

EBSCO User Guide

This guide covers the specifics of using the databases via the EBSCO 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

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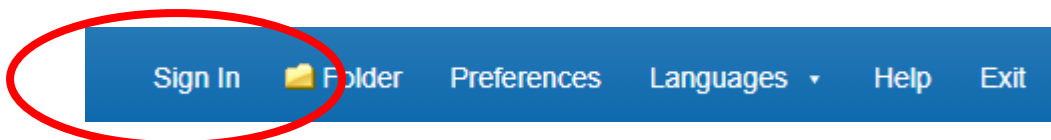
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A: Accessing EBSCO Databases and Creating a Personal Account

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](#)

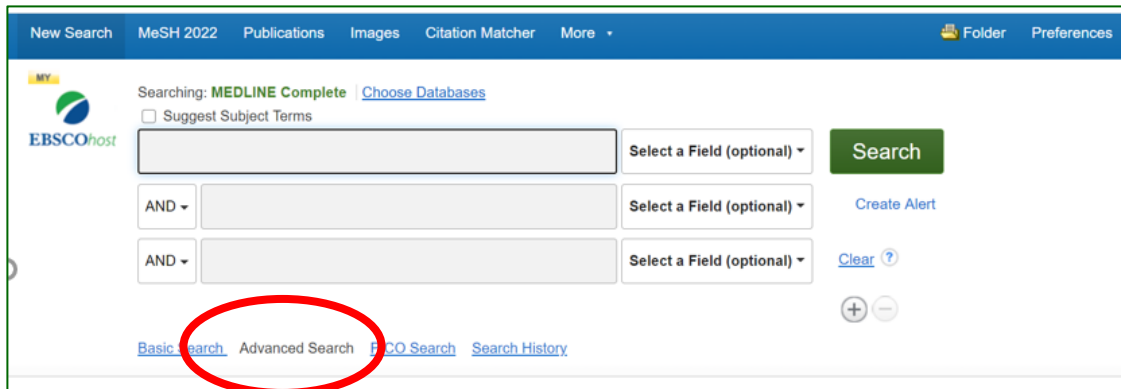
AND ▾

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 mode 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 elements include a 'Search' button, 'Create Alert', 'Clear', and 'Suggest Subject Terms' options.

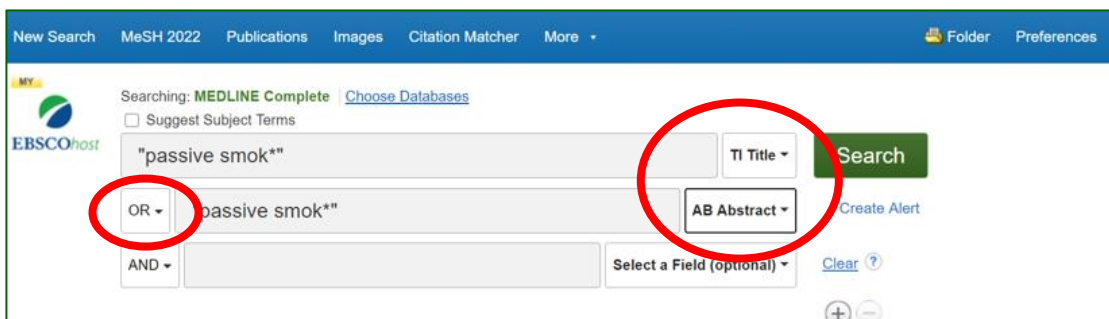
You can now start entering your search terms in the fields.

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.



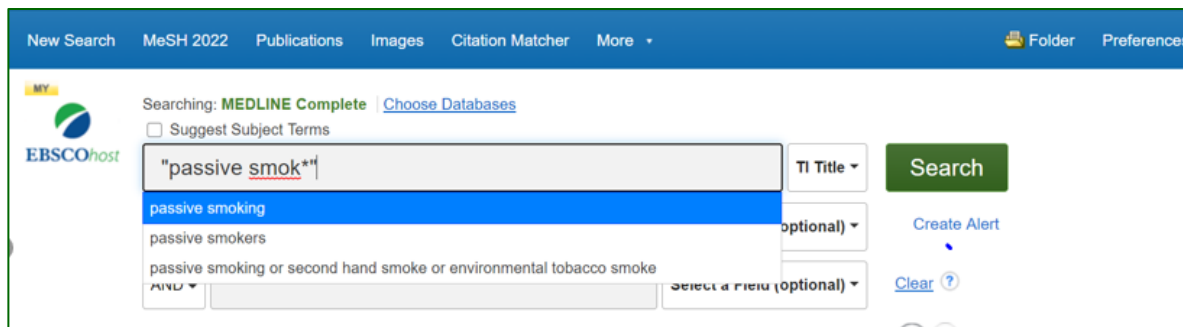
The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface with the field selection dropdown menu open. The dropdown menu lists the following options: 'TX All Text', 'AB Abstract', 'AF Author Address', and 'AU Author'. The 'Advanced Search' tab is still highlighted with a red circle.

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'.

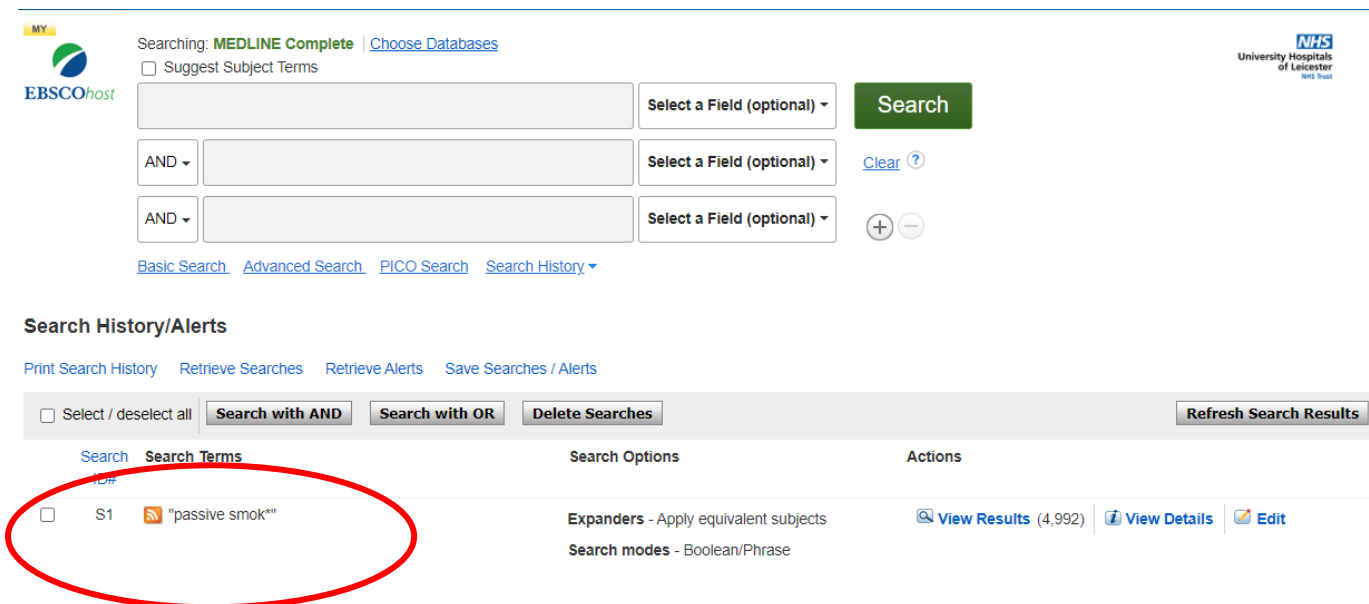


The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface with the search term "passive smok*" entered in the first search field. The field is set to 'TI Title'. The second search field is set to 'AB Abstract' and contains the search term "passive smok*" with an 'OR' operator. The 'Search' button is highlighted with a red circle. The 'Advanced Search' tab is also highlighted with a red circle.

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



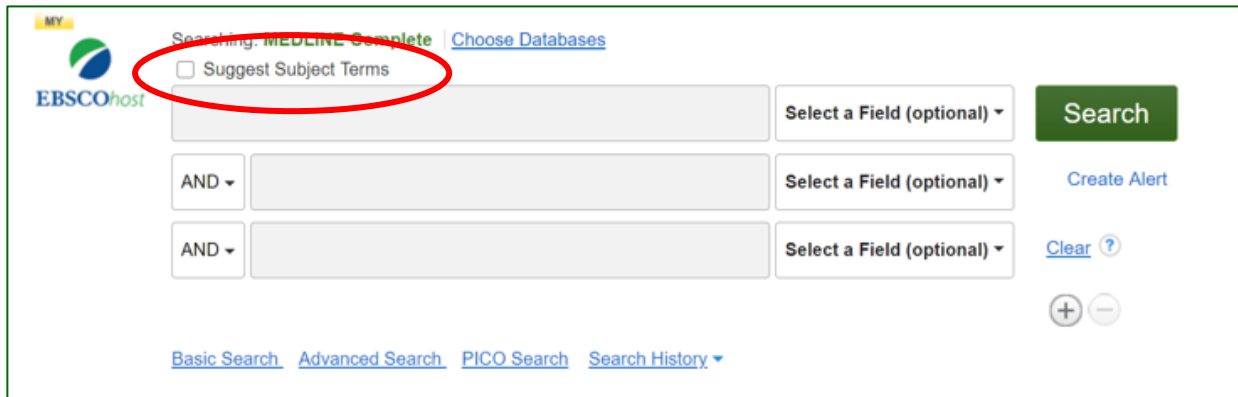
9. This will generate a results line for your search concept.



Repeat steps 7 & 8 for all keywords concepts.

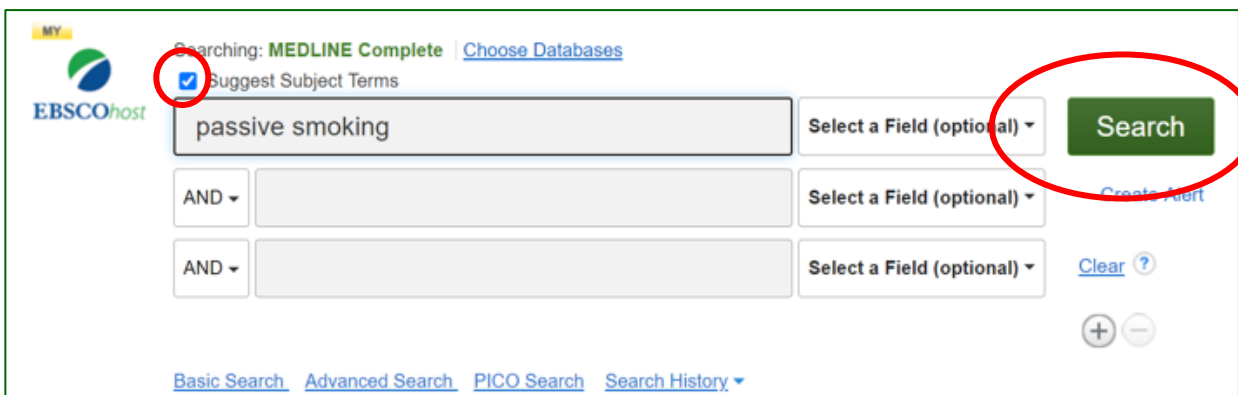
C: Searching for Subject Terms (MeSH Headings)

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



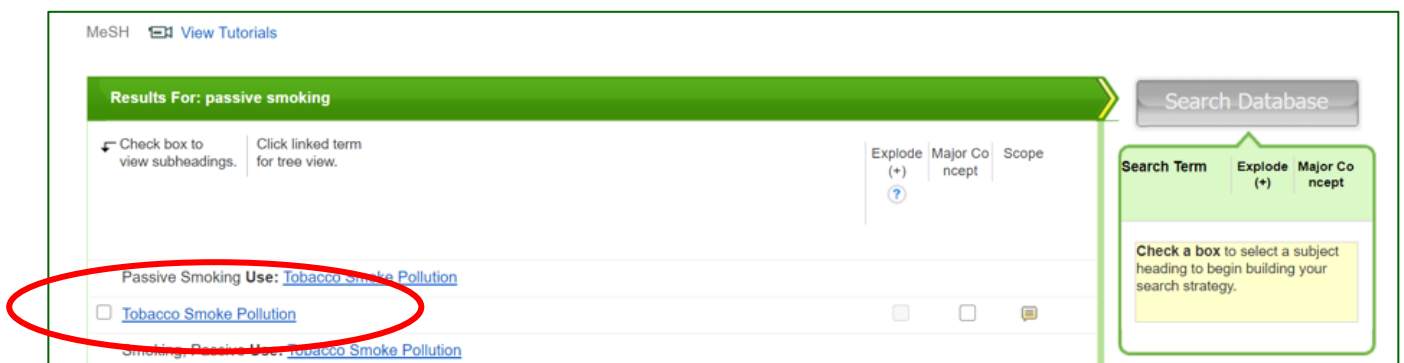
The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search interface. At the top left, there is a logo for EBSCOhost and a search bar. The search bar contains the text "Searching: MEDLINE Complete" and a link "Choose Databases". Below the search bar, there is a checkbox labeled "Suggest Subject Terms" which is highlighted with a red circle. To the right of the search bar, there are three dropdown menus labeled "Select a Field (optional)" and a green "Search" button. Below the search bar, there are three rows of search criteria, each with an "AND" dropdown and a "Select a Field (optional)" dropdown. To the right of these rows, there are links for "Create Alert", "Clear", and a help icon. 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 "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.**

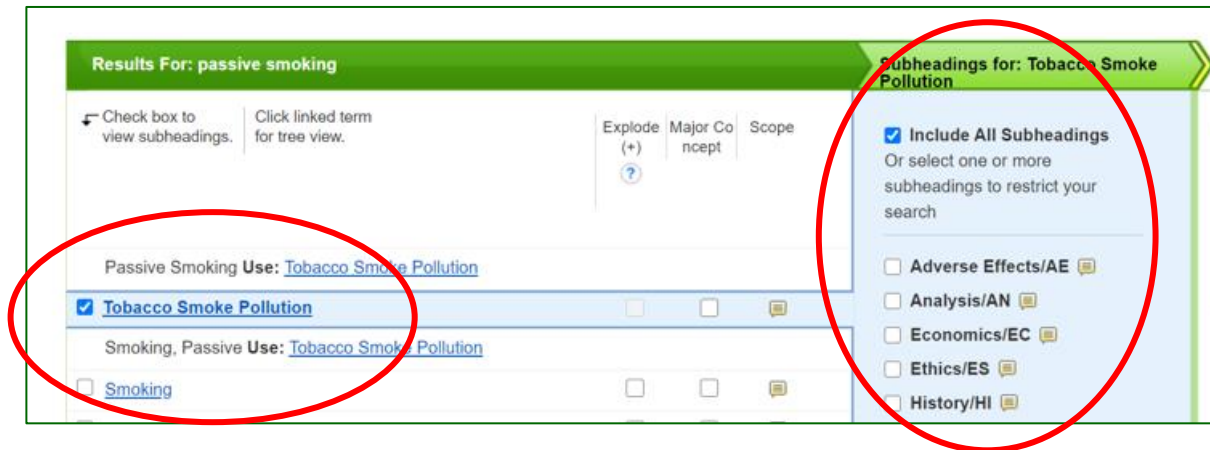


The screenshot shows the MeSH Thesaurus interface. At the top, there is a header "MeSH" and a link "View Tutorials". Below the header, there is a green bar with the text "Results For: passive smoking". To the right of this bar is a "Search Database" button. Below the green bar, there is a table with columns for "Search Term", "Explode (+)", and "Major Concept". The first row in the table is "Passive Smoking Use: Tobacco Smoke Pollution" and the second row is "Tobacco Smoke Pollution". The "Tobacco Smoke Pollution" row is highlighted with a red circle. To the right of the table, there is a yellow box with the text "Check a box to select a subject heading to begin building your search strategy." Below the table, there are links for "Smoking, Passive Use: Tobacco Smoke Pollution".

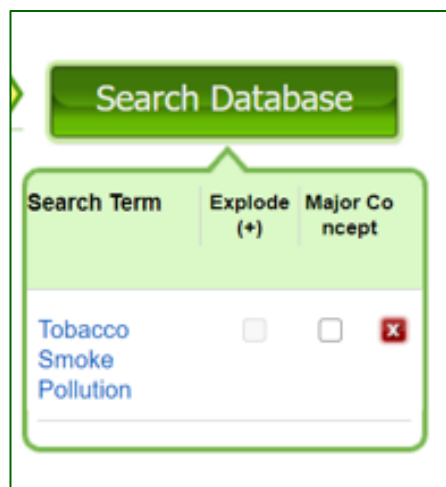
13. Tick the term(s) you want to use, and it will appear on the right hand side.

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 buttons: 'Select / deselect all' (checked), 'Search with AND', 'Search with OR' (circled in red), and 'Delete Searches'. A 'Refresh Search Results' button is on the 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 have checkboxes checked (circled in red). S2 terms are '(MH "Tobacco Smoke Pollution")'. S1 terms are 'TI "passive smok*" OR AB "passive smok*"'. Each row has 'Expanders' and 'Search modes' information, and 'View Results', 'View Details', and 'Edit' actions.

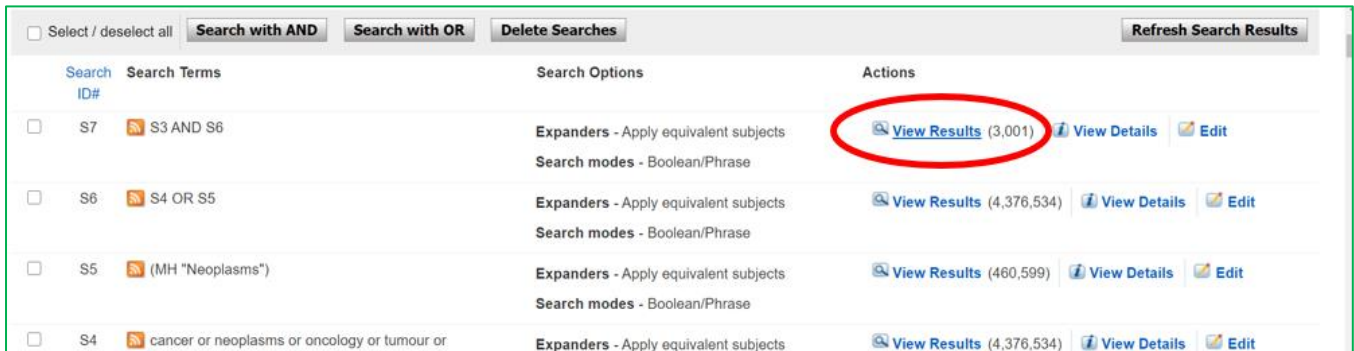
Repeat steps 6 - 15 to search for the rest of your concepts.

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 buttons: 'Select / deselect all' (unchecked), 'Search with AND' (circled in red), 'Search with OR', and 'Delete Searches'. A 'Refresh Search Results' button is on the 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. S6 and S3 have checkboxes checked (circled in red). S6 terms are 'S4 OR S5'. S5 terms are '(MH "Neoplasms")'. S4 terms are 'cancer or neoplasms or oncology or tumour or malignancy'. S3 terms are 'S1 OR S2'. Each row has 'Expanders' and 'Search modes' information, and 'View Results', 'View Details', and 'Edit' actions.

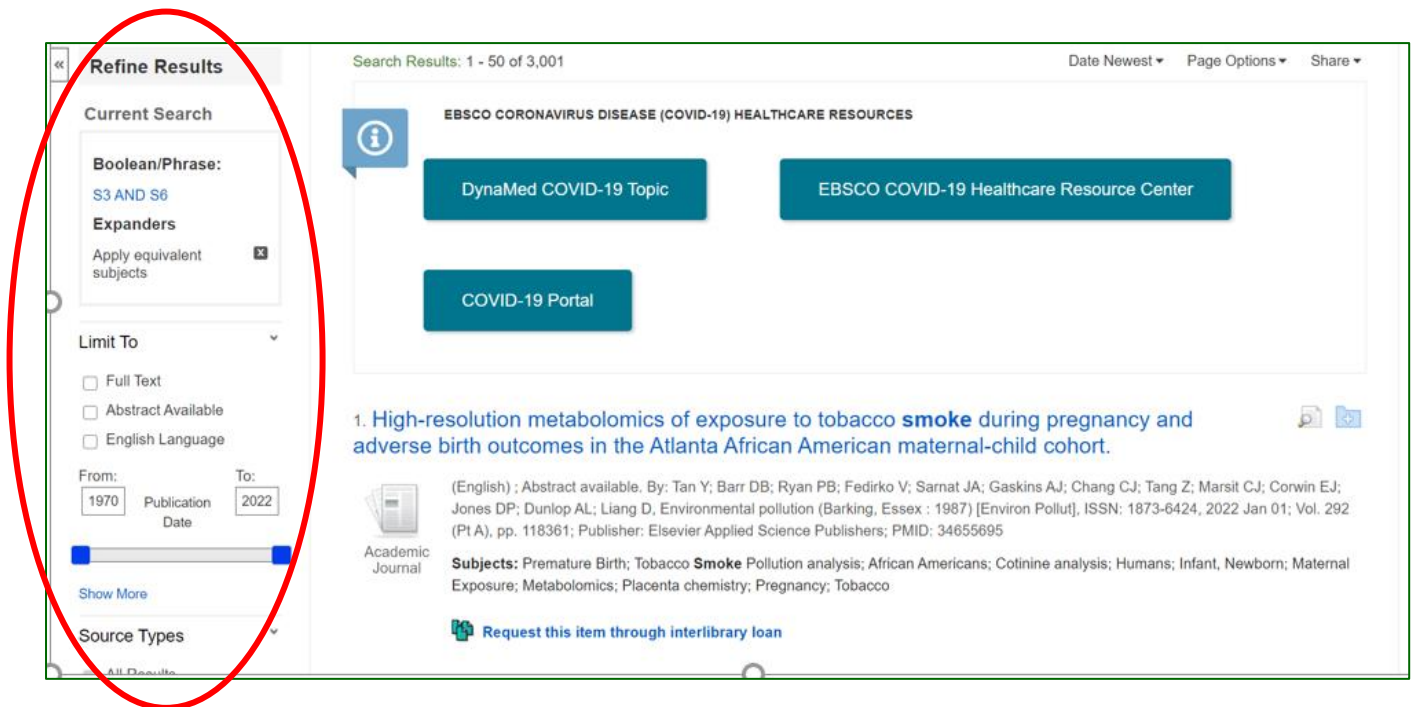
E: Filtering and Saving Results

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.



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

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Refine Results

Current Search

Boolean/Phrase:
S3 AND S6

Expanders
Apply equivalent subjects

Limit To

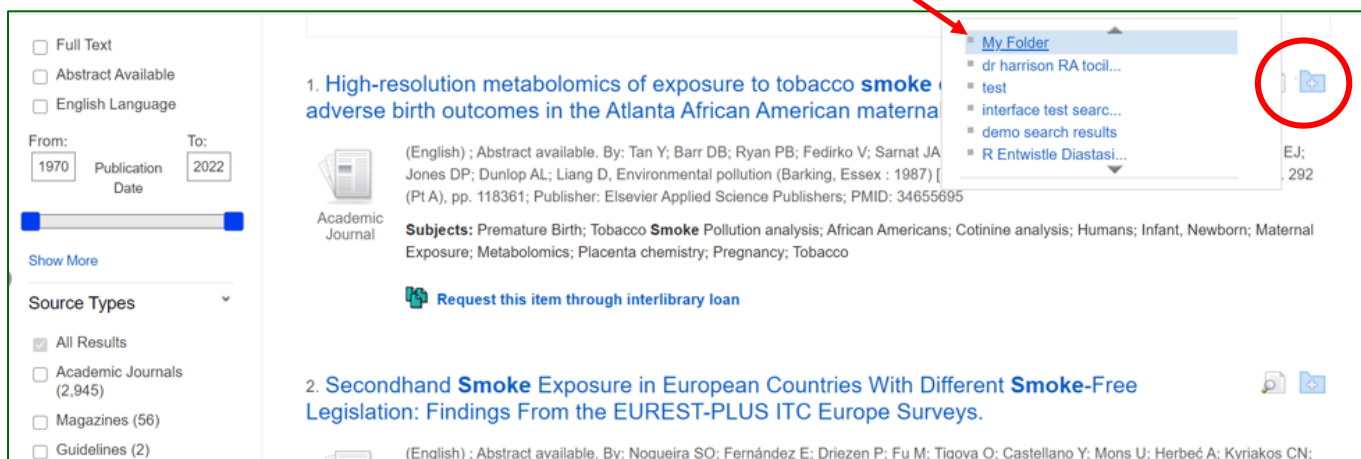
- Full Text
- Abstract Available
- English Language

From: 1970 To: 2022
Publication Date

Show More

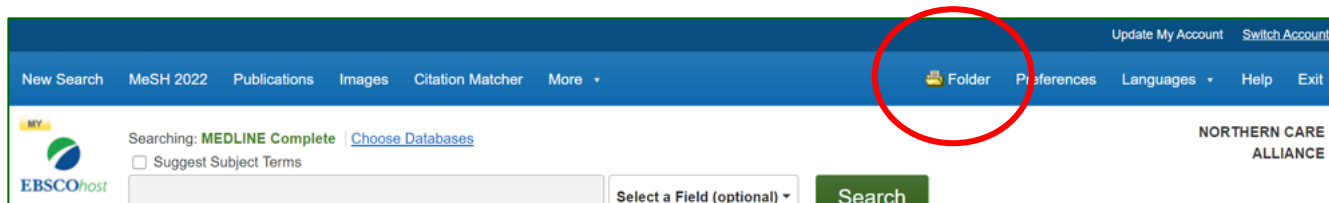
Source Types

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.



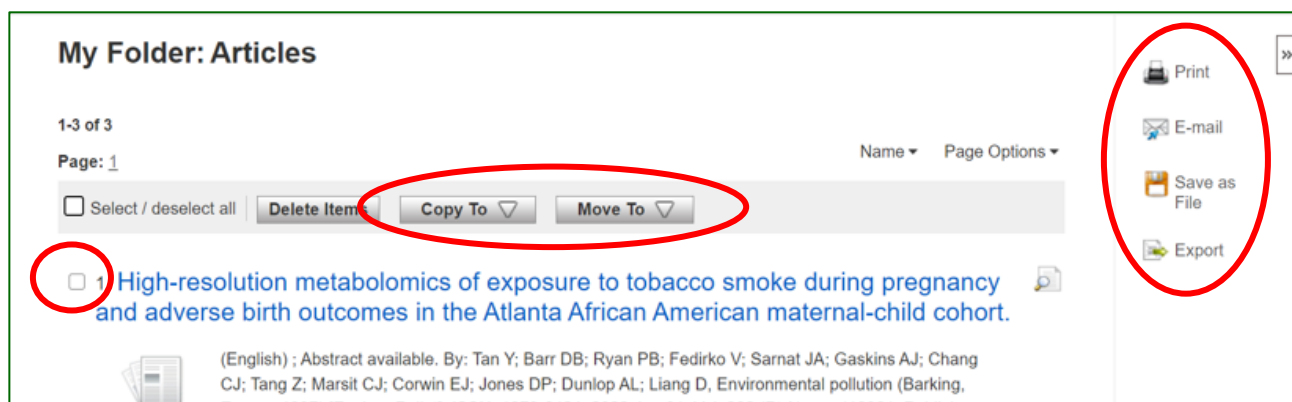
Should you wish to keep the results long term or do multiple search queries we would suggest that you set up individual folders.

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

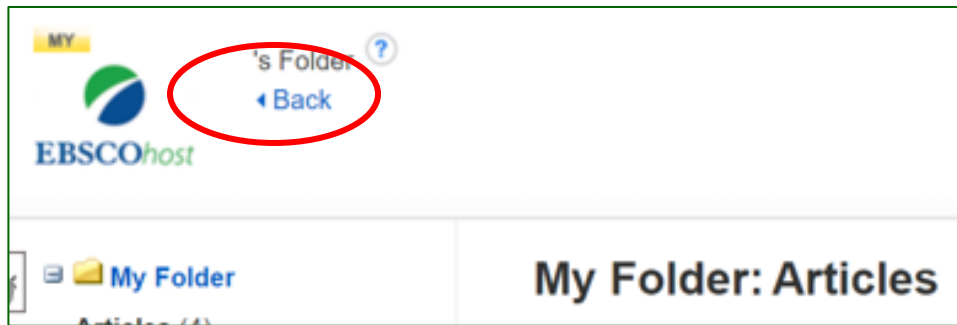


21. Select the results you would like to export and click on the output format / action.

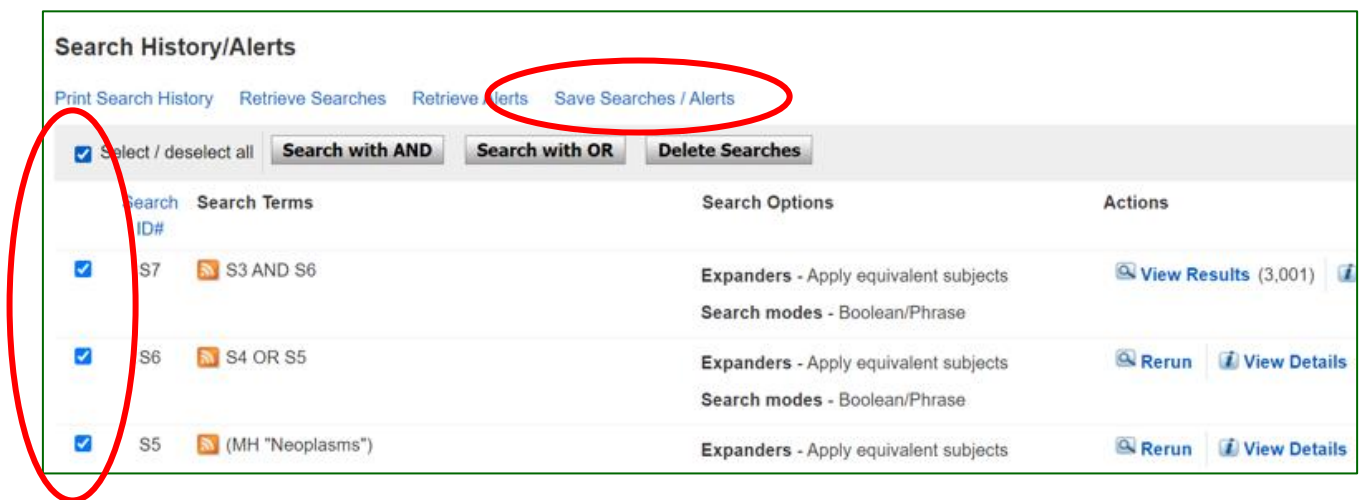
From here you can print your results, save them as a file, send them via email or export them to reference management software.



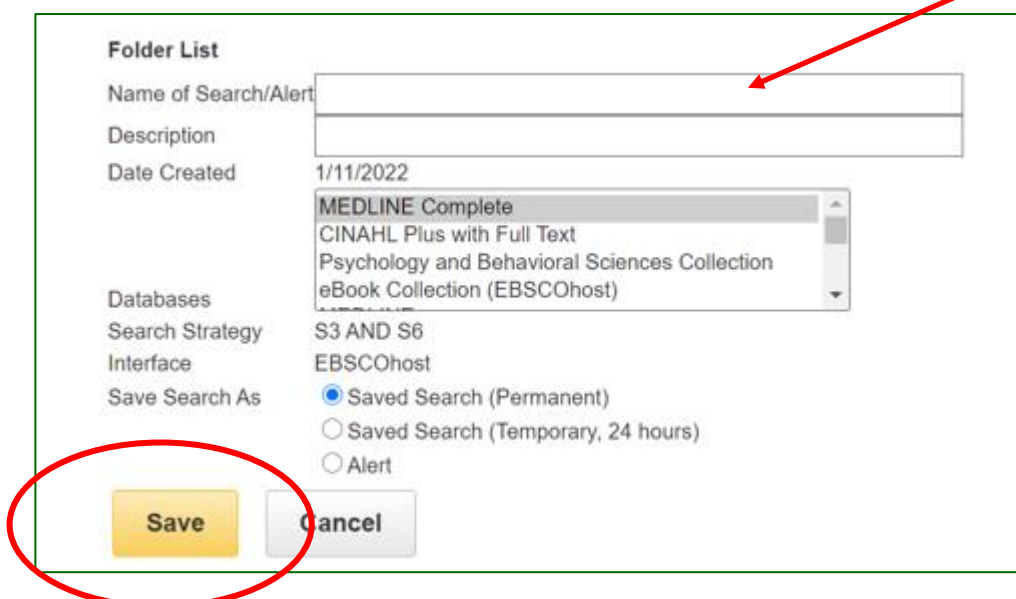
22. As well as saving the results, **we highly recommend saving your search**. To view your search, head back to your Recent Search by clicking the 'Back' option.



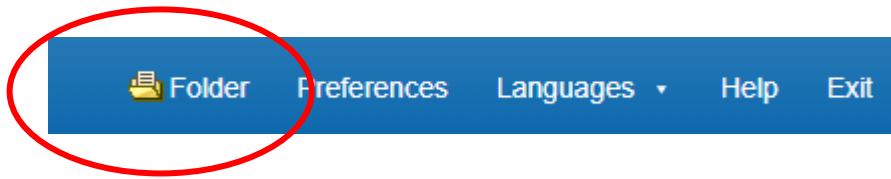
23. Select the search lines and click 'Save Searches / Alerts'.



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: odameslibrary@nhs.net Phone: 0116 258 5558
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Glenfield Library	Ground floor, Education Centre Email: glenfieldlibrary@nhs.net Phone: 0116 256 3672
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LGH Library	First floor, Education Centre Email: leicestergenerallibrary@nhs.net 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

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