



# How to Find Systematic Reviews

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## Two basic questions:

- Where to search for systematic reviews?
- How to search for systematic reviews?



# Databases

- General Databases  
(Comprehensive OR Core Databases)
- Systematic Reviews Databases  
(SR Specified Databases)



# General Databases (Comprehensive OR Core Databases)

- Medical Sciences

- Medline
- Embase
- Scopus

- All Sciences

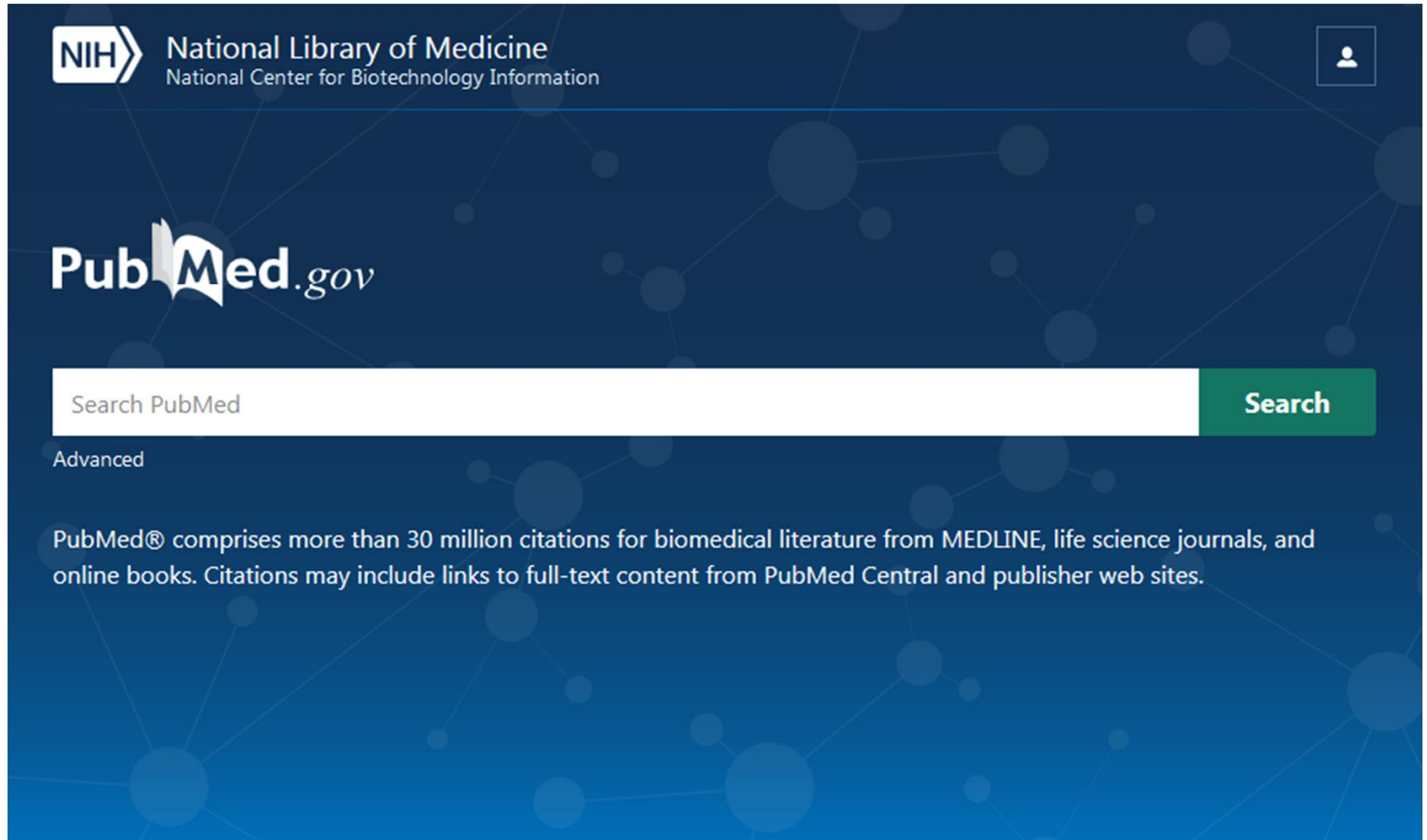
- Web of Sciences



# PubMed/Medline

- By US National Library of Medicine
- **Type of Database:** Bibliographic
- Over 30,000,000 citations of both clinical and preclinical studies.
- complementary database known as **PreMEDLINE** includes citations and abstracts for studies that have been published recently but not yet indexed.
- **Subject Coverage:** All Specialties of Medicine

# New PubMed



The image shows the PubMed.gov homepage with a dark blue background and a network diagram of nodes and lines. At the top left is the NIH logo and the text "National Library of Medicine National Center for Biotechnology Information". At the top right is a user profile icon. The PubMed.gov logo is prominently displayed in the center. Below it is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search PubMed" and a green "Search" button. Under the search bar is a link for "Advanced" search. At the bottom, a paragraph describes the database's content.

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### Download

E-utilities API  
FTP  
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### Explore

MeSH Database  
Journals  
Legacy PubMed (available until at least 9/30/2020)





# PubMed Clinical Queries

## PubMed Clinical Queries

Results of searches on this page are limited to specific clinical research areas. For comprehensive searches, use [PubMed](#) directly.

### Clinical Study Categories

This column displays citations filtered to a specific clinical study category and scope. These search filters were developed by [Haynes RB et al.](#) See more [filter information](#).

### Systematic Reviews

This column displays citations for systematic reviews. See [filter information](#) or additional [related sources](#).

### Medical Genetics

This column displays citations pertaining to topics in medical genetics. See more [filter information](#).







# Systematic Reviews Databases

## ■ Cochrane

- The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (Cochrane Reviews)
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE)
- The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL)
- The Cochrane Database of Methodology Reviews (Methodology Reviews)
- The Cochrane Methodology Register (Methodology Register)
- Health Technology Assessment Database (HTA)
- NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHS EED)
- About The Cochrane Collaboration and the Cochrane Collaborative Review Groups (About)

## ■ Trip database

- .....

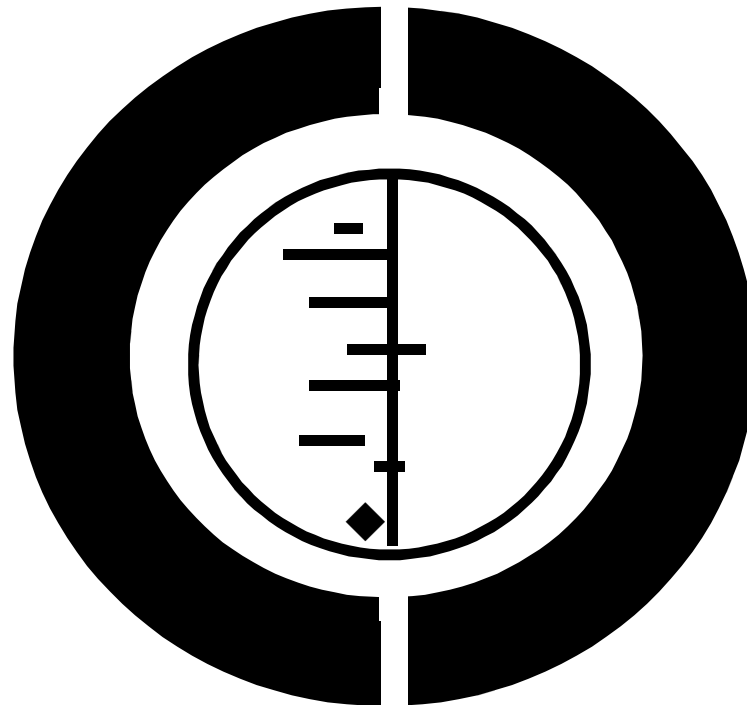


# The Cochrane Library

The premier source of evidence...

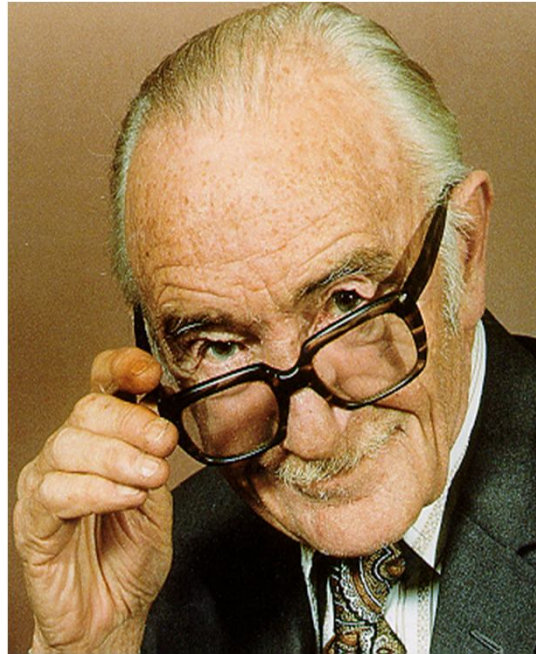


# The Cochrane Collaboration



Preparing, maintaining and disseminating  
systematic reviews of the effects of health care

# Archie Cochrane



“It is surely a great criticism of our profession that we have not organised a critical summary, by specialty or sub-specialty, adapted periodically, of all relevant randomized controlled trials”



# Cochrane Library

- BMJ Publishing Group
- Journals: Does not scan journals, is a review database, bringing together articles from MEDLINE and EMBASE.
- Advantage is Knowing that the articles listed are all recognized as controlled trials or systematic reviews
- Bias: Non apparent
- Thesaurus: MeSH plus keywords
- Subject Coverage: Clinical medicine reviews
- Materials Indexed: A value-added database designed to provide evidence to support healthcare decisions
- Update: Updated quarterly
- Type of Database: Value-added



# Cochrane Library

- The Cochrane Library is a unique source of **reliable** and **up-to-date** information on the effects of interventions in health care. Published on a **quarterly** basis, The Cochrane Library is designed to provide information and evidence to support **decisions** taken in health care and to inform those receiving care.



# The Cochrane Collaboration now

- Comprises centres in 15 countries
- 50 topic-based Review groups and about 6000 members.



# The Cochrane Collaboration now

- The collaboration members hand search journals in 19 countries, produce Cochrane reviews, moderate the feedback system, ensure that methodology, statistics and software used in the writing of reviews is state of the art and that consumer and other groups are represented.
- The main output of The Cochrane Collaboration is systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions. These systematic reviews are published in The Cochrane Library.





# Some of Cochrane Review Groups

- Cochrane Acute Respiratory Infections Group
- Cochrane Consumers & Communication Group
- Cochrane Drugs and Alcohol Group
- Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group
- Cochrane HIV/AIDS Group
- Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group
- Cochrane Injuries Group



# The Cochrane Collaboration

Wiley publishes the Cochrane Library for the Cochrane Collaboration

- **Structure** - established as an international organisation in 1993, registered as a charity in the U.K.
- **Aim** - to help people make well-informed decisions about health care.
- **How** - by preparing and maintaining, and promoting access to, systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions.
- **Publishing Output** – The Cochrane Library



# What is the Cochrane Library?

The **Cochrane** Library is a collection of 6 main databases and 1 additional databases that describe **Cochrane** as an organization. These are:

1. **The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)**
2. **The Cochrane Database of Reviews of Effects (DARE)**
3. **The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL)**
4. The Cochrane Database of Methodology Reviews (CDMR)
5. Health Technology Assessment Database (HTA)
6. NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHS EED)
7. THE COCHRANE METHODOLOGY REGISTER (CMR)
8. About The Cochrane Collaboration and the Cochrane Collaborative Review Groups

# The Cochrane Library 2007, Issue 4

Database	Total Records
The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (Cochrane Reviews)	5053
Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE)	6761
The Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL)	522,340
The Cochrane Database of Methodology Reviews (Methodology Reviews)	20
The Cochrane Methodology Register (Methodology Register)	10,008
Health Technology Assessment Database (HTA)	7078
NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHS EED)	22,731
About The Cochrane Collaboration and the Cochrane Collaborative Review Groups (About)	92



# CENTRAL

- Contained just over 350,000 citations (Jan 2003) Includes citations to reports of controlled trials that might not indexed in MEDLINE, EMBASE or other bibliographic databases
  - published in many languages
  - citations that are available only in conference proceedings or other sources that are difficult to access



# Cochrane controlled trials registry (CCTR)

- Ideally ,it should be a **central place** to put all the reports of controlled trials identified through the work of the Cochrane Collaboration.
- It contains the results of searching MEDLINE, EMBASE, some other databases and a long list of journals, books and conference proceedings.
- Its contents is **updated each year**



# CENTRAL

- The Cochrane Collaboration has been developing an electronic database of reports of controlled trials ("CENTRAL") that is now the best single source of information about records that relate to studies, which might be eligible for inclusion in Cochrane Reviews.



# CENTRAL

- The US Cochrane Center and the UK Cochrane Centre have searched MEDLINE for publication years 1966-2000 using Cochrane highly sensitive search strategy
- Updated each year
- Include citations (RCT & CCT) if they meet the criteria.





# CENTRAL

- Also the UK Cochrane Centre is retrieving records from EMBASE
  - checking their titles and abstracts
  - submitting these for inclusion in CENTRAL when appropriate.
  - First run in 1999(include citations between 1974-99)



# CENTRAL

- Other general healthcare databases published in Australia, China, and Brazil are undergoing similar systematic searches to identify reports of trials for CENTRAL
- Each Collaborative Review Group (CRG) is responsible for the development of a subject specific specialized register of trials, which serves to ensure that individual reviewers within the CRG have easy and reliable access to the maximum possible number of studies relevant to their review topic
- The registers should, in turn, be submitted for inclusion in CENTRAL. Thus, records included in the specialized register of one CRG become accessible to all other CRGs through CENTRAL



# Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)

- Full-text of systematic reviews done by Cochrane Collaboration
- Protocols
- Updated reviews



## Database of abstracts of reviews of effects (DARE)

- Provided by CRD (Centre for Reviews and Dissemination)
- Database of quality assessed reviews
- Has structured abstracts of systematic reviews



# DARE

- Produced by the expert reviewers of the NHS **Centre for Reviews and Dissemination** (NHS CRD) at the University of York, England
- Contains **over 4000** abstracts systematic reviews. Focuses on the effects of interventions in health and social care.
- DARE records cover topics such as **diagnosis, prevention, screening, and treatment.**



# ACP journal club

- The editors of ACP Journal Club screen the top clinical journals identify original and review articles that are both methodologically sound and clinically relevant.
- structured abstracts
- brief commentaries

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Failure Practice Guidelines from  
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Dutch College of General Practitioners. 2003

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