Principles of Public Health 2010-2017   MPH

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MPH Principles of Public Health: Search Narrative Assignment

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Principles of Public Health

Search Narrative Assignment

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The following two search narrative assignments reflected many of the desirable features in a replicable search narrative. These might help model approximately what the search narratives should look like, although even these could benefit with some minor improvements.

Topic: What is the impact of epilepsy on motor vehicle accidents?

To search peer-reviewed literature on the topic, it is necessary to use PubMed. First access the UNM Health Sciences Library & Informatics Center at http://hsc.unm.edu/Library/. Under "Quick Search," click on PubMed. Under the PubMed heading, click on "MeSH Database." If you are off campus, you need to login to access library resources: enter your UNM NetID and password.

To find articles to answer the topic question, enter "Epilepsy" into the search box and click "go." Click on "Epilepsy." Click on the boxes "Epilepsy" and "Restrict Search to Major Topic headings only." Scroll to the top of the page and click drop down menu where it states "Send to." Select "Search box with AND." Under the Search MeSH box, enter "Accidents, Traffic," and click "Go." Click on the box "Accidents, Traffic" and "Restrict Search to Major Topic headings only." Scroll to the top of the page and click drop down menu where it states "Send to." Select "Search box with AND." Click on "Search PubMed" to display related articles.

Narrow search results by clicking on "Limits." Under Limits, check the following boxes: "Links to full text," "Humans," and "English." Under dates, click drop-down menu to specify "Published in the Last: 10 years." Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Go." Approx. 18 articles should be available at the next page. Click on "History" and the search should appear as:

Search ("Epilepsy"[Majr]) AND "Accidents, Traffic"[Majr] Limits: Humans, English, published in the last 10 years	19:36:50	18

My search was conducted on September 14th, 2011. I used PubMed for my literature review. To access this database, go to UNM's Health Science Library and Informatics Center webpage by typing http://hsc.unm.edu/library/ into your web browser. Click on the PubMed tab under the category "Quick Search" in the middle of the page. Clink the "MeSH Database" link. In the search box, type Mouth Diseases and click "Search". Check the box titled "Restrict to MeSH Major Topic" on the left side of the page. Then select "OR"on the right side of the page and click "Add to Search Builder." Now type "Oral Health" into the search box, select "Restrict to MeSH Major Topic" and select "OR" before clicking "Add to Search Builder." Enter "Indians, North American" into the search box and click search. Make sure "AND" is selected and click "Add to Search Builder." Now click "Search PubMed." The search should yield 117 results. These articles looked browse-worthy so I had the abstracts sent to my email. The search history for the research conducted can be found under the "Advanced Search" hyperlink, and should look like this:

Search "Mouth Diseases"[Majr] OR "Oral Health"[Majr] AND "Indians, North American"[Mesh]
17:29:56 117

I need to learn more about oral health and depression, so my second PubMed search was conducted in the same manner as the first, with the exception that the third term selected was "Depression." I restricted this term to "MeSH Major Topic" and selected "AND" before adding it to the "Search Builder." After clicking "Search PubMed" the search should yield 89 results. Search History:

Search "Oral Health"[Majr] OR "Mouth Diseases"[Majr] AND "Depression"[Majr] 17:35:15 89

For the third search, the first two search terms and settings remained the same, except in opposite order. The second search term was "Social Class," which was left unrestricted and added to the "Search Builder" using "AND." The fourth term, "United States" was added to the search builder in the same manner as "Social Class." The search should yield 57 results. Search History:

Search "Mouth Diseases"[Majr] OR "Oral Health"[Majr] AND "Social Class"[Mesh] AND "United States"[Mesh] 17:40:03 57