How to use Cinahl

What's in Cinahl (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature)?

Cinahl covers international nursing and allied health literature from 1982 onwards. Most English language nursing journals are indexed, including a number of Australian titles. There is good coverage of publications by the American Nurses Association and the National League for Nursing (U.S.). Nursing dissertations, selected conference proceedings and standards of professional practice are also indexed as well as key journals from other allied health areas.

Note: Contains some full text.

How do I access it?

Go to the databases page at http://lib.monash.edu.au/databases/ and select CINAHL from the A-Z list. You will be prompted to enter your Monash AuthCate username and password.

How do I search?

Keyword Searching:

A keyword search looks for a term in the title, Cinahl subject headings, abstract and instrumentation fields.

Tip: when searching by keyword consider all possible terms, such as variant spellings and synonyms.

Sample topic: The treatment of pressure ulcers

On the Main Search Page type the keywords to be searched, treat$ (finds treat, treatment, treated, etc.), AND pressure ulcers and click on SEARCH.

Combining search terms

Words will be searched as a phrase unless combined using the following words, which are sometimes referred to as Boolean operators:

- **AND** = Articles contain all the selected terms/sets (Refines a search) e.g. nursing and ethics;
- **OR** = Articles contain alternative, or similar, terms/sets (Broadens a search) e.g. paramedic or EMT
- **NOT** = Eliminates unwanted search terms/sets e.g. euthanasia not suicide

Truncation

When keyword searching, use truncation to replace characters in a word i.e. $ replaces one or more letters: hospital$ retrieves hospital, hospitals or hospitalisation

? replaces one or no letters: colo?r retrieves color or colour
Limits
Limits can be used to refine a search result even further. The most commonly used limits are available on the Main Search Page e.g. Research, English Language and publication year. Note that limits are applied to the last search you have undertaken. For the full range of limits or to limit an earlier search click on More Limits.

How do I view the results?

1. Click DISPLAY next to a search set to view your search result.
2. Click the Complete Reference link for each relevant record to view more information, such as abstract and subject headings. Note relevant subject headings to modify your search if required.
3. For many references, a direct link to a full text journal article is possible through either:
   - An Ovid Full Text link or
   - A link

   If the article is not available in full text, click the link to check:
   - Availability of the article via another electronic source
   - Locate the journal in the Monash University Library Catalogue
   - Look for the article on the web
4. Click RETURN TO SESSION to return to your search results.

AN: 2009133326.

AN: 2009107329.

How do I save, print or email the results?

1. Select records by clicking the box to the left of each citation.
2. Scroll to Results Manager at the bottom of the screen and select an option from each column.
3. The defaults are:
   - Results: default selection is Selected Results; Fields: default is Citation + Abstract; Result Format: select Ovid.
   - For actions select from
     - Click Print preview and select print from the menu options in your web browser.
     - Click Email and type a valid email address.
     - To print Ovid Full Text articles, first open the full text, then select Print Preview and use the web browser’s print facility. Note that graphics are not included when saving emailing Ovid Full Text articles.
     - TIP: To export records directly into an EndNote library, select Fields: Complete reference, Result format: Direct Export and Action: Save.

Other information

Exit: As some journals have a limited number of users at one time, click LOGOFF to end your session.

For help:
- Click Help at the top right of the search screen,
- Select the Monash University Library Email Help link on the top of the Main Search Page to email a question to local staff or
- Ask at the library information desk.