Introduction to the Eskind Biomedical Library and its resources. I am Rachel Lane Walden one of the Eskind Biomedical Librarians, please contact me if you have any questions or need any assistance.
Visit the website to access databases, articles, journals, online textbooks, and much more.

Eskind Library : http://library.vanderbilt.edu/biomedical/
On the webpage we have quick links located on the top left. The Most Used Resources page will lead you to the rest of our databases and our Research Guides. The search bar on the homepage can be used to find books and eBooks. To find specific Journals use the Journal search. To get the full text of articles use the Advanced Search bar. If we don’t own the full text of an article then you can request it through Document delivery. To reserve a study room please use the Study Rooms link. Our daily hours will also be listed on the homepage.
To find the full text of an article go to the advanced search bar which is located on the homepage. Then search articles using the title. If you can't find the article search for the specific journal using the journal link under the search bar. If we don't own the full text try Google Scholar. If neither places have the full text, request the article through document delivery.

Full instructions with screenshots are posted to the Nursing Research Guide

http://researchguides.library.vanderbilt.edu/nursing_researchguide
The Eskind library provides free access to many medical apps. They are listed on our Apps for Mobile Devices research guide (http://researchguides.library.vanderbilt.edu/mobileapps).
To get the UpToDate App.

Register for an account using the UpToDate link on the library webpage.

UpToDate will then email you instructions on how to get the app.
To get the Lexicomp App follow these instructions.
Go to https://www.lexi.com/account/ and create an account

Using the Lexicomp link on the library webpage, go to Mobile App Access to get the authorization code.
Log into account and add the code.
What Citation Managers are you using? Did you know that the Vanderbilt libraries support and offer training on Endnote, Mendeley, Zotero.

http://researchguides.library.vanderbilt.edu/biomedtraining/citation_managers
Here are some links to how to videos. Great to be watched as a refresher. Remember I can provide one on one training on all of these resources along with many more. Just email me to set something up.
Now on to Research Skills and finding the needed literature.
For a robust literature review, you will want to search at least 3 databases. My top three I use are PubMed, CINAHL, and EMBASE.
These are most the fundamental of questions that can be used to search for medical literature. They can be applied in any database or web search engine.
Controlled Vocabulary, search tags, and limits can be used to improve your search results

Controlled Vocabulary Examples:
MeSH, EMTREE, CINAHL Headings, PsycINFO Thesaurus

Search Tag Examples:
Title, Abstract, Author(s)

Examples of Limits:
Age, Gender, Species, Publication Types, Language

**Controlled Vocabulary:** Standardized terminology for use in indexing and information retrieval. It ensures that a subject will be described using the same preferred term each time it is indexed and this will make it easier to find all information about a specific topic during the search process. Also helps to improve search results by providing proper context of terms that may have similar meanings in everyday language.

**Search Tags:** Searches specific fields of the record. For instance, if you use a title tag, the database will only search for that term in the title. Search (or field) tags are specific to each database, so you will want to make sure you are using the correct ones.

**Limits:** Will help you reduce and focus your search results. These are often in the left-hand column of the search results page.
Subject headings are a type of controlled vocabulary and are a way to really pinpoint the topic you are looking for.

- A subject heading is a tag added to an article that indicates the topic or multiple topics that article is about.

- In PubMed, these are called Medical Subject Headings, or MeSH terms. Other databases will have other Subject Headings that have different names, but they serve the same function.

- In PubMed, professional indexers assign the articles appropriate MeSH terms. This allows you to search those MeSH terms and retrieve the articles that discuss those topics, regardless of the wording used by the author.

**Example:**
The example I like to use here is, let’s say you are doing research about teachers. There are many terms that mean “teacher,” right? You have teachers, instructors, professors, educators… so what controlled vocabulary does is it chooses one of those terms in order to represent the entire concept, and all articles about it will be indexed with that term. So if the controlled vocabulary for this topic is “teachers,” then using that subject heading will retrieve all articles about that topic, regardless of the wording.
used by the author.

- And if that’s still a little confusing, just keep in mind that subject headings are sort of a systematic way of categorizing articles by topic.

- Ultimately, you will want to use subject headings along with keywords in order to be comprehensive and retrieve all articles about your topic.
A complete search strategy will include both subject headings along with keywords. Your subject headings most likely will be medical subject headings which are abbreviated as MeSH. These can be found using the MeSH database in PubMed.

Subject headings are those pre-defined "controlled vocabulary" words used to describe the content of each article in a database. Keywords are natural language words describing your topic along with alternative spellings and singular and plural iterations.
The PICO framework is used to assist practitioners with formulating a clinical question and a search strategy. It can be used for questions pertaining to diagnostic, therapeutics, and prognosis. The vast majority of questions will contain the PIO so don’t feel compelled to include comparisons if it is not relevant or appropriate to your patient. The concept of Time has been mentioned in the Evidence-Based literature but can be difficult to search because of the many ways it can be expressed. Time may be best considered while evaluating your search results.
Now for our clinical question: What is the efficiency of ECMO to treat respiratory failure in newborns and babies?
Who are our patients and what is the problem?
What treatment or therapy do we want to try?
Do we have any comparisons?
What is our intended outcome?
Our patients are newborns or babies and our problem is respiratory failure. We plan to use Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) to improve their condition and improve survival rates. No comparisons for this scenario.
Boolean Logic:
AND – used to combine distinct concepts. It will reduce the number of results.
OR – used to group synonymous terms. Can also be used to combine subject headings and keywords. It will increase your results.
NOT – used to exclude concepts from the search results. Use with caution because of the potential to exclude relevant results. Can also be used to exclude certain types of publications, i.e. letters, comments, editorials.

- Boolean search terms must be capitalized in PubMed. Google/Google Scholar will AND by default but you can utilize Boolean search strategies with web searching.
Putting Them Together

1. Identify concepts
2. List specific terms for each concept
3. Put the terms for each concept in OR statements within parentheses
4. Combine OR statements with AND
5. Add any NOT statements to the end
Examples of some different searches.

First example shows using search terms in a search bar without separating terms, using Boolean, or adding parentheses.

Second example uses Boolean, parentheses are added to separate distinct concepts, and quotations are used.

Third example uses a variety of the searching techniques we have discussed, including Controlled vocabulary (Mesh), Boolean, parentheses, quotations, field tags,

You can see the more techniques you utilize at one time, the longer the search gets. But the search also is more focused and is more likely to return relevant results.
Lit Review: qualitatively summarizes evidence on a topic
SR: high level overview of primary research on focused question
Kysh, Lynn (2013): Difference between a systematic review and a literature review. [figshare]. Available at: [http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.766364](http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.766364)
You can contact me at rachel.l.walden@vanderbilt.edu
Credits

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

› Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](http://SlidesCarnival)
› Photographs by [Startupstockphotos](http://Startupstockphotos)