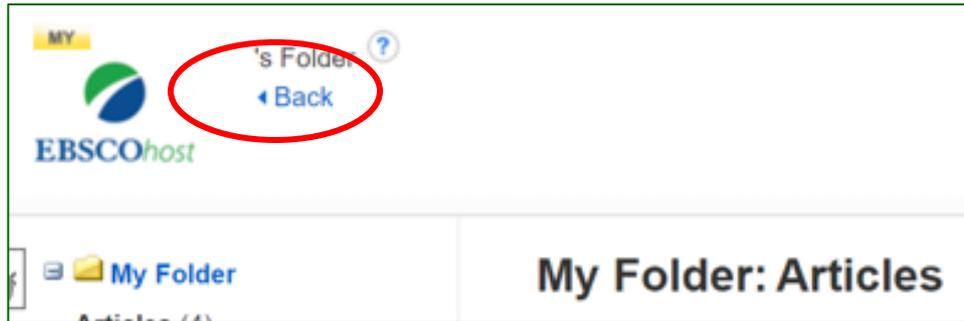


21. Select the results you would like to export and click on the output format / action.

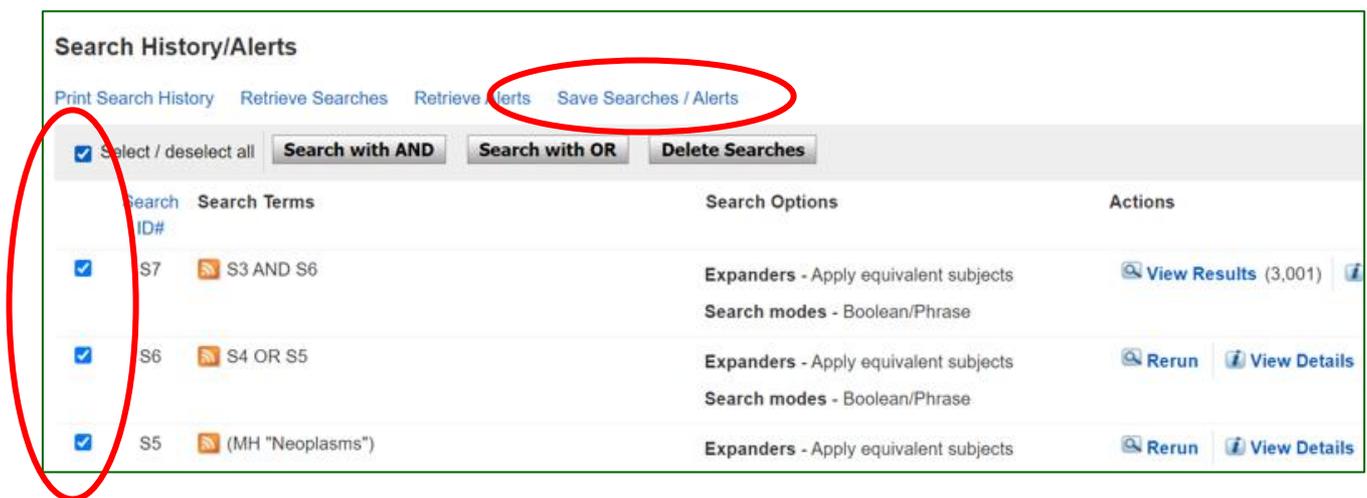
From here you can print your results, save them as a file, send them via email or export them to reference management software.



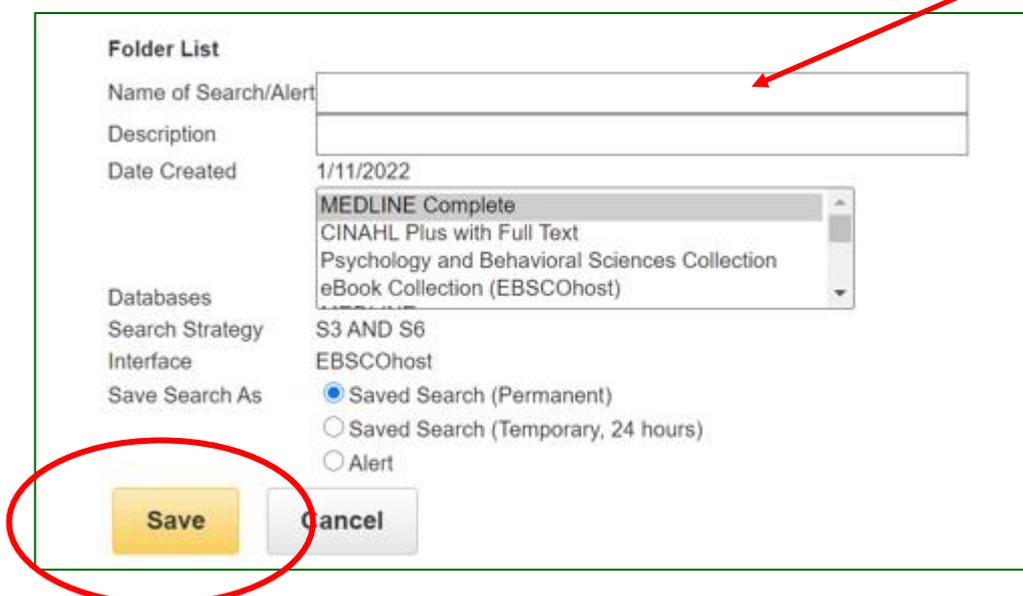
22. As well as saving the results, **we highly recommend saving your search**. To view your search, head back to your Recent Search by clicking the 'Back' option.



23. Select the search lines and click 'Save Searches / Alerts'.



24. Give your search strategy a name and add a description if you wish. Click 'Save'.



25. You can access your saved searches and saved results from your Folder.



Select your folder of saved searches/results from the bar on the left.



Contact the libraries

If you have any questions on anything contained in this guide, specific queries on the individual databases, or anything else on searching for information or using our resources, please don't hesitate to get it touch with one of the libraries.

LRI Library	Odames Library, Level 1, Victoria Building Email: lri.library@uhl-tr.nhs.uk Phone: 0116 258 5558
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Glenfield Library	Ground floor, Education Centre Email: ggh.library@uhl-tr.nhs.uk Phone: 0116 256 3672
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LGH Library	First floor, Education Centre Email: leicslib@uhl-tr.nhs.uk Phone: 0116 258 8124
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Training courses, guides and e-learning can also be found on our website, which is available from home, work or on mobile: www.uhl-library.nhs.uk/training

Thank you to the Northern Care Alliance Library and Knowledge Service for allowing adaptation of their training materials