

New Search Filters to Identify More Canadian Indigenous Health Studies

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Challenge



When we search the medical literature for studies about Canadian Indigenous people, using standard subject headings and geographic headings, we know that we do not retrieve all of the studies that have been published.

Why Does That Matter?



We know that the influences on the health of Indigenous people in Canada are different from those of the general population.

We know that if specific populations are not included in studies, the research results are less likely to address those populations' needs.

Challenges with MeSH Subject Headings

-] Population Groups
 - [-] Continental Population Groups
 - [+] African Continental Ancestry Group
 - [-] American Native Continental Ancestry Group
 - Indians, Central American
 - Indians, North American
 - Indians, South American
 - Inuits
 - [+] Asian Continental Ancestry Group
 - European Continental Ancestry Group
 - Oceanic Ancestry Group

-] Population Groups

[-] Continental Population Groups

[+] African Continental Ancestry Group

[-] American Native Continental Ancestry Group

Indians, Central American

Indians, North American

Indians, South American

Inuits

[+] Asian Continental Ancestry Group

European Continental Ancestry Group

Oceanic Ancestry Group

MESH Geographic Headings

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Canada
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alberta
	<input type="checkbox"/>	British Columbia
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Manitoba
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Brunswick
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newfoundland and Labrador
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northwest Territories
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nova Scotia
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nunavut
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ontario
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prince Edward Island
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quebec
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Saskatchewan
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yukon Territory
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greenland
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mexico
	<input type="checkbox"/>	[+] United States
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	[+] South America
<input type="checkbox"/>		Antarctic Regions
<input type="checkbox"/>		Arctic Regions

Objectives

To create first-generation search filters that retrieve studies from the Ovid MEDLINE database related to Canadian Indigenous Peoples

Single line search that could be “cut and paste” into the OVID Medline search box

Creating the Filters

- Identifying key terms
 - Canadian Indigenous peoples and Canadian Geography
 - Appropriate MeSH terms, current and historical names in multiple languages
 - Local and settlement name, names of linguistic
 - Indigenous groups or terms specific to the province or territory
- Sources: government, historical and ethnographic publications, gazettes, indigenous and govt websites

Results

- 12 Ovid MEDLINE filters for Canadian provinces and territories
- Filters retrieved 73% to 464% additional results over MeSH searches alone, with relevance ranging between 28-100%

Filter for Newfoundland & Labrador

(exp Inuits/ or exp Indians, North American/ or exp Health Services, Indigenous/ or Medicine, Traditional/ or Shamanism/ or Ethnopharmacology/ or (Inuit* or Eskimo* or Esquimau* or Innu or Inuk or Innus or Metis or Montagnais or Maliseet or Naskapi or Mikmaq or Micmac or Mic mac or Migmaw or Micmaw or Beothuk* or Indigenous* or Aboriginal* or Amerindian* or autochtone* or First Nation or First Nations or Urban Indian* or on reserve or off reserve* or country food* or medicine man or medicine woman or shaman* or ethnomedicine* or ethnopharmacology).mp. or (Native adj3 (man or men or women or woman or boy* or girl* or adolescent* or youth or youths or person* or adult or people* or Indian* or Nation Nations or tribe* or tribal or band or bands)).mp. or (traditional adj1 (medicine* or heal* or food*)).mp.) AND (exp "Newfoundland and Labrador"/ or (Newfoundland or Labrador or NFLD or Goose Bay or Sheshiatshiu or Nain or Rigolet or Hopedale or Utshimasset or Davis Inlet or Conne River or Postville or Makkovik or Lake Melville or Urahimassit).mp.) NOT (horse or pony or ponies or dog or dogs or puppy or puppies or canine or retriever*).mp.

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Comparison of MeSH and filtered Ovid MEDLINE searches for publications related to Canadian Indigenous peoples by province or territory

Province Region	BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	NB	NS	NL	NU	NWT	YT
MESH Search	333	100	137	237	304	279	7	15	48	82	138	19
Filter Search	643	243	231	410	934	935	16	27	102	463	457	82
Difference	366	143	118	173	630	656	9	12	54	381	319	63
% Difference	+110%	+143%	+86%	+73%	+207%	+235%	+128%	+80%	+112%	+464%	+231%	+332%
% relevant publications retrieved from the filter search	69%	74%	77%	87%	28%	37%	67%	92%	100%	83%	64%	83%
Date Searched	17-Dec 2013	19-Dec 2013	17-Dec 2013	12-Nov 2013	19-Dec 2013	12-Nov 2013	20-Dec 2013	12-Nov 2013	12-Nov 2013	11-Dec 2013	20-Dec 2013	20-Dec 2013

Notes:

1. Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number
2. Prince Edward Island is not included because all combinations of terms relating to PEI and Indigenous Peoples results in only two articles.

Search filters

- retrieve more relevant results than MeSH terms alone
- improve efficiency for searching
- have implications for practice



Publication of the Filter

- JCHLA 35:5-10 (2014) doi: 10.5596/c14-10
- Freely available on the web
 - Versions for this project on U of A's institutional repository ERA
 - Most current versions on *Health Sciences Search Filters* LibGuide

http://guides.library.ualberta.ca/content.php?pid=448005














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Canada Under Construction	New Brunswick Full-screen Site  New Brunswick_OVID MEDLINE_May 22, 2013	Ontario  Ontario_OVID MEDLINE_Dec19, 2013
Canada North  Canada North_OVID MEDLINE_Dec 23, 2013	Newfoundland and Labrador  Newfoundland and Labrador_OVID MEDLINE_May 8, 2013	Prince Edward Island There are very few articles listed in Medline related to Aboriginal people in Prince Edward Island so no filter has been created.
Alberta  Alberta_OVID MEDLINE_Dec 19, 2013	Northwest Territories  NWT_OVID MEDLINE_Dec_16_2013	Quebec  Quebec_OVID MEDLINE_Dec 20, 2013
British Columbia  British Columbia_OVID MEDLINE_Dec_17_2013	Nova Scotia  Nova Scotia_OVID EMBASE_May 21, 2013  Nova Scotia_OVID MEDLINE_May 22, 2013	Saskatchewan  Saskatchewan_OVID MEDLINE_Dec_17_2013
Manitoba  Manitoba_OVID MEDLINE_June 13, 2013	Nunavut  Nunavut_Ovid MEDLINE_Feb_27_2014	

Future Research



1. Creating filters for other databases.
2. Would it be useful to build filters to retrieve studies about Indigenous people in Russia?



Thank you for your
attention.

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