

Search Builder Example (Starting in PubMed)

Research Question or Statement: In immunocompromised adults, how does receiving a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine compare to not receiving a dose influence the risk of hospitalization?

AND ALL CONCEPTS TOGETHER		
Concept 1: Immunocompromised OR everything in this column	Concept 2: COVID-19 Vaccine OR everything in this column	Concept 3: Hospitalization OR everything in this column
Keywords: • "Immunocompromised" • "Immunocompromised host" • "Immunocompromised patient" • "Immunosuppressed" • "Immunosuppressed host" • "Immunosuppressed patient" Mesh • "Immunocompromised host" [Mesh]	Keywords: • "Covid-19 vaccine" • "Covid 19" • "Sars-Cov-2 vaccine" • "Coronavirus Disease 2019 vaccine" • "2019 Novel Coronavirus Vaccine" • "2019-nCoV Vaccines" Mesh • "COVID-19 vaccines" [Mesh]	Keywords: • "Hospitalization" • "Hospitalized" Mesh • "Hospitalization" [Mesh]

Concept 1:

"Immunocompromised" [tw] OR "Immunocompromised host" [tw] OR "Immunocompromised patient" [tw] OR "Immunosuppressed" [tw] OR "Immunosuppressed host" [tw] OR "Immunosuppressed patient" [tw] OR "Immunocompromised host" [Mesh]

Concept 2:

"Covid-19 vaccine" [tw] OR "Sars-Cov-2 vaccine" [tw] OR "Coronavirus Disease 2019 vaccine" [tw] OR "2019 Novel Coronavirus Vaccine" [tw] OR "2019-nCoV Vaccines" [tw] OR "COVID-19 vaccines" [Mesh]

Concept 3:

"Hospitalization" [tw] OR "Hospitalized" [tw] OR "Hospitalization" [Mesh]

ALL CONCEPTS

((("Immunocompromised" [tw] OR "Immunocompromised host" [tw] OR "Immunocompromised patient" [tw] OR "Immunosuppressed" [tw] OR "Immunosuppressed host" [tw] OR "Immunosuppressed patient" [tw] OR "Immunocompromised host" [Mesh]) AND ("Covid-19 vaccine" [tw] OR "Sars-Cov-2 vaccine" [tw] OR "Coronavirus Disease 2019 vaccine" [tw] OR "2019 Novel Coronavirus Vaccine" [tw] OR "2019-nCoV Vaccines" [tw] OR "COVID-19 vaccines" [Mesh]) AND ("Hospitalization" [tw] OR "Hospitalized" [tw] OR "Hospitalization" [Mesh]))

Search Builder Template (Educational Content)

Research Question or Statement: Add your research statement or question. We recommend you use the PICO (Population, Intervention, Control and Outcome) or PCC (Population, Concept, Context) method to construct your research question. Your professor may provide guidance with how they would like your research question constructed.

AND ALL CONCEPTS TOGETHER		
Concept 1: First concept in your research. Order does not matter. You can have as many concepts as you need to fully encompass your research question. Add a column to the table to add concepts. OR everything in this column	Concept 2: Second concept in your research. Order does not matter. You can have as many concepts as you need to fully encompass your research question. Add a column to the table to add concepts. OR everything in this column	Concept 3: Third concept in your research. Order does not matter. You can have as many concepts as you need to fully encompass your research question. Add a column to the table to add concepts. OR everything in this column
Keywords: - List words or phrases that describe concept 1 - Think of listing synonyms or similar ways to refer to the same concept Controlled Vocabulary - List the standardized subject heading for your term - Each database has a different name for these standardized subject headings. PubMed & Medline use MESH, Embase uses Emtree, CINAHL uses CINAHL Subject Headings	Keywords: - List words or phrases that describe concept 2 - Think of listing synonyms or similar ways to refer to the same concept Controlled Vocabulary - List the standardized subject heading for your term - Each database has a different name for these standardized subject headings. PubMed & Medline use MESH, Embase uses Emtree, CINAHL uses CINAHL Subject Headings	Keywords: - List words or phrases that describe concept 3 - Think of listing synonyms or similar ways to refer to the same concept Controlled Vocabulary - List the standardized subject heading for your term - Each database has a different name for these standardized subject headings. PubMed & Medline use MESH, Embase uses Emtree, CINAHL uses CINAHL Subject Headings

It can be helpful to write out your concepts in a “block” so that you can easily paste it into databases. You can start by following the database syntax of your favorite database. You will need to translate the search for each database you search in. For this example, we will be using PubMed syntax/field codes.

Concept 1:

You will combine all keywords and/or subject headings in Column 1 with OR

“Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Subject Heading” [Mesh]

Concept 2:

You will combine all keywords and/or subject headings in Column 2 with OR

“Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Subject Heading” [Mesh]

Concept 3:

You will combine all keywords and/or subject headings in Column 3 with OR

“Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Subject Heading” [Mesh]

Once you are ready, you will combine all of the concepts with AND to make sure you are finding articles that include all of the concepts you are interested in. Order does not matter.

((“Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Subject Heading” [Mesh]) AND (“Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Subject Heading” [Mesh]) AND (“Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Key Word or Phrase” [tw] OR “Subject Heading” [Mesh]))

Search Builder Template (BLANK)

Research Question or Statement:

AND ALL CONCEPTS TOGETHER		
Concept 1: OR everything in this column	Concept 2: OR everything in this column	Concept 3: OR everything in this column
Keywords: • • Controlled Vocabulary •	Keywords: • Controlled Vocabulary •	Keywords: • Controlled Vocabulary •

Concept 1:

Concept 2:

Concept 3:

All Concepts: