



Ovid Advanced Searching Self Test
February 2008

1. Can you find any articles from the American Journal of Critical Care with the word “alcohol” in the title?
2. How many articles has Dr. Lisa M. Schilling written? Is it possible to answer this question with certainty?
3. Are lumbar supports effective in preventing low back pain in the work place?
4. Find articles in the journal Clinical Pharmacokinetics that discuss the interaction of fruit juice and drugs. Which juice is mentioned?
5. What is the effect of eating garlic on cholesterol levels? How many of the studies you found include human subjects?
6. Find articles by someone named Steiner who may be at the University of Colorado.
7. Find articles focusing on attention deficit disorder in adults. Eliminate letters and editorials from your retrieval.
8. *Bonus question for those who really enjoy a challenge:* Recently you noticed that many of your teenaged patients have tans, even though it is winter time. In questioning your patients you discover that they are avid users of tanning parlors. Should teens use tanning beds or booths?



*Ovid Advanced Searching Self Test Answer Key
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There is no one right answer to many of these questions due to the complex nature of these search problems. The answer key below suggests a strategy for answering these questions. Your answers may differ and may still be correct in the context of your own search strategy.

1. **Can you find any articles from the American Journal of Critical Care with the word “alcohol” in the title?**

There are three methods for searching:

Click on “Journal” and type **american journal of critical care** into the search box, then type **alcohol** and click on the Title symbol above the search box, then “Combine selections with AND”.

Use the direct entry method by typing **american journal of critical care.jn and alcohol.ti** into the search query box.

Click on the “Find Citation” tab and type **alcohol** into the article title box, and **american journal of critical care** into the journal name box, then click search

2. **How many articles has Dr. Lisa M. Schilling written? Is it possible to answer this question with certainty?**

There are two methods for searching:

Click on author, then type **schilling lm** into the search query box, then click on continue to view the list of results for this author.

Use the direct entry method by typing **schilling lm.au** into the search query box.

Obviously, this includes only those articles by Dr. Schilling indexed in MEDLINE, and may exclude articles in journals not included in MEDLINE.

3. **Are lumbar supports effective in preventing low back pain in the work place?**

Type **low back pain** into the search query box. Click on the check box to the left of the subject heading “Low Back Pain” and click on Continue. Click on the check box to the left of the subheading “prevention and control” and click on Continue. Then type in **workplace** and click on the check box to the left of the subject heading “Workplace” and click on continue. Combine your sets. You can narrow further by searching for **lumbar** and selecting “Lumbar Vertebrae” and combining the resulting set with “Low Back Pain” and “Workplace”

4. **Find articles in the journal Clinical Pharmacokinetics that discuss the interaction of fruit juice and drugs. Which juice is mentioned?**

First, type in **clinical pharmacokinetics.jn** to find all of the articles in that journal. Next type in **interactions**. Notice that “Food-Drug Interactions” appears in the list. Click on the check box to the left of “Food-Drug Interactions”, then click on the Continue button at the top of the window, then click on Continue again. Combine the set for “clinical pharmacokinetics.jn” and “Food-Drug Interactions” and review your results. Search **fruit juice** and explode “Beverages”. Combine your searches to narrow your results.

5. **What is the effect of eating garlic on cholesterol levels? How many of the studies you found include human subjects?**

First, type **garlic** into the search query box. Click on “Garlic” in the subject headings list, then click on Continue, then Continue again. Next type in **cholesterol**. You need to decide what you mean by cholesterol – you decide to search for the subject heading “Lipoproteins, LDL Cholesterol”, so you uncheck “Cholesterol” and check the box to the left of “Lipoproteins, LDL Cholesterol”, then click on Continue, then Continue again. You combine your sets for “Garlic” and “Lipoproteins, LDL Cholesterol” and review the results. Several of the studies appear to be mouse studies, so you click on the “Human” check box in the limits on the Main Page and narrow the results to human subject studies.

6. **Find articles by someone named Steiner who may be at the University of Colorado.**

First, type **steiner \$.au** into the query box. Next, type (**denver or colo or colorado or 80262 or 80045 or or fitzsimons or anschutz or uchsc**).**in** into the search query box. Combine your search results. The results

aren't limited to the University, but this is a good start. More precision is probably not possible, since authors give their location in a variety of formats.

7. **Find articles focusing on attention deficit disorder in adults. Eliminate letters and editorials from your retrieval.**

Searching for **attention deficit disorder** maps you to "Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity". Click on Continue, then on Continue again. Click on Additional Limits, then from the Age Groups menu select Adults (19 - 44 years) and hold down the CONTROL key and click on Middle Age (45-65 years) at the same time. This will allow you to select both menu items. Click on Limit A Search. Then click on Additional Limits again. Make sure that your original "Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity" set is selected by clicking on the button to the left of this search set. From the Publication Types menu, select Editorials and hold down the CONTROL key and click on Letters at the same time. This will allow you to select both menu items. Click on Limit Search. Combine your limited sets using not, so that the "Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity" that is limited to editorials and letters is eliminated from the set with "Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity" limited to adults and middle age groups. Your search history should look something like the search below:

1	Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity/	11823
2	limit 9 to ("adult (19 to 44 years)" or "middle age (45 to 64 years)")	2372
3	limit 9 to (editorial or letter)	921
4	10 not 11	2201

8. **Bonus question for those who really enjoy a challenge: Recently you have noticed that many of your teenaged patients have tans, even though it is winter time. In questioning your patients you discover that they are avid users of tanning parlors. Should teens use tanning beds or booths?**

You type in **tanning** and by clicking on the "i" symbol you discover that the subject heading for "tanning" is defined as preserving animal hides. The lack of an appropriate subject heading means that this search will take more time and some creativity. There are a number of ways to search for this topic. This answer suggests several possibilities, and you may have discovered others:

Typing **tanning beds** into the search query box maps you to subject headings such as **Ultraviolet Rays; Beauty Culture; Sunscreening Agents; Sunburn; Skin Neoplasms** or other similar subject headings. You click on the check box to the left of "Ultraviolet Rays" and click on Continue at the top of the window. You see there is a subheading for "adverse effects" so you click on the check box to the left of the subheading, then click on Continue at the top of the window. To restrict your results to articles about adolescents you click on the Limit symbol at the top of the window, find the menu for Age Groups and select **Adolescent (age 13 to 18)** from the list. Then click on Limit Search button at the top of the window.

After reviewing the results, you notice that many of the best articles in this list include the subject heading "Beauty Culture" in the complete reference. You want to narrow your results, so you search for **Beauty Culture** and then combine with your "Ultraviolet Rays/ae" set to narrow your results, then limit to the Adolescent age group.

After reviewing more results you decide to search using keywords that appear frequently in the titles or abstracts of your results. You first type: **booth\$ or bed\$ or salon\$ or parlor\$ or indoor\$** (the \$ is a wild card so that you will also find plurals of these words.) Then you type: **sun or tanning** You combine your two sets using "and", then limit to the adolescent age group. The search history for this question would look like this:

1	Ultraviolet Rays/ae [Adverse Effects]	5100
2	limit 1 to "adolescent (13 to 18 years)"	321
3	BEAUTY CULTURE/	457
4	2 and 3	20
5	(booth* or bed* or salon* or parlor* or indoor*).mp.	88101
6	(sun or tanning).mp.	6877
7	5 and 6	215
8	limit 7 to "adolescent (13 to 18 years)"	47