Quick Guide to OVID (BIOSIS, Medline, CINAHL...)

What is OVID?

OVID is database provider from whom you can access:

- **AMED** – allied and complementary medicine
- **BIOSIS Previews** – comprehensive coverage of all the life sciences
- **EBM Reviews** – four evidence-based medicine databases
- **EMBASE** – major biomedical and pharmaceutical database
- **CINAHL** – cumulative index to nursing and allied health
- **HAPI** – health and psychosocial instruments
- **Mantis** – manual, alternative and natural therapy index system
- **Medline** – premier database for medicine, nursing, allied health and pre-clinical sciences

Starting a search

1. Go to the Distributed eLibrary Homepage [http://delib.qatar-med.cornell.edu](http://delib.qatar-med.cornell.edu)
2. Click on **Databases**
3. Choose the corresponding letter for the OVID database you want to access (e.g. **B** for **BIOSIS**), then click on the title of the resource

Keyword or phrase searching

1. Uncheck **Map Term to Subject Heading**
2. Enter a keyword or phrase in the search box. Multiple terms will be searched as a phrase.
3. Select **Limits** from the choices indicated below the search box (e.g. English Language, Human, etc.)
4. Click on the **Search** button.

Combining terms and truncation

1. You can use Boolean operators **and**, **or**, **not** in the search box (e.g. synthetic proteins and properties).
2. The dollar sign ($$) is the truncation symbol used at the end of a root of a word to find different endings (e.g. propert$ will find property, properties, etc.).
3. Sets from your **Search History** can also be combined to build more complex and comprehensive searches (e.g. 2 or 3 and 5).
Subject searching

1. To find a related subject for your keyword term, check **Map Term to Subject Heading**.
2. Enter a keyword or phrase, and click on the **Search** button.
3. From the list of subject headings, check the box adjacent to the one(s) you want.
4. Check **Explode** to include narrower, related subject headings as well.
5. Click on the **Continue** button to perform the search. In some OVID databases you will be presented with more search options at this point. **PLEASE NOTE**: Subject searching can be complex – do not hesitate to ask a Librarian for assistance!

Limiting a search

1. Basic limits (e.g. English Language, Human, Review Articles, etc.) are available just below the search box on the main page.
2. For a more comprehensive list of limit options (e.g. publication types, gender, etc.), after running a search, click on the **More Limits** icon (found below the search box).

Displaying and marking search results

1. Scroll down (below your search history) to see your results in brief format. Click on the links to **Abstract**, **Complete Reference** or the **GET IT@WCMC-Q** button for more information and to access the full-text article.
2. To mark certain records of interest, check the box adjacent to the citation.
Printing, saving or emailing citations

1. After selecting records of interest, scroll down to the **Results Manager**.
2. Choose which **Results**, **Fields**, and **Format** you want from the available options.
3. Lastly, choose an **Action** (e.g. Display, Print Preview, Email or Save).

Logging off

1. Click on **LOGOFF** from the top horizontal menu. **PLEASE NOTE**: Logging off ensures that the database is available for the next user versus an error message stating that all licenses are currently in use.

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