Useful Tips for Searching in Common Database Platforms

	OvidSP MEDLINE, EMBASE, EBM Reviews	PubMed	Cochrane Library	EBSCO CINAHL, MEDLINE, SportDiscus
Save Searches (Rerun)	Click on "Save Search History" (Need Ovid account)	Click on "Save Search" (Need NCBI account)	Click on "Save" (Need Wiley account)	Go to "Search History" -> Click on "Save Searches/Alerts" (Need EBSCOhost account)
Save a copy of search	Email to yourself	Copy/paste	Print search strategy (in *Search Manager* tab)	Go to "Search History" -> Then take a Printscreen of the page with *Snipping Tool* or *Snagit*
How to export to RefWorks (link below)	[Click here for instructions](#)	[Click here for instructions](#)	"Export Selected" -> .txt file -> *Import into RefWorks*	[Click here for instructions](#)
Export limitations for large volumes (link below)	[1000 - Click here for instructions](#)	[Unlimited - Click here for instructions](#)	Unlimited	[Unlimited - Click here for instructions](#)
Search multiple databases on the platform at once	Click on "Change" to select other databases	NA	NA	Click on "Choose Databases" to select other databases
Remove Duplicates from multi-database searches	Yes, type in "Remove duplicates from X", where X is the line of the search from which you want to remove duplicates. (Can only de-dupe under 6000 results)	NA	No	No
How are spaces searched	Phrase search	Boolean AND	Boolean AND	Boolean AND
* Stop Words e.g. "point of care", "watch and wait", "root canal"	and, or, not, use	not, or	and, near, next, or, not	NA

* Stop Words are words that occur too frequently to be useful in searching text. Databases will ignore these words in the search.

To search for stop words, put them in quotation marks as a phrase search (i.e. "root canal" in OvidSP). See links below for full list.

OvidSP	http://resourcecenter.ovid.com/site/products/fieldguide/umda/Stopwords.jsp
PubMed	http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK3827/table/pubmedhelp.T43/
EBSCO	http://support.ebsco.com/knowledge_base/detail.php?id=980

Export to RefWorks	http://refworks.scholarsportal.info/refworks2/help/Exporting_from_Data_Services_and_Importing_into_RefWorks.htm
Export large volumes	http://goo.gl/NY5RpZ

Need Help? Contact us! Ph: 780-492-7947; Email: jwsinfo@ualberta.ca

Useful Tips for Searching in Common Database Platforms

	ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global, Physical Education Index	Web of Science Science Citation Index, Conference proceedings	Scopus	Google Scholar
Save Searches (Rerun)	Click on "Save Search" (Need ProQuest account)	(Need Web of Science account)	Click on "Save" (Need Elsevier account)	Save in "Web & App Activity" (Need Google account)
Save a copy of search	Copy/paste	Copy/paste	Copy/paste	Copy/paste
How to export to RefWorks (link below)	Click here for instructions	Click here for instructions	Click here for instructions	Go to "Settings" -> "Refworks" -> *Import into RefWorks*
Export limitations for large volumes (link below)	200 - Click here for instructions	500ᵖ	2000 - Click here for instructions	1 for RefWorks
Search multiple databases on the platform at once	Click on "Searching: 1 database" to select other databases	All databases selected by default	NA	NA
Remove Duplicates from multi-database searches	Removed automatically	No	NA	NA
How are spaces searched	Boolean AND	Boolean AND	Boolean AND	Boolean AND
* Stop Words e.g. "point of care", "watch and wait", "root canal"	NA	and, or, not	and, or	??

ᵖCan request Web of Science data by completing their online form when exporting more than 500 records.

* Stop Words are words that occur too frequently to be useful in searching text. Databases will ignore these words in the search.

To search for stop words, put them in quotation marks as a phrase search (i.e. "root canal" in OvidSP). See links below for full list.

Web of Science	http://images.webofknowledge.com/WOK46/help/WOS/ht_stopwd.html
Scopus	http://help.scopus.com/Content/h_stopwords.htm

Export to RefWorks	http://refworks.scholarsportal.info/refworks2/help/Exporting_from_Data_Services_and_Importing_into_RefWorks.htm
Export large volumes	http://goo.gl/NY5RpZ