Research Tips

- Phrasing your research need into a research question helps clarify your thoughts and gives you great keywords to jump start your research. **PICO** is a handy acronym that can help you to include key elements of a research need:
  - Population
  - Intervention (treatment)
  - Comparison (alternative treatments)
  - Outcome (desirable results)

- Use **Boolean Operators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boolean Operator</th>
<th>Enable you to...</th>
<th>Broaden or Narrow</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Combine totally separate terms</td>
<td>![Diagram of AND operator]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Use different synonyms and spellings to get at the same central concept</td>
<td>![Diagram of OR operator]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOT</td>
<td>Eliminate unrelated results</td>
<td>![Diagram of NOT operator]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Use **quotation marks** when you’re search for *common* phrases:
  - “blood pressure”
  - “high school”

- Use **subject headings/MeSH** terms to focus on a particular concept

- Limit to:
  - publication type (journal article, book)
  - date of publication
  - language
  - much, much more

- Get **full text**
  - Click on the item’s title
  - Click its **Get It @ MWU** button
    - Full text should open.
    - If it says “Sorry, this item is not available online from MWU libraries” you can submit a request it from another library.
Getting started with...

**PubMed**

Click “Advanced” to build your search

**OT Search**

Click “OT Search”

Click “Power Search” to build your search
EBSCOhost

Select which databases you care to search and click “continue” at the top or bottom

Choose Databases
To search within a single database, click the database name listed below. To select more than one database to search, check the boxes next to the databases and click Continue.

- Academic Search Complete
  - Academic Search Complete is the world’s most valuable and comprehensive scholarly, multidisciplinary full-text database, with more than 6,500 full-text periodicals, including more than 7,300 abstracts for more than 12,500 journals and a total of more than 13,300 publications including monographs, reports, conference proceedings, etc. The database features PDF content going back searchable cited references are provided for more than 1,400 journals.
  - Title List  More Information

- AgeLine
  - AgeLine focuses exclusively on the population aged 50+ and issues of aging. AgeLine is the premier source for the literature of social gerontology and includes aging-related content from the AgeLine indexes over 260 journals, books, book chapters, and reports. Publication coverage is from 1973 to the present, with selected coverage from 1966-1977.
  - More Information

- Agricola
  - This database contains bibliographic records from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Library. Coverage for AGRICOLA dates back to 1970 and includes more than 4.8 million patents, software, audiovisual materials, and technical reports related to agriculture.
  - More Information

AOTA Resources

- http://www.aota.org/
- Select Practice
- Select Evidence-Based Practice and Research
  *There is also Everyday Evidence Podcasts for members. Members can also access journals directly from the AOTA website

NBCOT Resources

- Create and log in to your “MyNBCOT account”
- ProQuest http://www.nbcot.org/proquest
- RefWorks http://www.nbcot.org/refworks

Cincinnati Children’s Hospital


RIC Outcomes Measures Database

- www.rehabmeasures.org