



Using CINAHL Subject Headings

CINAHL Headings are specialized subject headings assigned to the articles in the **CINAHL** database. These headings describe the content of the article, and if used for searching, help you find the most specific, targeted results. Rather than finding articles that may only *mention* your search term, you can find articles that are *focused on* your topic.

Locate CINAHL

Go to the **New Jersey State Library** main page: <http://www.njstatelib.org/>

Select the **Research Tools** tab and then select **Databases**.

Use the **By Title** alphabetical drop down box and select the letter "C. "

Scroll down and select the link for **CINAHL Complete**.

[**Note:** Anyone may use CINAHL in person at the New Jersey State Library. Authorized users may use the database from outside the library building with a valid New Jersey State Library card. Authorized users are **current New Jersey State employees** and **Thomas Edison State College staff members and students**. Use the barcode number on the library card to access the database.]

Once in the database, you will probably be on the **Basic Search** screen.

Tip: If you choose the **Advanced Search** option before starting your search for headings, you will have more limit options later on.

Searching with CINAHL Headings

Select the **CINAHL Headings tab** at the top of the screen.

new Search Publications **CINAHL Headings** Evidence-Based Care Sheets More ▾

EBSCOhost Searching: **CINAHL Complete** | Choose Databases

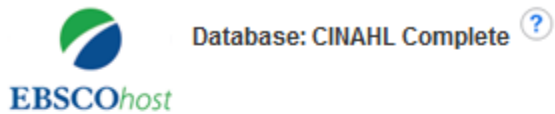
Select a Field (optional) ▾ Search

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) ▾

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) ▾ (+) (-)

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

You can then **browse for headings** that match your search concept(s). For example, **pertussis**:



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

CINAHL Headings  [View Tutorials](#)



Term Begins With Term Contains Relevancy Ranked

In this case, the CINAHL Heading for Pertussis is **“Whooping Cough.”**

Results For: pertussis

Check box to view subheadings.

Click linked term for tree view.



Pertussis Use: [Whooping Cough](#)

Click on the Subject Heading name to see more information about this term - including broader and narrower terms (if applicable). This is called the **“Tree View”** since it shows a hierarchical “tree” of terms.

[Back to Term List](#)

Tree View For: Whooping Cough

Check box to view subheadings.

Click linked term for tree view.

Explode (+)

Major Concept

 [Bacterial and Fungal Diseases \(Non-Cinahl\)](#)

 [Bacterial Infections](#)

 [Gram-Negative Bacterial Infections](#)

 [Bordetella Infections](#)

[Whooping Cough](#)

To select the term for searching, check the box to the left of the heading. A blue column will open providing options to add subheadings. **Note:** Subheadings further define and focus your term to particular aspect(s) of the main search term. For example, *Diagnosis* of Whooping Cough.

The screenshot shows a web interface for searching. The top bar is green and contains a 'Back to Term List' button and the title 'Tree View For: Whooping Cough'. Below this is a table with columns for 'Explose (+)', 'Major Concept', and 'Scope'. The 'Whooping Cough' row is highlighted in blue. To the right, a 'Subheadings for: Whooping Cough' panel is open, showing a list of subheadings with checkboxes. The 'Include All Subheadings' option is checked.

You can also choose the **Explose** or **Major Concept** options for your search.


Choosing **Explose** will include any *narrower terms* in your search – these are any terms *indented* under your heading of choice.

Choosing **Major Concept** will ensure that this subject heading describes the *main focus* of the article.

Once you have made your heading and subheading selections, click on **Search Database** on the right side of the screen.

This screenshot shows the same interface as before, but with the 'Search Database' button highlighted by a red arrow. Below the button, a search form is visible with the following fields: 'Search Term' (containing 'Whooping Cough'), 'Explose (+)' (unchecked), and 'Major Concept' (checked). A red 'X' icon is next to the 'Major Concept' checkbox.

You can now add other terms or select limits.



Searching: **CINAHL Complete** | [Choose Databases](#)

(MM "Whooping Cough") Select a Field (optional) ▼ Search Cre

AND ▼ Select a Field (optional) ▼

AND ▼ Select a Field (optional) ▼ + -

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

Refine Results

Current Search

Boolean/Phrase:
(MM "Whooping Cough")

Limit To

Full Text

Search Results: 1 - 30 of 995

1. Attitudes to immunisation in pregnancy among women in low-income countries: a systematic review of the literature.



Academic Journal

(includes abstract) Campbell, Helen; Van Hoek, Albert Jan; Beiramsay, Mary; Amirthalingam, Gayatri; British Journal of Midwifery 2016; 24(10): 696-704

Subjects: Immunization In Pregnancy; Attitude; Whooping Cough; Patient; Adult: 19-44 years; Female



[PDF Full Text](#) (490.4KB)

Combining Headings

To add another CINAHL Heading and combine it with the first, click on the CINAHL Headings tab at the top of the page and proceed as you did for the first heading. For example, this was a search for the CINAHL Heading, "Disease Outbreaks".

← [Back to Term List](#) **Tree View For: Disease Outbreaks** Subhea

☐ Check box to view subheadings. | Click linked term for tree view.

	Explode (+) ?	Major Concept	Scope	
<input type="checkbox"/> Environment and Public Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inc Or sele to restr
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ad
<input type="checkbox"/> Accidents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> An
<input type="checkbox"/> Decontamination, Hazardous Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cla
<input type="checkbox"/> Disease Eradication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ecc
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disease Outbreaks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Edt
				<input type="checkbox"/> Epi
				<input type="checkbox"/> Eq



Searching: **CINAHL Complete** | [Choose Databases](#)

(MH "Disease Outbreaks") Select a Field (optional) ▾ **Search**

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) ▾

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) ▾ + -

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

Refine Results

Current Search ▾

Boolean/Phrase:

(MH "Disease Outbreaks")

Search Results: 1 - 30 of 18,686

1. [Public Health Intelligence: Learning From the](#)



Academic
Journal

(includes abstract) Carney, Timothy Jay; Weber, David.
tables/charts) ISSN: 0090-0036 PMID: 26180978

Subjects: Public Health Trends; Hemorrhagic Fever, El
Administration

[PDF Full Text](#) (2 1MB)

After doing the search, you can go into the **Search History** and combine your 2 searches.

Clear the search, click on Search History, and combine your searches with AND:



Searching: **CINAHL Complete** | [Choose Databases](#)

Select a Field (optional) ▾ **Search** **Create Alert** **Clear**

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) ▾

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) ▾ + -

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

Search History/Alerts

[Print Search History](#) | [Retrieve Searches](#) | [Retrieve Alerts](#) | [Save Searches / Alerts](#)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Select / deselect all			
Search with AND Search with OR Delete Searches			
	Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options
<input type="checkbox"/>	S2	(MH "Disease Outbreaks")	Search modes - Boolean/Phrase
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	S1	(MM "Whooping Cough")	Search modes - Boolean/Phrase



Searching: CINAHL Complete | [Choose Databases](#)

S1 AND S2 Select a Field (optional) ▾ Search Create Alert Clear ?

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) ▾

AND ▾ Select a Field (optional) ▾ + -

[Basic Search](#) | [Advanced Search](#) | [Search History](#) ▾

Search History/Alerts

[Print Search History](#) | [Retrieve Searches](#) | [Retrieve Alerts](#) | [Save Searches / Alerts](#)

<input type="checkbox"/> Select / deselect all	Search with AND	Search with OR	Delete Searches
Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	
<input type="checkbox"/> S3	S1 AND S2	Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	
<input type="checkbox"/> S2	(MH "Disease Outbreaks")	Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	
<input type="checkbox"/> S1	(MM "Whooping Cough")	Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	

Refine Results

Current Search ▾

Boolean/Phrase:
S1 AND S2

Limit To ▾

- Full Text
- References Available
- Abstract Available

Search Results: 1 - 30 of 199

1. Pertussis epidemic - california, 2014.

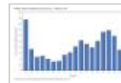


Academic Journal

(includes abstract) Winter, Kathleen; Glaser, Carol; Watt, James; Harriman, Kathleen; MMWR: Morbidity & I 0149-2195 PMID: 25474033

Subjects: Disease Outbreaks Prevention and Control; Whooping Cough Epidemiology; Whooping Cough Preschool: 2-5 years; Infant: 1-23 months; Female; Male

MMWR 1. Pertussis and other respiratory virus activity, United States, by state, week ending April 11, 2015	
State	MMWR
California	44
Colorado	44
Connecticut	44
Delaware	44
District of Columbia	44
Florida	44
Georgia	44
Idaho	44
Illinois	44
Indiana	44
Iowa	44
Kansas	44
Kentucky	44
Louisiana	44
Maine	44
Maryland	44
Massachusetts	44
Michigan	44
Minnesota	44
Mississippi	44
Missouri	44
Montana	44
Nebraska	44
Nevada	44
New Hampshire	44
New Jersey	44
New Mexico	44
New York	44
North Carolina	44
North Dakota	44
Ohio	44
Oklahoma	44
Oregon	44
Pennsylvania	44
Rhode Island	44
South Carolina	44
South Dakota	44
Tennessee	44
Texas	44
Utah	44
Vermont	44
Virginia	44
Washington	44
West Virginia	44
Wisconsin	44
Wyoming	44



[Cited References: \(10\)](#)

[PDF Full Text](#) (123.6KB)

For additional help, see short tutorials on using CINAHL Complete:

http://www.njstatelib.org/research_library/electronic_resources/learn_at_njsl/tutorials_and_webinars/

Questions about using CINAHL? Contact:

Martha Sullivan, Reference Librarian, Health Information

New Jersey State Library

609-278-2640 x103

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Update: 9/2013; 6/2014; 9/2015