

Why to do Research?

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About 10% of
published evidence
is worth reading

About 1/3 of
worthwhile
evidence is
eventually refuted
or attenuated

About 1/2 of
relevant evidence is
not implemented



"...and, as you go out into the world, I predict that you will, gradually and imperceptibly, forget all you ever learned at this university."

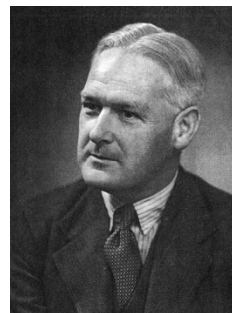
IMPORTANCE

- Our daily need for valid information about diagnosis, prognosis, therapy and prevention (up to 5 times per in-patient and twice for every 3 out-patients).
- The inadequacy of traditional sources for this information because they are out-of-date (textbooks), frequently wrong (experts), ineffective (didactic continuing medical education) or too overwhelming in their volume and too variable in their validity for practical clinical use (medical journals).

Some milestones in the history of Research



James Lind
publishes review &
clinical trial in
Treatise on Scurvy



Bradford-Hill
publishes *Principles of Medical
Statistics &
MRC trial of streptomycin*
Smoking vs cancer



Inspiring Innovation and Discovery

Home

More About

**Clinical
Epidemiology
& Biostatistics**

900 AD

1780

1840

1937/48

1967

1970's



Al-Rhazi

Al-Rhazi

For I once saved one group
by it, while I intentionally
neglected another group.
By doing that, I wished to
reach a conclusion .

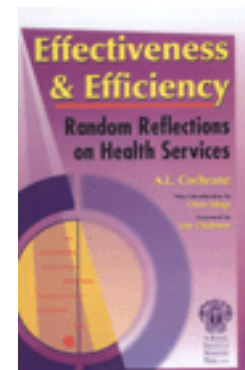


Pierre-Charles-Alexandre Louis (1787–1872).

Pierre Louis
Develops his “numerical
method” and changes
blood letting practice in
France



Alvan Feinstein
publishes his book
Clinical Judgement
1951 1st paper (medical
student)
400+



Research Ethics

Is “pure” research above ethics and morality?

Is ethics and morality to do with technology and politics?



The Impact of Research on Values and Values on Research

- Ethical considerations are to the fore with the development of new technologies and new social systems
- Society is inherently conservative and seeks to set the limits of research activity

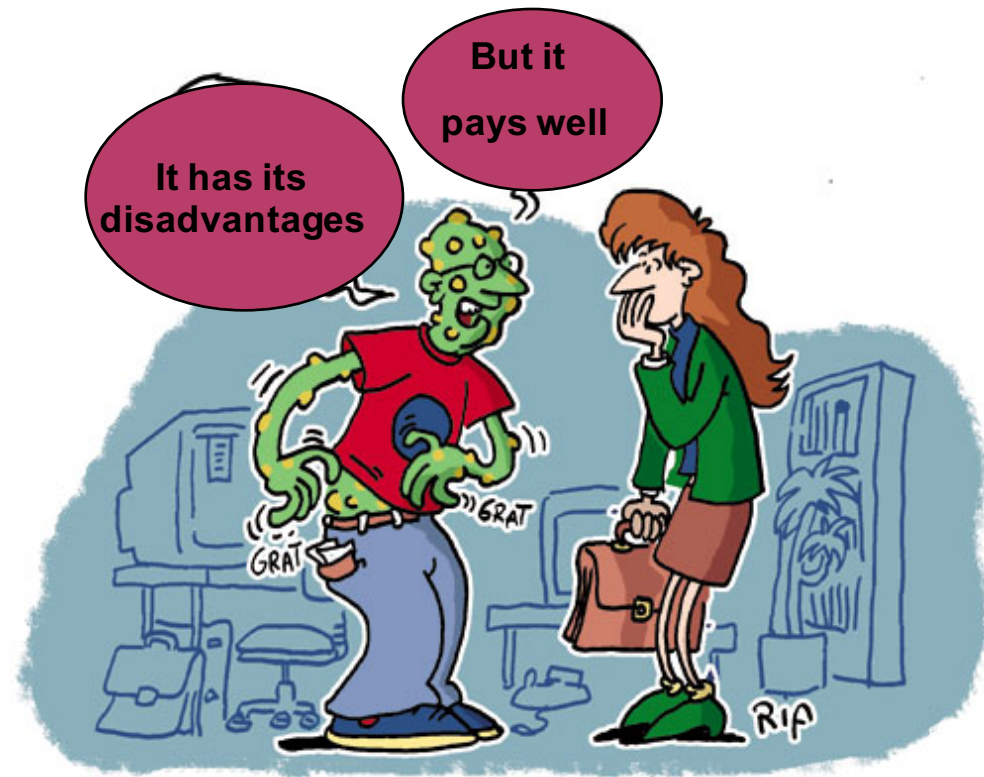


The scope of research ethics

- Ethical considerations cover all aspect of research but they are fore-grounded when the subject of the research are humans or animals



- Research involving human subjects in the Medical, Social and Behavioral Sciences poses complex ethical issues.
- It requires careful thought and consideration on the part of both researchers and research participants.
- Prospective participants must be given adequate information on both the possible risks and the potential benefits of their involvement to allow them to make informed decisions



Ethical Issues

- Justification for the research
- Access to participants/Privacy
- Informed consent
- Potential harm



- With research involving human subjects the risks and costs must be balanced against the potential benefits
- Trivial or repetitive research is may be unethical where the subjects are at risk



After years of experimentation the scientist proved that children become addicted to nicotine

Autonomy

- The ethical principle of autonomy means that each person should be given the respect, time, and opportunity necessary to make his or her own decisions.
- Prospective participants must be given the information they will need to decide to enter a study or not to participate.
- There should not be pressure to participate.



Vulnerable participants

- Potentially vulnerable participants such as children, the elderly, the mentally ill may be incapable of understanding information that would enable them to make an informed decision about study participation.



The process of obtaining consent

1. Identify participant population ✓
2. Produce information sheet and consent document ✓ ✓
3. Obtain permission from ethics committee ✓
4. Present research information to participant and discuss its contents – indicating that withdrawal at any time is possible ✓
5. Answer participants questions ✓
6. Give a copy of the consent document ✓
7. Allow the participant time to consider ✓
8. Meet participant and discuss documents, to answer any more questions and assess participants understanding ✓
9. Obtain appropriate signed consent ✓
10. Start research ✓

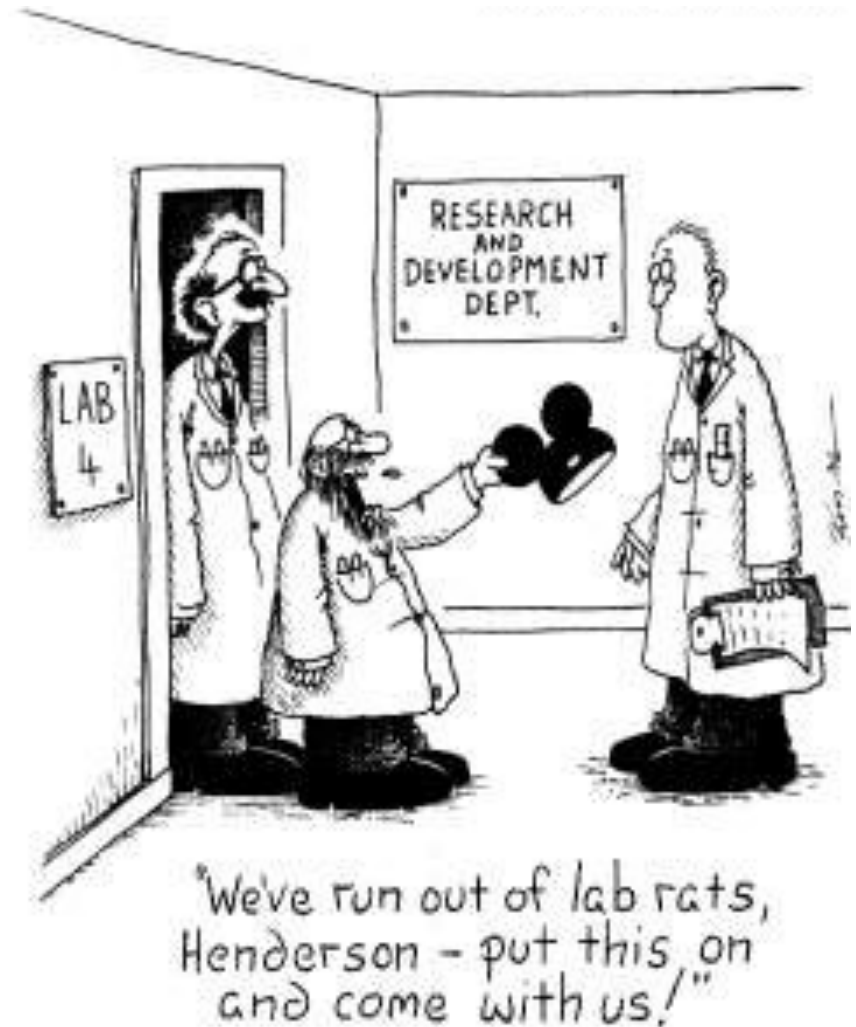
The participants

- The participants may not have the experience or educational background in order to fully understand the implications of the research
- They may be swayed because of their respect of and trust in the researcher who stands as an authority figure
- If they are being paid for their participation they may be swayed by economic considerations from a free judgement of the risks



Peer pressure

- The participants may be subject to social pressure of their peer group
- This is particularly prevalent in research groups



Contact Information

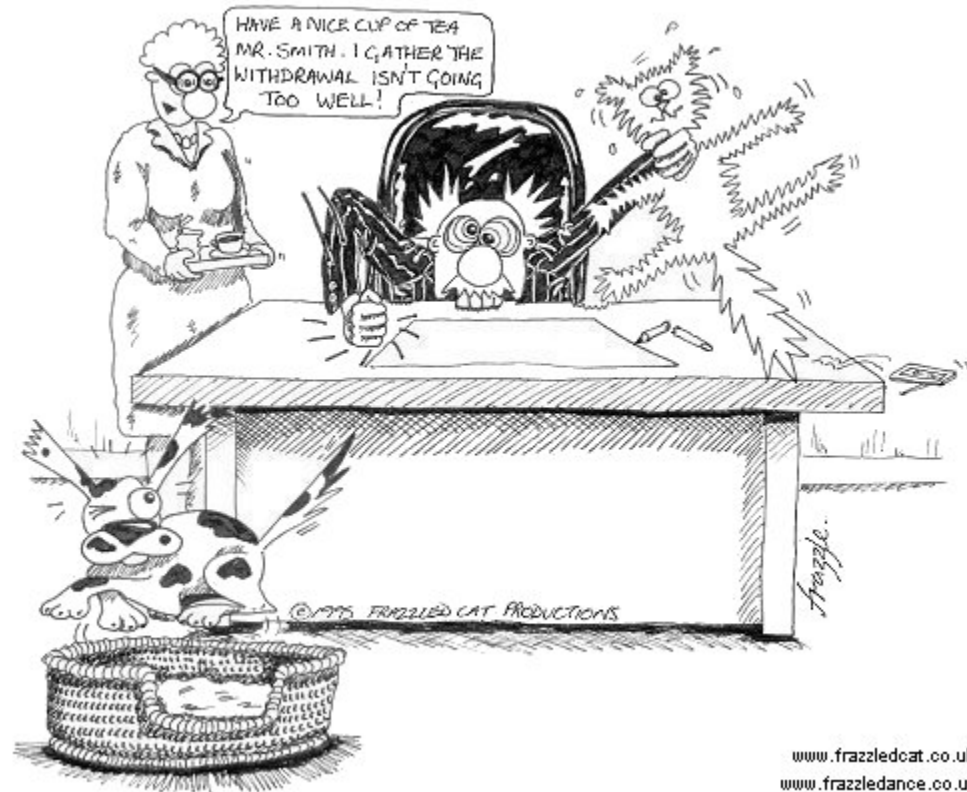
- Give the names of people who can answer questions about the research; include the principal investigator.
- If the researcher is a student, include the names and phone numbers of the principal investigator and, where applicable, the chair of ethical committee for questions.
- Furnish the contact name of a neutral third party who can explain the rights of research participants if the participant has any questions.



"Personally, I wouldn't have signed it."

Withdrawal

- Always stress the fact that participation is voluntary and that the participant can withdraw at any time
- State that refusing to participate will involve no penalty or decrease in benefits to which the participant is otherwise entitled.



www.frazzledcat.co.uk
www.frazzledance.co.uk

Research design

It is ethical behaviour for a researcher

- to use resources efficiently and effectively
- to work hard
- to ensure the well-being of all colleagues and participants



RESEARCH
Consultation
Analysis



DESIGN
Concept
Content Intergration



IMPLEMENTATION
Final Design

Minimising the risks

Maximising the potential for valuable results

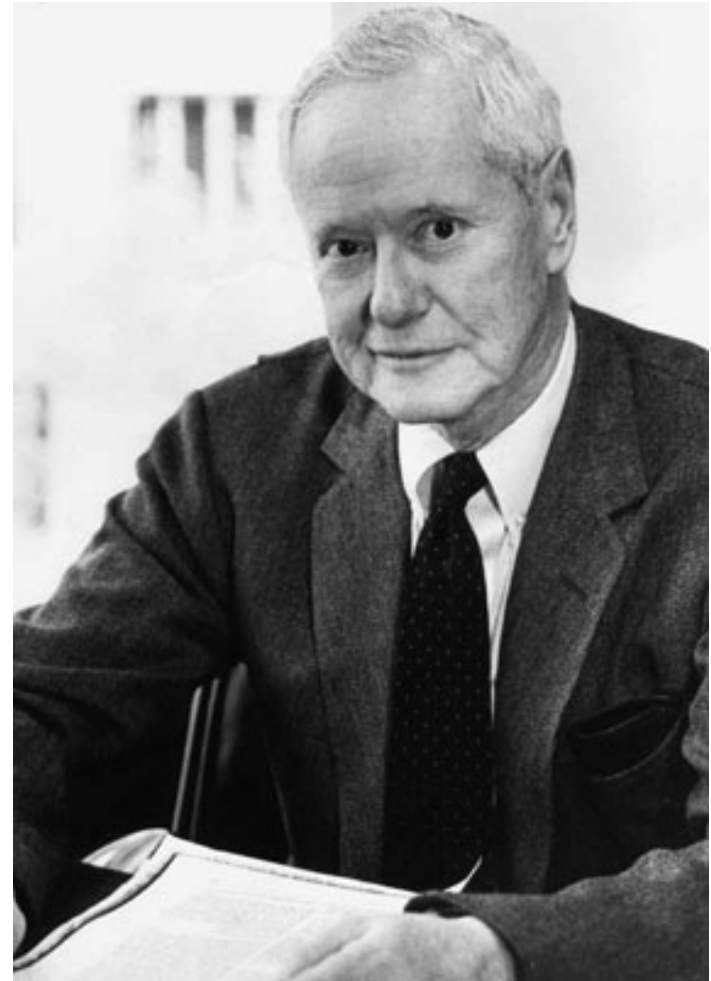
It is standard practise in research to carry out a preliminary small-scale project in order to enable

- more effective assessment of risks
- more efficient design of the main project



The Mertonian norms

- Communalism
- Universalism
- Disinterestedness
- Originality
- Scepticism



Robert K. Merton 1942

Confidentiality

- Confidentiality of electronically stored participant information.
- Appropriate selection and use of tools for analysis of the primary data
- Who has access to the data
- Data protection act



Universalism

There are no privileged sources of scientific knowledge

- Race, sex, politics ?
- Specialism ?
- Authority ?

But certain classes and ethnic groups are under-represented in research.



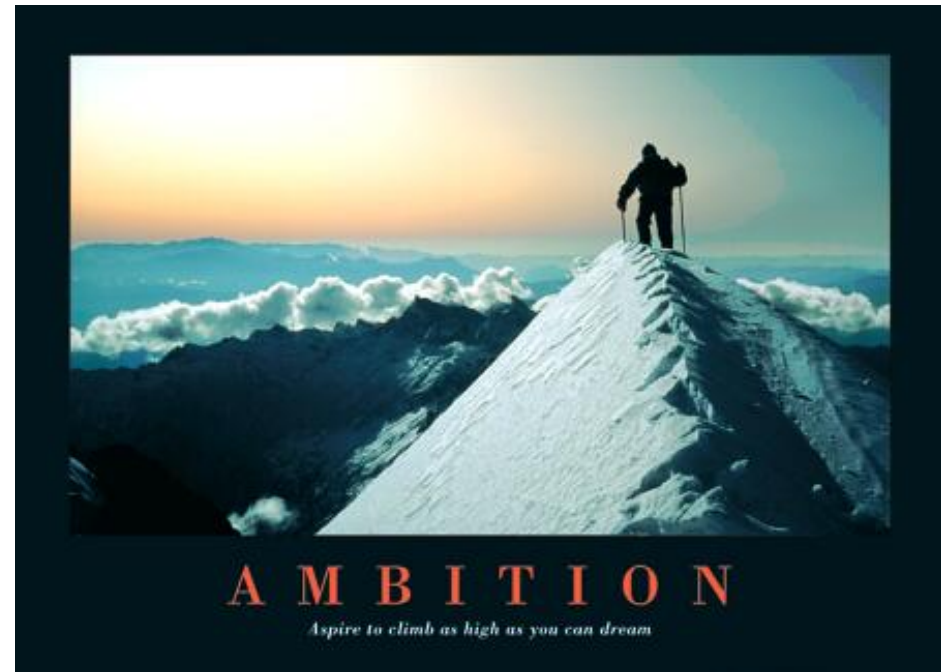
Disinterestedness

Science is done for its own sake

How impersonal is research in practice ?

Research is competitive, not just in the search for funding but also for status.

- High achieving researchers tend to be highly ambitious?
- Personal feuds are rife in academia ? For example in disputes over priority ?



Originality

Science is the discovery of the unknown

- Plagiarism ?
- Publication of the same results in multiple journals ?
- Routine “stamp-collecting” surveys ?



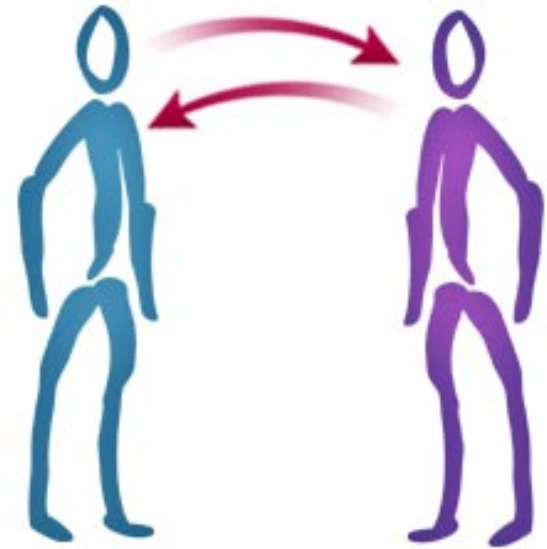
Sceptical

- Is sceptical of given opinions
- Challenges accepted views



Research is social activity

- Research is not just a method and a system of organised knowledge
- It is a social activity carried out by groups of competing/co-operating/communicating scientists

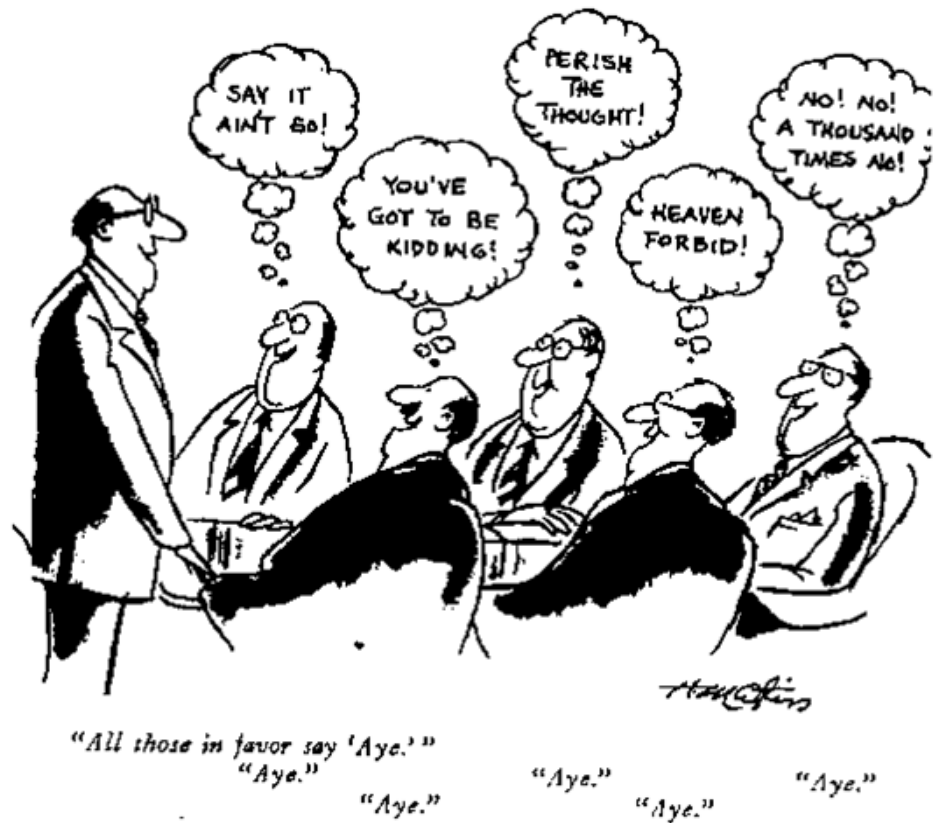


Three dimensions of academic research



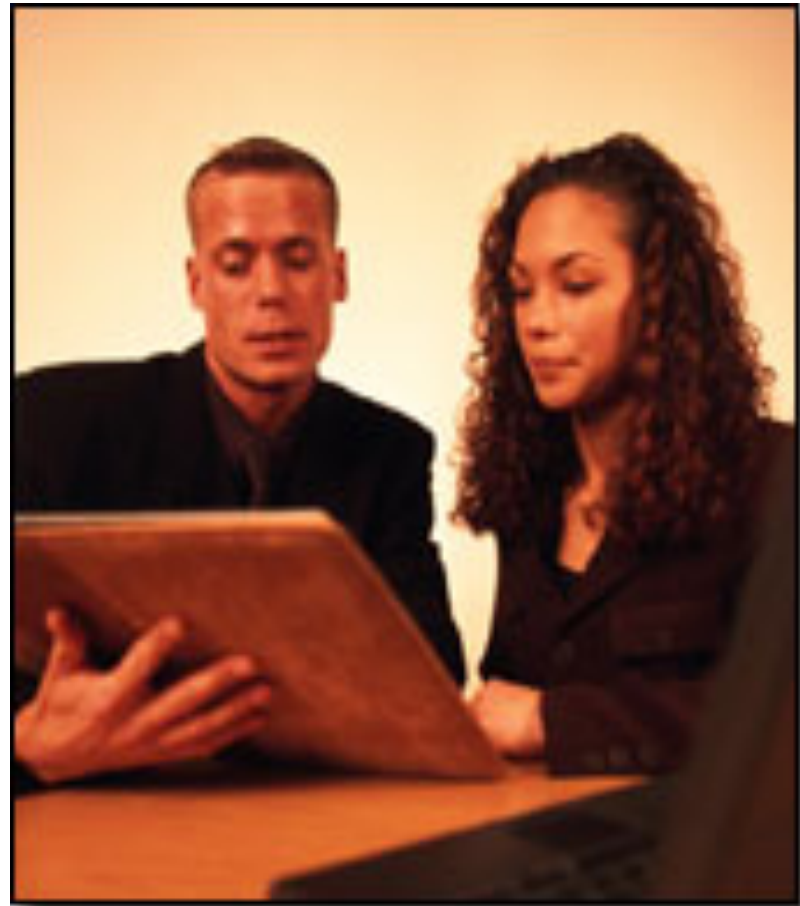
The participation of colleagues

- A key consideration concerns the status/rank/class of not just subjects but all participants including colleagues
- This will influence the ethical relationship/responsibility of the researcher. Not all people are equal.



Ethical relationships with supervisors

- The relationship between the student and the supervisor is unequal and hierarchical.
- the supervisor plays many roles as "adviser", "promoter", "boss", "teacher", "friend", "principal investigator" etc.
- This multiplicity of roles may lead to conflict
- A student must feel free to make their own decisions



Ethical supervision

- Non-coercive
- Nurtures the student's confidence and skills
- Does not use the student just as a technician or assistant but allows the student to develop the project in new ways
- Not jealous of the student's success but allows the student to take ownership of their project and get the credit for it



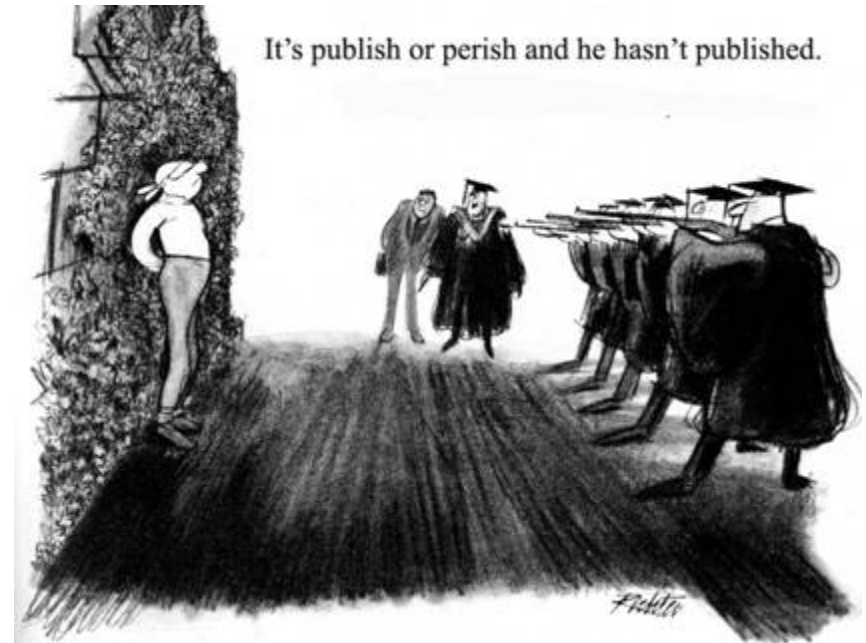
Ethical relationships with colleagues

- Effective and ethical relationships with colleagues will aid a student to make more rapid progress on their project



PUBLICATIONS

- Are how the world sees you.
- Determine whether you get funding for further research or not!
- Determine whether you get promoted or not!!
- Determine whether you keep your job or not!!!



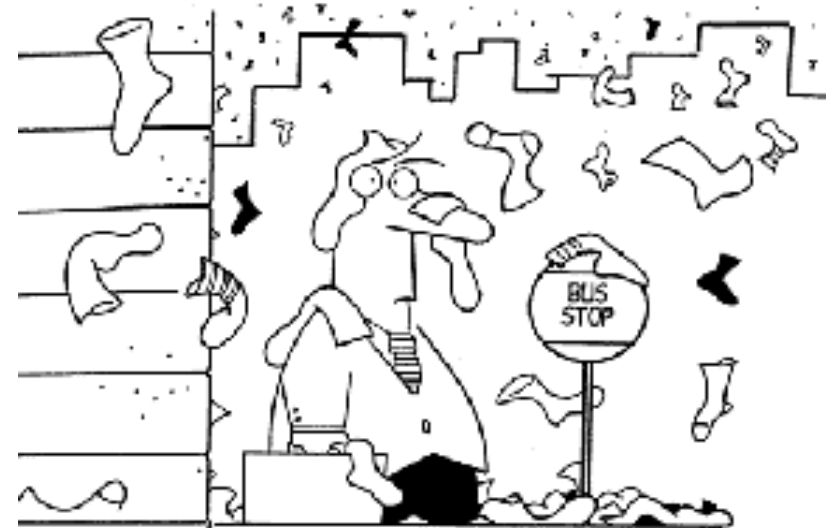
THE NEGATIVE DATA PROBLEM



Discouraging result for the antidepressant again!

THE NEGATIVE DATA PROBLEM

- Can negative results be important?
- Are they publishable?
- Would journals full of negative results sell?
- If they are not published are they doomed to be repeated wastefully?
- How can positive results be validated without knowing about negative ones?



THE DAY ALL THE MISSING SOCKS CAME BACK.

Two types of authorship problem

- **Gift Authorship**
 - Inclusion of authors who did not contribute significantly to the study – this might include a PhD supervisor!
 - Hierarchy (Expectation / favour)
 - Colleagues (Increase publications)
- **Ghost Authorship**
 - Absence of Authors
 - Professional writers (Should be acknowledged)
 - Hierarchical / political / personal reasons



When to publish?

There is intense pressure to publish early and often

- For career progression
- For getting new grants
- For establishing priority/primacy in an area of research



How to maximise your publications- UNETHICALLY!

- **SALAMI-SLICING**
breaking up work into
large number of small
papers.
- **TILING**
publishing sequence of
substantially
overlapping papers.
- **DOUBLE-PUBLISHING**
publishing same work
twice



Scratch my back and I'll scratch yours

- Peer review is not always entirely independent
- Many areas of research are small and highly competitive



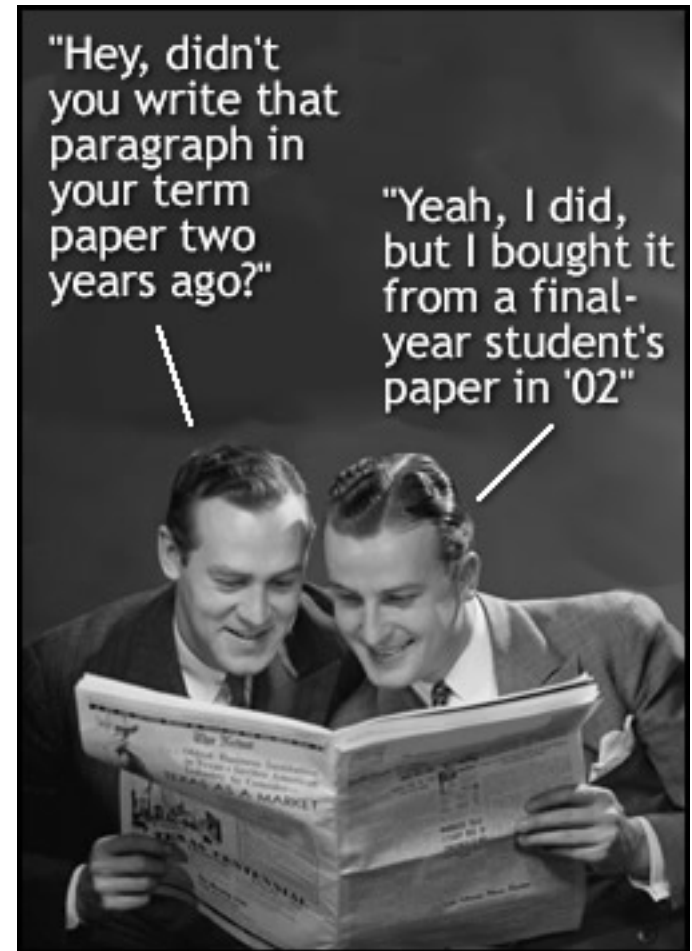
Some senior scientists are intolerant of criticism and dangerous to cross.



“Egad! It’s Professor DeArmond — the epitome of evil amongst butterfly collectors!”

PLAGIARISM

- Plagiarism is dishonesty.
- The research may be excellent but it wasn't done by the author of the paper.
- No point in trying to plagiarise published work.
- Plagiarism mostly involves unpublished theses.
- Difficult to detect unless editor/referee familiar with unpublished work in subject as well as published work.
- Sanctions seen as a default option now.



REJECTION



Well, of course you're going to be depressed if you keep comparing yourself with successful scientists.

An Introduction to Research Ethics



Research Objectives

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Research Hypothesis

- A research question is just that: ‘What’, ‘Why’, ‘When’, ‘How’, ‘Where’ and ‘Who’.
- A hypothesis is a statement of prediction of what you believe will happen in your study.
- A simple hypothesis contains one predictor and one outcome, for example, ‘patients with Crohn’s disease who take the new medication X, will have less abdominal pain than those on usual care’.

Research Hypothesis

- *However, complex hypothesis cannot be easily tested, so ideally you would split these hypotheses into two: (i) Those who take the new medication X will have less abdominal pain than those on usual care; and (ii) those who do not have a stressful life will have less abdominal pain.*

Research Aims and Objectives

- Your research objectives and aims should be linked to your hypothesis or research question.
- Aims are broad statements about what you hope your research will achieve, for example, to evaluate the efficacy of the new medication X in patients with Crohn's disease.

Research Aims and Objectives

- Objectives on the other hand are the steps you need to take in order to meet your aims and so are usually more specific and are usually numbered in sequence.
- For example, your first objective may be to assess effectiveness of new medication X in lowering abdominal pain in patients with Crohn's disease, as measured with the McGill Pain scale (Melzack, 1975).

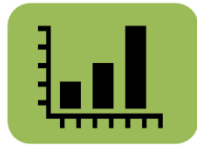
Objectives should be 'SMART'



Specific

S

- Clear about what will be achieved.



Measureable

M

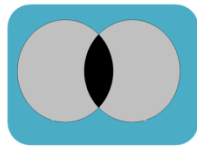
- You have a measure of when objectives have been achieved.



Attainable

A

- **“Achievable”** Are the objectives feasible?



Relevant

R

- **“Realistic”** they can be achieved using the resources available.



Time Based

T

- They can be achieved within the timescales specified.

ASKING THE RIGHT RESEARCH QUESTION

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- The most important step in conducting a high-quality research study is to create a study question that will provide the guidance for the planning, analysis, and reporting of your study!



What Is a Study Question?

- A study question reflects an uncertainty that you want to try to resolve
 - ?effectiveness of an intervention in a specific patient population.
- It is the basis for your research study and presents the idea or ideas that are to be examined in your study.

What is a Study Question?

- Everything included in your study must relate to your study question(s) and study objective.
- It gives information about the patients to be studied, interventions to be compared, and primary outcomes to focus on.

Your general study question can come from several places!

- You or others in your field might have observed a pattern of positive or poor outcomes or problems regarding a current treatment!
- Recent advances or technologies might spawn questions about their safety or applicability to different patient populations.
- You think that other treatments might perform better than what is currently practiced!

- Unfortunately, high quality, novel, and answerable study questions do not usually just appear!





- The inspiration for the study may emerge with time as you confer with colleagues, listen to lectures at professional meetings, or even as you critically appraise literature on a given topic.
- Frequently, study ideas build on previous research and are honed by working collaboratively with mentors and colleagues.

- Once you have a general idea of what you would like to research, the process of crafting your study begins with carefully forming and focusing an answerable question.



The Process of Creating an Effective Study Question



Research question criteria

FINER criteria (Hulley et al., 2007)

- **Feasible** : Adequate number of participants available and adequate skill mix in the research team. Also is the project manageable within the specified time frame, and budget?
- **Interesting**: The answer will be interesting to other researchers in the field, health professionals and patients.
- **Novel**: Confirms, refutes or extends previous findings (whether yours or published).
- **Ethical**: No reason why ethical approval could not be obtained.
- **Relevant** : To current scientific knowledge, policy, future research and patients.

Step 1: Draft a Preliminary Study Question

- The first step is to draft a simple clinical question you would like to answer or a hypothesis you would like to explore.
- What do you think the answer to that clinical question might be?
- Why do you think it may be important to evaluate this question?

Step 2: Focus Your Study Question

- Now you can start the process of focusing your question.
- The following is an example of creating a preliminary study question.

Step 2: Focus Your Study Question

Study question too broad	Study question somewhat more answerable	Study question with improved focus
What is the comparative effectiveness of laminoplasty versus laminectomy and fusion?	What is the comparative effectiveness of laminoplasty versus laminectomy and fusion for adults with cervical myelopathy?	What is the comparative effectiveness of laminoplasty versus laminectomy and fusion for adults with myelopathy due to spondylosis in the cervical spine?

Exercise 1: Can the Topic Be Researched?

- **Is Prozac a good treatment for clinical depression in certain cases?**
- **Does McDonald's or Burger King make a better burger?**
- **Is there a link between hours of television viewing and violent behavior in children aged 8-14?**

Exercise 2: Is the Question Too Broad or Too Narrow?

- This exercise designed to improve your ability to select a good research question. Select what you think is the best research question out of the three (neither too broad nor too narrow).

- **Question A:** Do children sent to day care or preschool start kindergarten with more developed skills?
- **Question B:** Do children sent to day care or preschool start kindergarten with more highly developed language skills?
- **Question C:** Do children sent to day care or preschool start kindergarten with larger vocabularies?

- **Question A**
- **Question A is too broad.**
- Because it focuses on all skills (language, social, small motor, large motor, etc.) you'd have to gather too much diverse information to answer question A.
- **Question B**
- **The best research question is B.**
- The topic is broad enough to find more than just one or two sources, but it's limited to one focus--the development of preschool language skills.
- **Question C**
- **There may or may not be enough information to answer question C.**
- You'd need to find more than just one or two studies if you chose to answer question C. If you find that there are enough sources dealing with vocabulary only, then you could choose to pursue question C.

- **Question A:** What are the 14 different disease-causing genes that were discovered in 1994?
- **Question B:** What is the importance of genetic research in our lives?
- **Question C:** How might the discovery of a genetic basis for obesity change the way in which we treat obese persons, both medically and socially?

- **Question A**
- **Question A is far too narrow to develop into a research paper.**
- You could answer this question in one sentence, and the question does not allow you to develop your own thoughts about the topic.
- **Question B**
- **Question B is too broad.**
- You could write a book to discuss the importance of genetic research in our lives.
- **Question C**
- **Question C is the best choice.**
- You might be asking, "How can I research something whose effect hasn't been felt yet?" You can posit what "might happen logically" in the future based on what "has happened" in the past. For example, your research may bring you to the major things thought to have caused obesity in the recent last two to three decades in order to establish a direct relationship between cause and treatment. Once you establish that direct cause-and-effect relationship, you can project similar types of relationships based on the new genetic research.

Ask yourself the following questions

- What factual information do you need?
 - This information will answer the Who, What, When, and Where questions.
- What background / causes/ reasons do you need to investigate and include?
- What effects / solutions / recommendations / changes do you need to include?
- What comparisons or analogies can you make?
- What judgments or opinions can be supported by your research?

Step 3: Complete a PICO (Richardson, 1995)

- Add specifications to your study question using a PICO table to further refine it.
- While the more focused study question above is an improvement, there are some additional questions you should ask:
 - What types of patients and pathologies do you want to study or exclude from the study?
 - What variations of the treatments or interventions do you want to consider or exclude?
 - What specific outcomes or complications are the most important to measure and evaluate?

Questions: PICO

	1	2	3	4
	Patient or Problem	Intervention (a cause, prognostic factor, treatment, etc)	Comparison Intervention (if necessary)	Outcomes
Tips for Building	Starting with your patient, ask "How would I describe a group of patients similar to mine?" Balance precision with brevity.	Ask "Which main intervention am I considering?" Be specific	Ask "What is the main alternative to compare with the intervention?" Again, be specific	Ask "What can I hope to accomplish?", or "What could this exposure really affect?" Again, be specific
Example	"In patients with heart failure from dilated cardiomyopathy who are in sinus rhythm..."	"...would adding anticoagulation with warfarin to standard heart failure therapy..."	"...when compared with standard therapy alone..."	"...lead to lower mortality or morbidity from thromboembolism. Is this enough to be worth the increased risk of bleeding?"

USEFULNESS OF MEDICAL INFORMATION

DISEASE ORIENTED EVIDENCE THAT MATTERS
(DOES)

PATIENT ORIENTED EVIDENCE THAT MATTERS
(POEMS)

DOEs

→ POEM

Drug A lowers cholesterol	Drug A decreases cardiovascular mortality/morbidity	Decreases overall mortality
PSA screening detects prostate cancer most of the time and at an early stage	PSA screening decreases mortality	PSA screening improves quality of life
Corticosteroid use decreases neutrophil chemotaxis in patients with asthma	Corticosteroid use decreases admissions, length of hospital stay, and symptoms of acute asthma	Corticosteroid use decreases asthma-related mortality
Tight control of type 1 diabetes mellitus can keep fasting blood glucose <140mg/dl	Tight control of type 1 diabetes can decrease microvascular complications	Tight control of type 1 diabetes can decrease mortality and improve quality of life

Step 3: Complete a PICO Table

- The PICO system provides a framework for further refinement based on these questions.
- A PICO table will help you to consider what should be included in your study and what should not be included.
- Your final PICO table is an aid to further refine your study question, define inclusion and exclusion criteria, highlight the interventions and outcomes you will measure, and provide the groundwork for a focused literature search.

Step 3: Complete a PICO Table(Patients)

- **Patients:** Consider factors related to the condition, demographics (e.g., age, gender), behaviors (e.g., smoking), medical history (e.g., previous treatment, medications, general health factors, comorbidities), factors associated with treatment selection (e.g., severity or location of condition), and other factors that might be relevant to treatment selection or outcomes.
- For most studies, it is important to define a fairly homogeneous patient population, especially if there are any factors that might influence the outcome other than the intervention you are evaluating.

Step 3: Complete a PICO Table(Intervention)

- Intervention:
- Make sure you specify variations of the procedures (e.g., approach, number of levels, use of specific devices, grafting) as being included or excluded.
- If there are variations of the procedure that could influence results, think carefully about their inclusion.

Step 3: Complete a PICO Table(Comparison)

- Comparison:
- Specify the alternative treatment to which the intervention is compared.
- Again, are there variations that should be excluded?

Step 3: Complete a PICO Table(Outcome)

- Outcome:
- Be specific and aim for the most important outcomes.
- They can be patient-reported (e.g., pain, function, quality of life) or clinical outcomes (e.g., nonunion, complications, reoperation, death).
- List the primary outcome of interest first; this outcome provides the focus for your study, the data collection, and the sample-size estimate. Then list secondary outcomes that might provide valuable contributions to your overall study results.

Step 3: Complete a PICO Table(Example)

- “What is the comparative effectiveness following laminoplasty versus laminectomy and fusion for adults with myelopathy due to spondylosis in the cervical spine?”

Step 3: Complete a PICO Table(Example)

	Inclusion	Exclusion
Patients What patient group do you want to include?	Symptomatic adults with cervical myelopathy due to spondylosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients under 18 years of age • Ossification of the posterior longitudinal ligament (OPLL) • Tumor • Trauma • Infection • Deformity
Intervention What surgical treatment, procedure, or implants are you interested in?	Cervical laminoplasty	
Comparison What is the comparison treatment?	Cervical laminectomy and fusion	
Outcomes What outcomes are you interested in (e.g., pain, function)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JOA recovery rate (primary outcome) • NDI • Neck or arm pain • SF-36 • Complications, including CSF leakage, dural tear, and C5 palsy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radiographic outcomes • Economic, cost-effectiveness

Case Study



- A cardiologist proposes the initial simple question: whether placing antibiotic sponges into the chest cavity at the end of heart surgery will prevent infections?
- After discussion with various groups, amendments to the question are made:

Case Study

- ‘heart surgery’ is too broad and it might be sensible to pick a specific procedure;
- different types of sponges are on the market so it is decided to stick to one type;
- the sponges are not free, so cost and cost-effectiveness need to be considered;
- getting out of hospital and home as soon as possible is seen as a priority by patients.



Case Study



- Thus the question became:
 - in patients undergoing coronary artery bypass grafting, what is the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of inserting a gentamicin-impregnated collagen sponge into the chest cavity at closure on wound infection rates and length of stay?

Case Study

- P: _____
- I: _____
- C: _____
- O: _____



Case Study



- P: Patients who are undergoing coronary artery bypass grafting
- I: Gentamicin-impregnated collagen sponge
- C: No gentamicin-impregnated collagen sponge
- O: Wound infection rates and length of stay

Step 3: Complete a PICO Table

- The question should be structured using criteria such as PICO which breaks down an individual question into components which may *directly translate into keywords* that inform the design and literature search of any study.
- Using a criterion also ensures that any publications resulting from your project will be found during a literature search on the same subject.

Step 4: Refine Study Question and Conduct Preliminary Literature Search

- Now you can use your completed PICO table to refine your study question and to conduct a quick preliminary literature search.
- It is important to find out what is currently known and not known about your research topic, what has already been published on this topic, and what gaps exist that your research can fill, whether it be a type of intervention that has not been studied, a particular group of patients who have not previously been included in studies, or an outcome that has not been measured but is important to patients.

Step 4: Refine Study Question and Conduct Preliminary Literature Search

- This initial literature search helps you hone your study question further and may help you determine if it is realistic to answer in a single, focused study.
- The PICO framework is also helpful for getting feedback from potential co-investigators/colleagues to further refine your study question.

Step 5: Consider Additional Questions

- By this point, you should have not only a solid study question, but at least a preliminary idea of how you might approach answering it, and there are some additional questions to consider for another round of refinement.

Step 5: Consider Additional Questions

- To be more specific in your study focus, consider these additional questions:
 - What might constitute a clinically meaningful improvement?
 - What time frame will be important? Are you looking at outcomes that are short-term or long-term to evaluate the effects?
 - Is there a specific hypothesis that you would like to test?

Step 5: Consider Additional Questions (Example)

- In symptomatic adults with cervical myelopathy due to spondylosis, does laminoplasty improve the severity of myelopathy (as measured by the JOA recovery rate) compared with laminectomy and fusion at 12 months?
or, more specifically
- In symptomatic adults with cervical myelopathy due to spondylosis, does laminoplasty lead to a minimum 75% JOA recovery rate (from baseline to 12 months) more frequently than after laminectomy and fusion?

Step 6: Perform a More Complete Literature Search

- Now that you have created a clear, focused, answerable study question and a PICO or PPO table as the framework for your study, you can proceed to a more complete literature search.
- It is important to solidify your understanding of what is known about your research topic, what gaps in knowledge need to be filled, and what is the best study design to answer your study question.

- As you explore possible ideas, write down the ones that interest you.
- Also write down any recurring terms, themes, issues, etc.



- Mistakes are usually made during the design phase; but might also be made during the data collection, analysis or manuscript preparation phases.



Fifteen common mistakes encountered in clinical research. J Prosthodont Res. 2011 Jan;55(1):1-6. doi: 10.1016/j.jpor.2010.09.002

Evaluate Your Own Research Question

- Evaluate the quality of your research question and the ease with which you should be able to answer it.

Ask yourself:

- Does the question deal with a topic or issue that interests me enough to spark my own thoughts and opinions?
- Is the question easily and fully researchable?
- Is the scope of this information reasonable?
- Given the type and scope of the information that I need, is my question too broad, too narrow or okay?
- What sources will be able to provide the information I need to answer my research question (journals, books, Internet, government documents, people)?
- Can I access these sources?
- Given my answers to the above questions, do I have a good-quality research question that I actually will be able to answer by doing research?

Conclusions

- Great study ideas take time to formulate. Familiarity with the strengths and limitations of the current literature, participation in professional meetings and collegial exchanges are probably the best breeding grounds for generating great, new study ideas.
- It may take time for the input from such sources to coalesce into an inspired thought that ignites the creative process.



- Have you discussed possible research projects with your Supervisor?
- Have you talked with your classmates about possible research projects?
- Have you thought about what interests you?
- Have you scanned your textbook and class materials?
- Have you seen or heard of an interesting idea in the popular media?
- Have you scanned current journals related to the subject of your course?

- As you explore, make a list of all of the ideas that interest you.
- Notice whether or not there appears to be a lot of potential information on an idea.
- Write down any unusual aspects about an idea that you notice.
- When you have completed your exploration, pick the most interesting idea from your list to be your research project.
- Also pick the second most interesting one in case your first choice doesn't meet the requirements for a good project.

- Don't throw away your list!
- You may find it helpful at another time.



Conclusions

- Your study begins with developing a researchable study question, which is an iterative and deliberate process.
- You might have to go through multiple iterations in the process of refining your study question into something that is novel and answerable.

Conclusions

- The PICO framework is invaluable for helping you refine your study question, setting the stage for both preliminary and more complete literature searches, and for laying the groundwork for your study.

Conclusions

- The more focused your study question is, the higher the likelihood that you will be able to find a meaningful answer to it.

Conclusions

- The more thought and effort you put into the initial planning of your research study, especially the creation of a focused, answerable study question and PICO framework, the higher quality your research study is likely to be and more likely you are to find an answer to that question!

What to do?

- Identify research ideas that interest you and meet the criteria of your assignment.
- Develop an overview of your research idea.
- Organize your research and write a preliminary topic statement.
- Narrow or broaden your topic to match the requirements of your assignment.
- Develop questions that your research should address.

After completing this session, you will have:

- Select a research topic
- Use strategies for focusing a research project
- Write research questions

Literature Review

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March 2016



Develop an overview of your research idea

- Now that you have selected an idea to research, you need to get an overview of that subject area and the amount of information that might be available for you to use in your research.
- Developing an overview of a topic before you firmly commit to it is important for several reasons.
 - Key terminology
 - Whether there is enough information available
 - Whether your research idea is too broad or too narrow

• Process of Review Development

- Formulate a Problem



- Search



- Refine Topic



- Analyze

- Construct Review



How To Write A Literature Review

Research Tips

RefWorks/EndNote

Definition of a Literature Review

- **A literature review**
 - surveys scholarly articles, books and other sources (e.g. dissertations, conference proceedings) relevant to a particular issue, area of research, or theory.
 - provides a short description and critical evaluation of work critical to the topic.
 - offers an overview of significant literature published on a topic.

(Lyons, 2005)

Literature Reviews are Conducted For Various Reasons

1. For a review paper
2. For the introduction (and discussion) of a research paper, masters thesis or dissertation
3. To embark on a new area of research
4. For a research proposal

(Burge, 2005)

Mistakes!



1. Failure to carefully examine the literature for similar, prior research

- When selecting and refining the exact focus of a question it is critically important for the novice to read in detail the discussion section of similar articles, for in that portion of the paper, most researchers speculate on what needs to be accomplished next in that topical area to advance the science.

2. Failure to critically assess the prior literature

- There is an old adage that says: “those who forget history are doomed to repeat it” and it is applicable to research as well. Investigators who repeat work previously done and do not recognize and build on prior efforts are likely to find their work un-publishable.

Conducting a literature review will help you:

- Determine if proposed research is actually needed.
 - Even if similar research published, researchers might suggest a need for similar studies or replication.
- Narrow down a problem.
 - It can be overwhelming getting into the literature of a field of study. A literature review can help you understand where you need to focus your efforts.
- Generate hypotheses or questions for further studies.

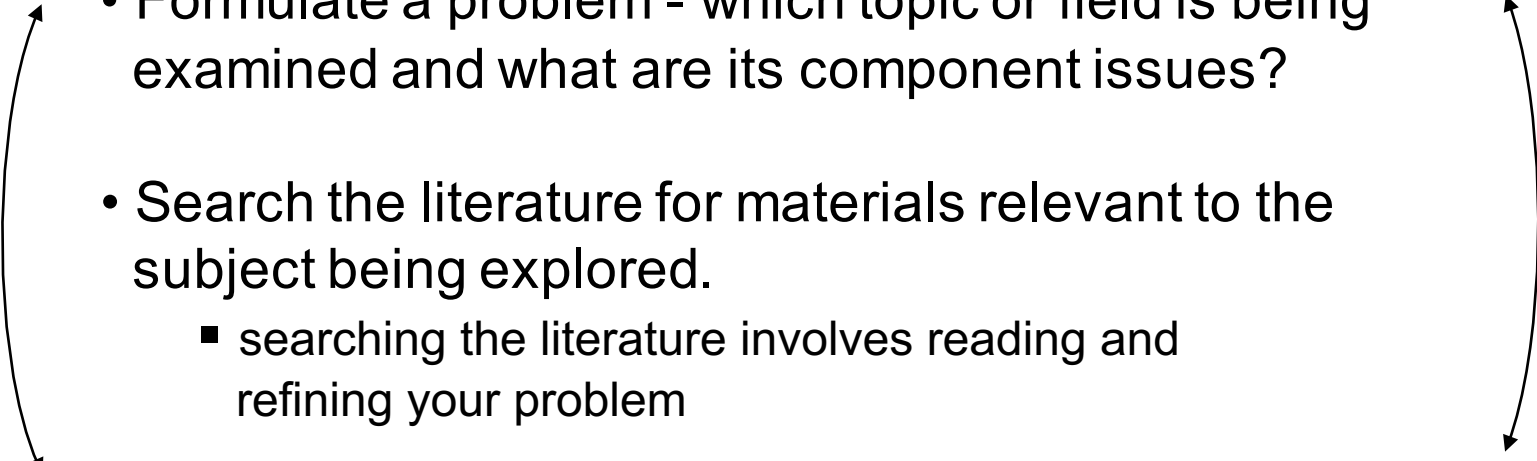
(Mauch & Birch, 2003)

Conducting a literature review will give you:

- Background knowledge of the field of inquiry
 - Facts
 - Eminent scholars
 - Parameters of the field
 - The most important ideas, theories, questions and hypotheses.
- Knowledge of the methodologies common to the field and a feeling for their usefulness and appropriateness in various settings.

(Mauch & Birch, 2003)

Outline of Review Process

- 
- Formulate a problem - which topic or field is being examined and what are its component issues?
 - Search the literature for materials relevant to the subject being explored.
 - searching the literature involves reading and refining your problem
 - Evaluate the data - determine which literature makes a significant contribution to the understanding of the topic
 - Analyze and interpret - discuss the findings and conclusions of pertinent literature
 - Format and create bibliography

(Lyons, 2005)

Component of Literature review

- Problem formulation—which topic or field is being examined and what are its component issues?
- Literature search—finding materials relevant to the subject being explored
- Data evaluation—determining which literature makes a significant contribution to the understanding of the topic
- Analysis and interpretation—discussing the findings and conclusions of pertinent literature

After completing this session, you will know:

- Introduction to search engines
- Identify suitable information sources.
- Access main search engines on the web
- Academic Digital Library/Saudi Digital Library
- EndNote software
- Examples and explanations

Why searching a literature?

- Staying current with advances in medicine
- Identifying information and ideas
- Increasing your breadth of knowledge
- Identifying similar works in your area
- Carrying on from where others have already reached
- Avoiding reinventing the wheel
- Putting your work into perspective

Data Evaluation: Selecting literature

- Read widely
- When you read for your literature review, you are actually doing two things at the same time:
 1. Trying to define your research problem: finding a gap, asking a question, continuing previous research, counter-claiming
 2. Trying to read every source relevant to your research problem

It is usually impossible to do the latter •
you will need to identify the most relevant and significant works and –
focus on them.

(Asian Institute of Technology)

Data Evaluation: Selecting Literature

- As you define your problem you will more easily be able to decide what to read and what to ignore.
 - Before you define your problem, hundreds of sources will seem relevant.
 - However, you cannot define your problem until you read around your research area.
 - This seems a vicious circle, but what should happen is that *as* you read you define your problem, and *as* you define your problem you will more easily be able to decide what to read and what to ignore.

Examples popular Search Engines

Google™

YAHOO!®

msn.™

AOL.

Ask Jeeves®
Ask.com

alltheweb
◦ ◦ ◦ find it all ◦ ◦ ◦

altavista™

What are the Sources?


The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions
Welch WEB
The William H. Welch Medical Library


→ MyWelch → Home → PubMed → JHULibraries Catalog → RAUL (Rem...)

QuickLinks

Choose...
Choose...
Basic Science
Clinical Resources
EB Medicine
Harrison's
JAMA
JHULibraries Catalog
MDConsult
Micromedex
Nature
Nursing

Electronic RESOURCES

→ **e journals** 
Access our electronic journal collection which has expanded to over 2,400 titles.

→ **e databases** 
Article indexes, full text articles, abstracting services, bibliographies, datasets, directories, etc. Choose from over 230 databases.

→ **e books** 
Full text articles and books in our over 300 electronic text books.

→ **e references** 
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Basic Sciences
Consumer Health -->
Evidence Based Medicine
General Reference -->
Grants & Funding
Government Resources
Nursing Resources
PDA Resources
Public Health
Writing & Publishing
More...

Evidence Based Medicine

- [Systematic Reviews, Journal Articles and other Databases](#)
- [Clinical Trials and Pre-publication Resources](#)
- [Research Tools: Filters, Hedges and Strategies](#)
- [Statistical Tools and Calculators](#)
- [Journal Clubs, List Servers, and Meta-lists](#)
- [Education and Tutorials](#)
- [Organizations and other resources](#)

Ranking * = Good; **Very Good; ***Excellent

Systematic Reviews, Journal Articles and other Databases

- [National Guideline Clearinghouse](#)*** - EBM practice guidelines
- [Cochrane](#)*** - Systematic reviews of literature on specific subjects
- [TRIP - CeRes](#)**** - British meta-search engine; covers 58 resources
- [Clinical Queries - PubMed](#)*** - Evidence Based filters for Medline
- [UpToDate](#)*** - Topic reviews on specific clinical issues
- [MD Consult](#) - Practice guidelines, clinical topics
- [Clinical Evidence Online](#)** - Provides a searchable list of reviewed topics, BMJ
- [Best Evidence](#) - Provides a searchable list of reviewed topics, ACP
- [CAT Bank](#)* - 63 Critically Appraised Topics
- [SUM Search - Univ. of Texas](#) - Meta-search for Merck, NGC, and PubMed
- [Bandolier](#) - Reviewed literature, offers subjects by medical speciality

www.welch.jhu.edu

Who has access to the following databases ?

General search engines:

- Pub-med (Medline)
- Clinical Evidence
- Cochrane
- Best Evidence
- Trip database
- Bandolier

EBM Guidelines:

- NICE
- PRODIGY
- SIGN
- Others

Not Enough ?

More databases...

- **Google Scholar**
- **CINAHL** - Cum. Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature
 - <http://www.cinahl.com>
- **ERIC** – Education Resources Information Center
 - <http://www.eric.ed.gov>
- **PsycINFO** – A database of American Psychological Association
 - <http://www.apa.org/psycinfo>
- **Campbell Collaboration**
 - <http://www.campbellcollaboration.org>
- **BEME** - Best Evidence Medical Education
 - www.bemecollaboration.org

Regional and Local...

- Index Medicus of the Eastern Mediterranean Region
 - <http://www.emro.who.int/information-resources/imemr-database/>
- Saudi Medical Literature:
 - <http://saudimedlit.librarywafh.com/index.html>

What is the difference?

- **“Literature Review”**
- **“Literature Search”**

What is a literature search?

“A systematic and thorough search of published literature in order to collect information about a particular topic.”

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, UK

Where to start...?

- Internet search/Any search engine
 - Guidelines review
- } **General overview**
- Database search – Medline/PsycINFO
 - Reference tracking-references in articles
- } **Thorough search**
- Expert contacts
- } **Refining**
-
- ```
graph TD; A[General overview] <--> B[Thorough search]; B <--> C[Refining];
```

# Evidence Based Guidelines

- NICE - National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
  - <http://www.nice.org.uk>
- PRODIGY - formerly CKS
  - <http://prodigy.clarity.co.uk/home>
- NGC - National Guideline Clearinghouse
  - <http://guideline.gov/>
- SIGN - Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network
  - <http://www.sign.ac.uk/index.html>

# More thorough search?

**If you fail to plan,  
you plan to fail.**

Ben Franklin

Prepare → Organize → Combine

# Prepare

- What do we need to know about our topic?
- Make a list of all the terms connected with our topic.

# Organize

- Make a list of the words that are critical to your search.
- Exchange/add some words if needed.
- Note terms that you don't want to appear.
- Discard the rest.

# Combine

Use Boolean operators to combine our most important terms.

- Use AND to connect the terms we want to see.
- Use NOT to exclude terms we don't want.
- Use OR to include similar terms.

# What are the mechanisms?

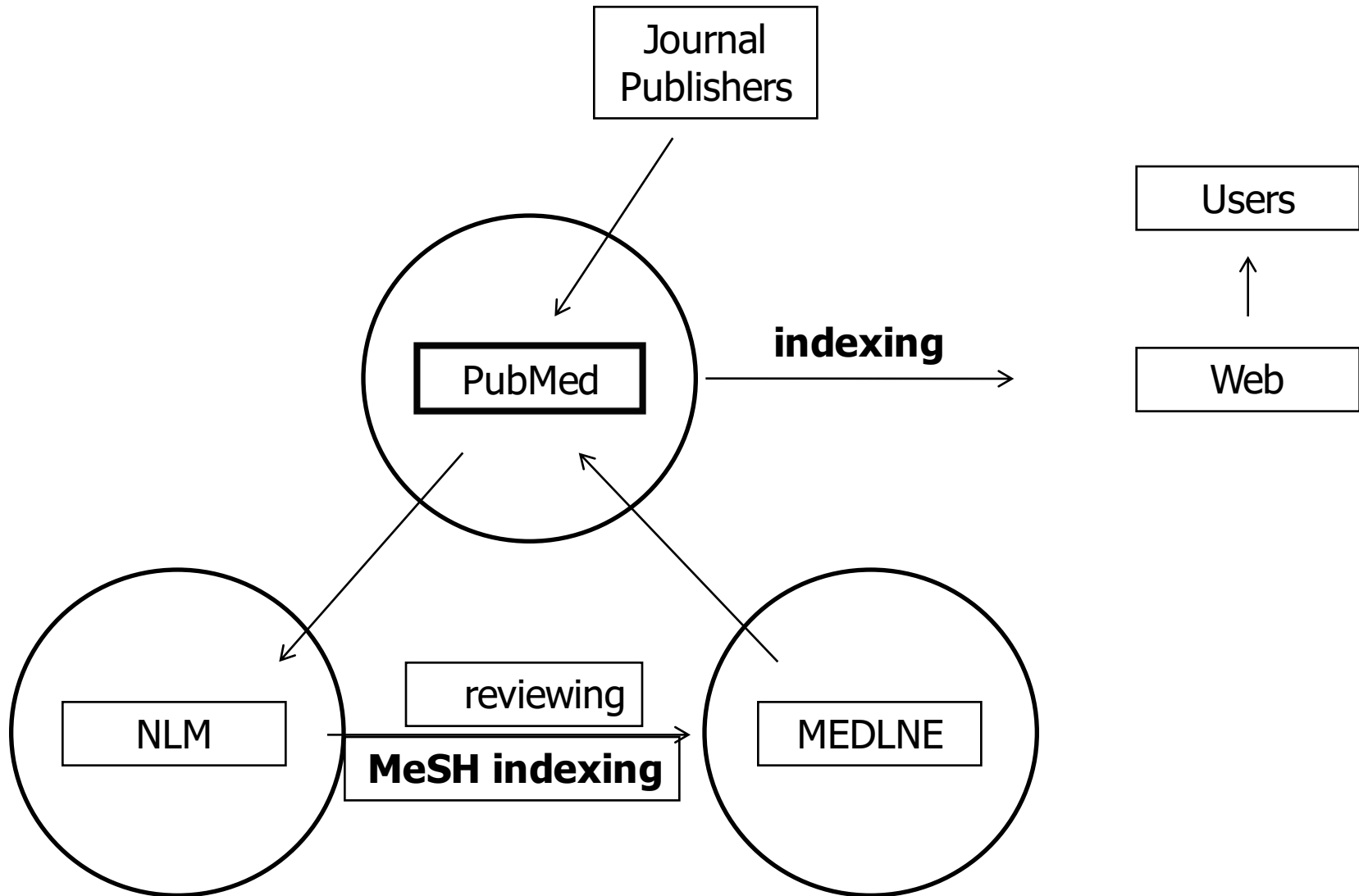
**Index** - Something that reveals or indicates

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# Indexing a literature



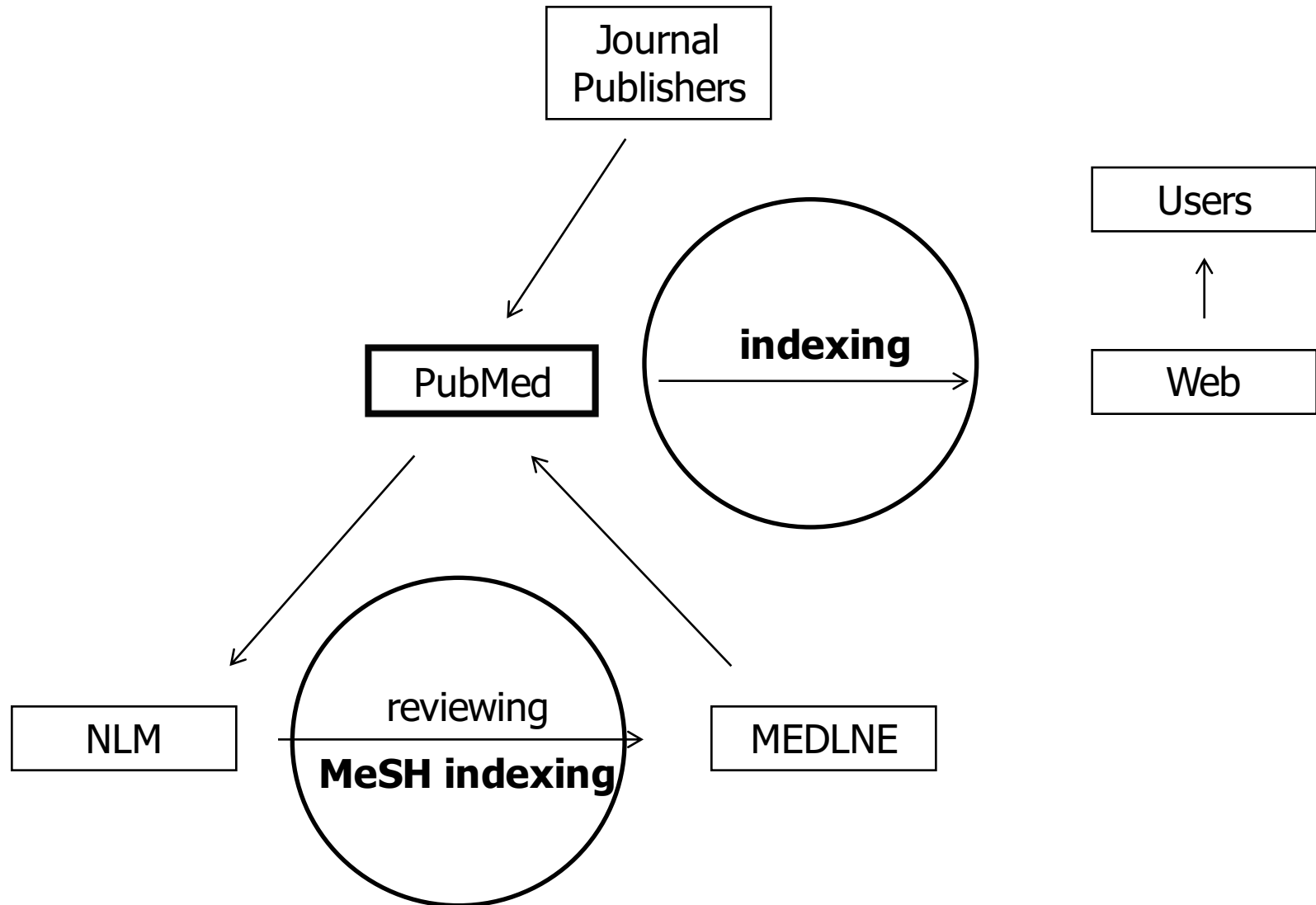
# What is PubMed?

- **PubMed** is a database developed by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at the National Library of Medicine (**NLM**) available on the Web.
- **NLM** is the worlds largest medical library
- **NLM** has been indexing the biomedical literature since 1879
- **MEDLINE** is a database of indexes (with citations and abstracts)
- **PubMed** provides access to MEDLINE
- **PubMed** database is more current and comprehensive than **MEDLINE** ( it includes citations even prior to their indexing with **MEDLINE**)

# Why PubMed ?

- Over 20 million citations for biomedical literature from app. 5500 selected journals from over 70 countries
- Source:
  - MEDLINE (NLM database)
  - Life science journals
  - Online books
- Fields:
  - Medicine
  - Nursing
  - Dentistry
  - Veterinary medicine
  - Health care system
  - Preclinical sciences

# Indexing a literature



# MeSH indexing

- Acronym for “Medical Subject Headings”
- Similar to key words on other systems
- Used for indexing journal articles for MEDLINE
- Arranged in hierarchy, from more general to more specific
- Used by researchers

# Tree of MeSH database

## All MeSH Categories

### Analytical, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Techniques and Equipment Category

#### Therapeutics

#### **Phototherapy**

Color Therapy

Heliotherapy

Laser Therapy, Low-Level

Photochemotherapy

Hematoporphyrin Photoradiation

Ultraviolet Therapy

PUVA Therapy +

**Results: 4** **Craniocerebral Trauma**

1. Traumatic injuries involving the cranium and intracranial structures (i.e., BRAIN; CRANIAL NERVES; MENINGES; and other structures). Injuries may be classified by whether or not the skull is penetrated (i.e., penetrating vs. nonpenetrating) or whether there is an associated hemorrhage.

Year introduced: 2000(1966)

 **Head Injuries, Closed**

2. Traumatic injuries to the cranium where the integrity of the skull is not compromised and no bone fragments or other objects penetrate the skull and dura mater. This frequently results in mechanical injury being transmitted to intracranial structures which may produce traumatic

[All MeSH Categories](#)

[Diseases Category](#)

[Nervous System Diseases](#)

[Trauma, Nervous System](#)

**Craniocerebral Trauma**

[Brain Injuries](#)

[Brain Concussion](#) +

[Brain Hemorrhage, Traumatic](#) +



[Brain Injury, Chronic](#)

[Diffuse Axonal Injury](#)

[Epilepsy, Post-Traumatic](#)



[Pneumocephalus](#)

[Shaken Baby Syndrome](#)

[Cerebrospinal Fluid Otorrhea](#)

[Cerebrospinal Fluid Rhinorrhea](#)

[Coma, Post-Head Injury](#)

[Cranial Nerve Injuries](#)

[Abducens Nerve Injury](#)



[Facial Nerve Injuries](#)

[Optic Nerve Injuries](#)

[Head Injuries, Closed](#)

[Brain Concussion](#) +

[Head Injuries, Penetrating](#)

[Intracranial Hemorrhage, Traumatic](#)

[Brain Hemorrhage, Traumatic](#) +

[Hematoma, Epidural, Cranial](#)



[Hematoma, Subdural](#) +

[Subarachnoid Hemorrhage, Traumatic](#)

[Skull Fractures](#)



[Skull Fracture, Basilar](#)

[Skull Fracture, Depressed](#)



- This will help you exclude all other diseases in that category
- This will give you **fewer** articles in your results page!

Try to make a search...

## ***Case example***

A 45-year-old man presents with a 10-month history of burning epigastric pain that has not improved with a proton-pump inhibitor. Findings on upper endoscopy are normal, but *Helicobacter pylori* serology is positive.

*Treat Helicobacter pylori or not?*

Try to make a search....

# Case example

PubMed

Helicobacter pylori

[Help](#)

[Display Settings:](#)  Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Recently Added

[Send to:](#)

**Filter your results:**

**Results: 1 to 20 of 30512**

<< First < Prev Page  of 1526 Next > Last >>

All (30512)

[Free Full Text \(8069\)](#)

[Review \(5375\)](#)

[Manage Filters](#)

[Helicobacter pylori infection in neonatal mice prevents allergic asthma.](#)

1. Ahmad N.  
Thorax. 2011 Sep 22. [Epub ahead of print] No abstract available.  
PMID: 21940493 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]  
[Related citations](#)

[Clinical value of duodenal biopsies - Beyond the diagnosis of coeliac disease.](#)

2. Walker MM, Talley NJ.  
Pathol Res Pract. 2011 Sep 20. [Epub ahead of print]  
PMID: 21940106 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]  
[Related citations](#)

[Motility and Chemotaxis in Campylobacter and Helicobacter.](#)

3. Lertsethtakarn P, Ottemann KM, Hendrixson DR.  
Annu Rev Microbiol. 2011 Oct 13;65:389-410.  
PMID: 21939377 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]  
[Related citations](#)

## Also try:

[helicobacter pylori infection](#)

[helicobacter pylori eradication](#)

[helicobacter pylori gastric cancer](#)

[helicobacter pylori diagnostic](#)

[helicobacter pylori caga](#)

## Titles with your search terms

[Helicobacter pylori: gastric cancer and beyond.](#)  
[Nat Rev Cancer. 2010]

[Clinical practice. Helicobacter pylori infection.](#)  
[N Engl J Med. 2010]

## Case example

A 45-year-old man presents with a 10-month history of burning epigastric pain that has not improved with a proton-pump inhibitor. Findings on upper endoscopy are normal, but *Helicobacter pylori* serology is positive.

### ***Components of “well-built clinical questions.”***

1. Patient/problem - “non-ulcer dyspepsia”
2. Intervention - “treatment of *Helicobacter pylori* infection”
3. Comparison intervention- “no treatment”
4. Outcome - “improve symptoms”

Display Settings:  Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Recently Added

Send to:

Filter your results:

Results: 1 to 20 of 613

<< First < Prev Page 1 of 31 Next > Last >>

All (613)

[Free Full Text \(171\)](#)

[Review \(125\)](#)

[Manage Filters](#)

[Quantitation of \*Helicobacter pylori\* ureC gene and its comparison with different diagnostic techniques and gastric histopathology.](#)

1. Shukla SK, Prasad KN, Tripathi A, Ghoshal UC, Krishnani N, Nuzhat H. J Microbiol Methods. 2011 Aug;86(2):231-7. Epub 2011 May 23.

PMID: 21624400 [PubMed - in process]

[Related citations](#)

[Virulence attributes of \*Helicobacter pylori\* isolates & their association with gastroduodenal disease.](#)

2. Saxena A, Shukla S, Prasad KN, Ghoshal UC. Indian J Med Res. 2011 May;133(5):514-20.

PMID: 21623037 [PubMed - in process] [Free PMC Article](#)

[Free full text](#) [Related citations](#)

[High correlation of babA \(2\)-positive strains of \*Helicobacter pylori\* with the presence of gastric cancer.](#)

3. Talebi Bezmin Abadi A, Taghvaei T, Mohabbati Mobarez A, Vaira G, Vaira D.

**Titles with your search terms**

[Comparison of *Helicobacter pylori* eradication rate in patients with [Korean J Gastroenterol. 2008]

Eradication of *Helicobacter pylori* for non-ulcer dyspepsia. [Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2006]

Prevalence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection in maintenance h [Saudi J Kidney Dis Transpl. 2009]

[See more...](#)

**71 free full-text articles in PubMed Central**

Virulence attributes of *Helicobacter pylori* isolates & their association with n [Indian J Med Res. 2011]

## Case example

A 45-year-old man presents with a 10-month history of burning epigastric pain that has not improved with a proton-pump inhibitor. Findings on upper endoscopy are normal, but *Helicobacter pylori* serology is positive.

### ***Components of “well-built clinical questions.”***

1. Patient/problem - “non-ulcer dyspepsia”
2. Intervention - “treatment of *Helicobacter pylori* infection”
3. Comparison intervention- “no treatment”
4. Outcome - “improve symptoms”

Display Settings: Summary, Sorted by Recently Added

Send to:

Filter your results:

Results: 5

Boolean Operator

All (5)

Free Full Text (2)

Review (2)

Manage Filters

Find related data

Database: Select

Find items

Search details

```
("helicobacter pylori"[MeSH
Terms] OR ("helicobacter"[All
Fields] AND "pylori"[All
Fields]) OR "helicobacter
pylori"[All Fields]) AND (non-
```

Search

See more...

1. [The effect of \*\*Helicobacter pylori\*\* eradication on \*\*symptoms\*\* and gastric emptying in patients with nonulcer \*\*dyspepsia\*\*.](#)

Türkay C, Soykan I, Kir M, Ozden A.  
Turk J Gastroenterol. 2002 Sep;13(3):146-53.

PMID: 16378296 [PubMed] [Free Article](#)

[Related citations](#)

2. [Lack of effect of \*\*Helicobacter pylori\*\* on symptom improvement with a prokinetic medication, cisapride, in patients with \*\*non-ulcer dyspepsia\*\*.](#)

Gonlachanvit S, Mahachai V, Chaiwatanarat T, Kullavanijaya P.  
J Med Assoc Thai. 2005 May;88(5):660-7.

PMID: 16149685 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

[Related citations](#)

3. [Cure of \*\*Helicobacter pylori\*\* infection does not improve \*\*symptoms\*\* in \*\*non-ulcer dyspepsia\*\* patients-a double-blind placebo-controlled study.](#)

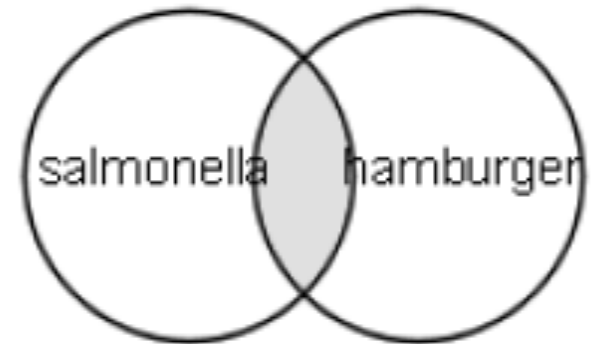
Miwa H, Hirai S, Nagahara A, Murai T, Nishira T, Kikuchi S, Takei Y, Watanabe S, Sato N.

Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2000 Mar;14(3):317-24.

# Boolean Operators

## AND

- Salmonella AND Hamburger



- Salmonella - 69432
- Hamburger - 2703
- Salmonella AND Hamburger - **14**



# Boolean Operators

## OR

- Football OR Hockey OR Soccer

- Football - 3948

- Hockey - 1466

- Soccer - 3137

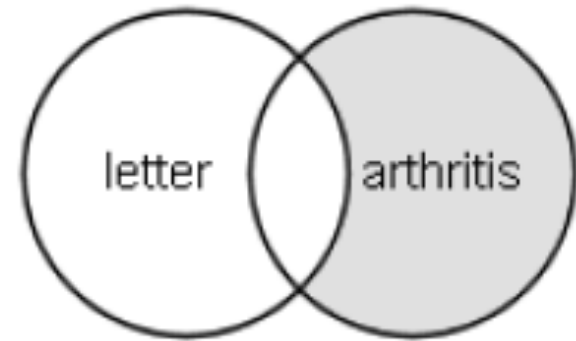
**Total - 7538**



# Boolean Operators

## NOT

- Arthritis NOT Letter
- Arthritis - 185375
- Letter - 686049
- Arthritis “excluding” letter - **176352**



PubMed

Helicobacter pylori AND non-ulcer dyspepsia



RSS

Save search

Advanced

[Show additional filters](#)**Display Settings:**  Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Recently Added **Send to:** **Results: 1 to 20 of 626**

&lt;&lt; First &lt; Prev Page 1 of 32 Next &gt; Last &gt;&gt;

- [Prevalence of cagA EPIYA motifs in Helicobacter pylori among dyspeptic patients in northeast Thailand.](#)
- 1.

Chomvarin C, Phusri K, Sawadpanich K, Mairiang P, Namwat W, Wongkham C, Hahnvajanawong C.

Southeast Asian J Trop Med Public Health. 2012 Jan;43(1):105-15.

PMID: 23082560 [PubMed - in process]

[Related citations](#)

- [Helicobacter pylori cagL amino acid polymorphisms and its association with gastroduodenal diseases.](#)
- 2.

Shukla SK, Prasad KN, Tripathi A, Jaiswal V, Khatoon J, Ghsohal UC, Krishnani N, Husain N.

Gastric Cancer. 2012 Sep 1. [Epub ahead of print]



US National Library of Medicine  
National Institutes of Health

PubMed ▾

Search

Advanced



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PubMed comprises more than 22 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books. Citations may include links to full-text content from PubMed Central and publisher web sites.

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- Key concepts!
- Auther

# Stopwords

|   | Stopwords                                                                                                 |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A | a, about, again, all, almost, also, although, always, among, an, and, another, any, are, as, at           |
| B | be, because, been, before, being, between, both, but, by                                                  |
| C | can, could                                                                                                |
| D | did, do, does, done, due, during                                                                          |
| E | each, either, enough, especially, etc                                                                     |
| F | for, found, from, further                                                                                 |
| H | had, has, have, having, here, how, however                                                                |
| I | i, if, in, into, is, it, its, itself                                                                      |
| J | just                                                                                                      |
| K | kg, km                                                                                                    |
| M | made, mainly, make, may, mg, might, ml, mm, most, mostly, must                                            |
| N | nearly, neither, no, nor                                                                                  |
| O | obtained, of, often, on, our, overall                                                                     |
| P | perhaps, pmid                                                                                             |
| Q | quite                                                                                                     |
| R | rather, really, regarding                                                                                 |
| S | seem, seen, several, should, show, showed, shown, shows, significantly, since, so, some, such             |
| T | than, that, the, their, theirs, them, then, there, therefore, these, they, this, those, through, thus, to |
| U | upon, use, used, using                                                                                    |
| V | various, very                                                                                             |
| W | was, we, were, what, when, which, while, with, within, without, would                                     |

# MeSH(The Medical Subject Headings )

## Examples of MeSH Headings:

- **Body Weight**
- **Dental Cavity Preparation**
- **Radioactive Waste**
- **Kidney**
- **Self Medication**
- **Brain Edema**

### Face

Cheek  
Chin  
Eye  
Eyebrows  
Eyelids  
Eyelashes  
Forehead  
Mouth  
Lip  
Nose  
Parotid Region

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uyF8uQY9wys>



# Exercise

- Use the MeSH Database to build a strategy that will find citations to references discussing the economics of community-acquired pneumonia.

# Exercise

- Use the NLM Catalog Journal search page to see if PubMed includes the journal, *Molecular Microbiology*. If so, retrieve all PubMed citations from this journal.

# Exercise

- Use the Clinical Queries to find systematic reviews for accidents caused by sleep deprivation.

# Search

- What role does pain have in sleep disorders?

# Search

- To search for citations to articles written by Bonnie W. Ramsey about gene therapy for cystic fibrosis

# Search

- To search for citations to articles about drosophila in the journal Molecular Biology of the Cell

# Exercise

- Find citations to articles about the ethics of liver transplantation. Check Details to see how the terms are mapped. Filter to review articles. Select a few items and add them to the Clipboard. Go to the Clipboard and view the selected items in Abstract format to see the assigned MeSH terms.

# Exercise

- Use the MeSH Database to build a strategy that will find citations to articles about schizophrenia resulting from prenatal exposure to influenza. Schizophrenia and influenza should be the major topics of the articles.



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عدد مرات مشاهدة الفيديو

4,783  
من المشتركين

4,782

اشترك



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PubMed Advanced Search Builder



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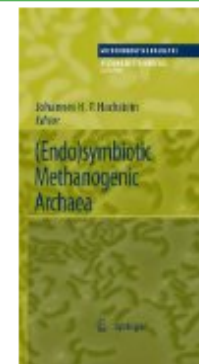


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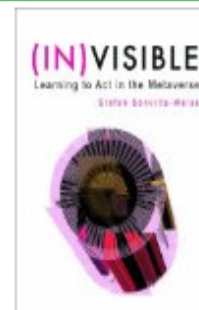


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- The literature review, Deakin University Library, retrieved on 24.09.2011 <http://www.deakin.edu.au/library/findout/research/litrev.php#Bruce, C>
- H. Abdulghani, Effective Electronic Search, Department of Medical Education, College of Medicine, King Saud University, June 2012
- Armen Torchyan, Literature Review: Search Engines, Department of Family and Community Medicine, College of Medicine, King Saud University, August 2015

# Managing your findings

- A meticulous search must be coupled with meticulous record keeping.

# Citation Management Tools

- Managing the references you find and use in your review will take a significant amount of work
- Using a citation management tool like RefWorks or EndNote will save you much time and effort
  - Organize and store references
  - Make in-text citations based on required style (ex. APA)
  - Create a list of references based on required style

## EndNote X5

- لتثبيت البرنامج اتبع الخطوات التالية :
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- شغل الـ ENX5Inst
- اكمل باقي الخطوات كما يطلب منك
- لا يحتاج إلى تفعيل .

تحميل



# ENDNOTE

## EndNote X4 للماك

- برنامج فهرسة البحوث والمراجع لا غنى عنه, يساعدك على تخزين مراجعك و مصادرك للرجوع إليها لاحقاً عند كتابة ورقة علمية أو تقرير الماجستير أو الدكتوراة

تحميل



# ENDNOTE

# EndNote

- **EndNote is an online search tool**
- **EndNote is a reference and full text organizer with a collaborative Web tool**
- **EndNote is a bibliography maker**

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- Unfiled (1947)
- Trash (0)

**My Groups**

- Online Search
  - Joint WorldBank (0)
  - Library of Con... (0)
  - LISTA (EFSCO) (0)
  - PubMed (NLM) (0)
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  - WHOLIS (0)
  - more...
- EndNote Web configure...
- Find Full Text

| Author                 | Year | Title                           | Journal                 |
|------------------------|------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Aagaard, M. F.; N...   | 2014 | Transurethral microwave ...     | Scand J Urol            |
| Aahlin, E. K.; von ... | 2014 | Functional recovery is co...    | Perioper Med (Lond)     |
| Aakhus, E.; Granl...   | 2014 | Tailored interventions to i...  | Trials                  |
| Aalapati, S.; Gan...   | 2014 | Toxicity and bio-accumul...     | Nanotoxicology          |
| Aalbu, R. L.; Smit...  | 2014 | The tenebrionidae of cali...    | Zookeys                 |
| Aaldriks, A. A.; Gi... | 2014 | Prognostic significance ...     | Leuk Lymphoma           |
| Aalipour, F.; Mirlo... | 2014 | Determination of antibiot...    | J Environ Health Sci En |
| Aalto, A. M.; Hep...   | 2014 | Employment, psychosoci...       | Eur J Public Health     |
| Aalto, A. M.; Hep...   | 2014 | Is working in culturally div... | Health Policy           |
| Aandstad, A.; Ha...    | 2014 | Anthropometrics, body c...      | J Strength Cond Res     |
| Aarsand, A. K.; S...   | 2014 | How to achieve harmoni...       | Clin Chim Acta          |
| Aarseth, S.; Dale...   | 2014 | Encouraging adolescent...       | Br J Gen Pract          |
| Abdul Wahab, A.;...    | 2013 | Serum Leptin and Adipo...       | J Allergy (Cairo)       |
| Abul, Y.; Ozsu, S.;... | 2014 | Red cell distribution widt...   | Chron Respir Dis        |
| Abul, Y.; Ozsu, S.;... | 2014 | Red cell distribution widt...   | Chron Respir Dis        |

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The tenebrionidae of california (1) and psychosocial work environment (2) .....

**References**

1. Aalbu RL, Smith AD. The tenebrionidae of california: a time sensitive snapshot assessment. ZooKeys. 2014(415):9-22. Epub 2014/07/11.
2. Aalto AM, Heponiemi T, Keskimaki I, Kuusio H, Hietapakka L, Lamsa R, et al. Employment, psychosocial work environment and well-being among migrant and native physicians in Finnish health care. European journal of public health. 2014;24(3):445-51. Epub 2014/03/22.

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Send to:

Carcinogenesis. 2014 Sep 6. pii: bgu187. [Epub ahead of print]  
**Dietary compound isoliquiritigenin targets GRP78 to ch cancer stem cells via  $\beta$ -catenin/ABCG2 signaling.**  
Wang N<sup>1</sup>, Wang Z<sup>2</sup>, Peng C<sup>3</sup>, You J<sup>1</sup>, Shen J<sup>1</sup>, Han S<sup>4</sup>, Chen J<sup>5</sup>.

Author information

Abstract

Accumulating evidence suggests that  $\beta$ -catenin signaling in breast cancer correlated to chemoresistance and ATP binding cassette subfamily G2 (A aberrant  $\beta$ -catenin signaling in CSCs has become a promising strategy to cancer treatment. In a pilot screening study, we found that the natural con blocked  $\beta$ -catenin transcription activity with the highest inhibition ratio. He chemosensitizing effects of ISL on breast CSCs and the underlying mechanisms regulating the  $\beta$ -catenin pathway. ISL could have synergistic effects with chemotherapeutic drugs to inhibit breast cancer cell proliferation and colony formation. In addition, ISL could significantly limit the side population and CSC ratios in breast cancer cells, accompanied by inhibited self-renewal and multi-differentiation abilities. A mechanistic study revealed that ISL could inhibit  $\beta$ -catenin/ABCG2 signaling by activating the proteasome degradation pathway. The drug affinity responsive target stability (DARTS) strategy further identified GRP78 as the direct target of ISL. Subsequent molecular docking analysis and functional studies demonstrated that ISL could dock into the ATP domain of GRP78 and thereby inhibit its ATPase activity, resulting in its dissociation from  $\beta$ -catenin. An in vivo study also suggested that ISL could chemosensitize breast CSCs via the GRP78/ $\beta$ -catenin/ABCG2 pathway, with little toxicity in normal tissues and mammary stem cells. Taken together, the data from this study not only suggest ISL as a natural candidate to

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Generate a file for use with external citation management software.

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- Dietary compound isoliquiritigenin inhibits breast ca [PLoS One. 2013]
  - MicroRNA-25 regulates chemoresistance [Oncotarget. 2014]
  - Review** A Wnt-ow of opportunity: targeting [Curr Drug Targets. 2010]
  - Review** Novel therapeutic strategies for t; [Int J Biol Sci. 2011]
- See reviews... See all...



# Tips

- Keep track of the search items you use so that your search can be replicated
- Keep a list of papers whose pdfs you cannot access immediately (so as to retrieve them later with alternative strategies)
- Use a paper management system (e.G., Mendeley, papers, qiqqa, sente), define early in the process some criteria for exclusion of irrelevant papers (these criteria can then be described in the review to help define its scope), and do not just look for research papers in the area you wish to review, but also seek previous reviews.

# When searching the literature for pertinent papers and reviews, the usual rules apply:

- Be thorough.
- Use different keywords and database sources (e.G., DBLP, google scholar, ISI proceedings, JSTOR search, medline, scopus, web of science).
- Look at who has cited past relevant papers and book chapters.

# How To Read the Material

- Reading for the big picture
  - Read the easier works first
  - Skim the document and identify major concepts
  - After you have a broad understanding of the 10 to 15 papers, you can start to see patterns:
    - Groups of scientists argue or disagree with other groups.  
For example, Some researchers think  $x$  causes  $y$ , others that  $x$  is only a moderating variable

(Carroll, 2006)

# Narrow your focus

- Start from new material to old, general to specific
  - starting with general topic will provide leads to specific areas of interest and help develop understanding for the interrelationships of research
  - Note quality of journal, output of author
- As you read and become more informed on the topic, you will probably need to go back and do more focused searches
- Think, analyze, and weed out
- Arrange to spend some review time with an experienced researcher in the field of study to get feedback and to talk through any problems encountered

(Mauch & Birch, 1993)

# Read the Material Closer

- **Step 1: read the abstract**
  - Decide whether to read the article in detail
- **Step 2: read introduction**
  - It explains why the study is important
  - It provides review and evaluation of relevant literature
- **Step 3: read Method with a close, critical eye**
  - Focus on participants, measures, procedures
- **Step 4: Evaluate results**
  - Do the conclusions seem logical
  - Can you detect any bias on the part of the researcher?
- **Step 5: Take discussion with a grain of salt**
  - Edges are smoothed out
  - Pay attention to limitations

# Analyze the Literature

- Take notes as you read through each paper that will be included in the review
- In the notes include:
  - purpose of study reviewed
  - synopsis of content
  - research design or methods used in study
  - brief review of findings
- Once notes complete organize common themes together. Some people do this in a word document, others use index cards so they can shuffle them.
- Some people construct a table of info to make it easier to organize their thoughts.
- As you organize your review, integrate findings elicited from note taking or table making process.

# Take Notes While Reading

- start writing down interesting pieces of information, insights about how to organize the review, and thoughts on what to write.
- by the time you have read the literature you selected, you will already have a rough draft of the review.
- Of course, this draft will still need much rewriting, restructuring, and rethinking.

# Take Notes While Reading

- Be careful when taking notes to use quotation marks if you are provisionally copying verbatim from the literature.
- It is advisable then to reformulate such quotes with your own words in the final draft.
- It is important to be careful in noting the references already at this stage, so as to avoid misattributions.
- Using referencing software from the very beginning of your endeavour will save you time.



# Be Critical and Consistent

- Reviewing the literature is not stamp collecting!
- A good review does not just summarize the literature, but discusses it critically, identifies methodological problems, and points out research gaps.



After having read a review of the literature, a reader should have a rough idea of:

- The major achievements in the reviewed field.
- The main areas of debate.
- The outstanding research questions.

# Literature reviews should comprise the following elements:

- An overview of the subject, issue or theory under consideration, along with the objectives of the literature review

# Find a Logical Structure

- Like a well-baked cake, a good review has a number of telling features:
  - It is worth the reader's time, timely, systematic, well written, focused, and critical.
  - It also needs a good structure.



# Construct The Literature Review

- Summarize individual studies or articles
  - Use as much or as little detail as each merits according to its comparative importance in the literature
  - Space (length) denotes significance.
  - Don't need to provide a lot of detail about the procedures used in other studies.
  - Most literature reviews only describe the main findings, relevant methodological issues, and/or major conclusions of other research.
- Discuss major areas of agreement or disagreement
- Tie the study into the current body of lit, make logical interpretations from the lit reviewed.
  - If there is no discussion of the relevance of the overview to other work in the field, or if there is no interpretation of the literature, it may signal the author has not thoroughly investigated the topic.

# Organization of the Review

## Introduction to the lit review

- Content - what is covered
  - Structure - how it is organized
  - Boundaries - what is outside of its scope
- 

## Body of the Lit Review

### SECTION 1

The most important topic or a key concept

- discussed and evaluated
- summarized and related to your research project

### SECTION 2

The next most important topic or a key concept

- discussed and evaluated
- summarized and related to your research project

### ADDITIONAL SECTIONS

- Follow the same pattern
- 

## Conclusion

From each of the section summaries,

- highlight the most relevant points
- relate these back to the need for research
- reiterate what these mean for the research design

(Golden-Biddle & Locke, 1997)

# An Effective Literature Review

- Places each work in the context of its contribution to the understanding of the subject under review
- Describes the relationship of each work to the others under consideration
- Identifies new ways to interpret, and shed light on any gaps in, previous research
- Resolves conflicts amongst seemingly contradictory previous studies
- Identifies areas of prior scholarship to prevent duplication of effort
- Points the way forward for further research
- Places one's original work (in the case of theses or dissertations) in the context of existing literature

(Lyons, 2005)

# Be accurate and thorough

- Your review acts as a guide of your topic for others.
- Take care to make your review:
  - Accurate: e.g., Citations correct, findings attributed to authors correct.
    - Make sure someone can track down the article and that you have provided a reliable representation
  - Complete: i.e., include all important papers (not every paper written on the topic).



# After completing this session, you will know how:

- Conduct preliminary research to develop an overview
- Able to do literature review

# References

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# Planning your Project

1. Define your research question
2. Make sure your idea is original
3. Draw up a research proposal
4. Decide what methodology you should use
5. Find out what skills you will need
6. Work out what resources you will need
7. Work out what help you will need.
8. Get ethics committee approval
9. Establish proper research governance
10. Pilot or die

# Common Mistakes

- Failure to provide the proper context to frame the research question.
- Failure to delimit the boundary conditions for your research.
- Failure to cite landmark studies.
- Failure to stay focused on the research question.
- Failure to develop a coherent and persuasive argument for the proposed research.
- Too much detail on minor issues, but not enough detail on major issues.
- Too much rambling — going "all over the map" without a clear sense of direction. (The best proposals move forward with ease and grace like a seamless river.)
- Too many citation lapses and incorrect references.
- Too long or too short- You MUST keep to the word limit.
- Failure to reference appropriately.
- Sloppy writing.

Thank You!

