

# A quick guide to changes to the databases, key search tips and further support

This document is a quick guide highlighting some of the key changes and offering some useful tips.

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022, the NHS healthcare databases will be provided by 3 separate providers: Ebsco, Ovid and ProQuest.

You can access these databases from the Web page [here](#).

You can access further support in conducting a literature search by [contacting](#) us in Knowledge Information and Library Services.

More detailed written search guides and videos are available for the three database providers [here](#) and you can also access guidance from the “help” buttons available on the screen (top right hand side) once logged into a database.

To access the databases you will need to log in with an NHS Athens username and password. If you do not have one, you can sign up for one [here](#).

## Databases, subject matter and providers

Please see below to find out which provider can give you access to which databases:

Database name	Subject area/s covered	Provided by:
AMED	Allied and complementary medicine including palliative care	Ovid
BNI	Nursing, midwifery and community healthcare	ProQuest
CINAHL	Nursing and allied health	Ebsco
Embase	Biomedical and pharmaceutical literature	Ovid
Emcare	Nursing and allied health	Ovid
HMIC	Healthcare management	Ovid
Medline	Biomedical, life sciences, allied health and pre-clinical sciences literature	Ebsco, Ovid and ProQuest
PsycINFO	Psychology, behavioural sciences and related disciplines	ProQuest
Social policy and practice	Health and social care	Ovid

If you are searching more than one database, it makes sense to try and go for a provider that offers both of those databases where this is possible. For example if you are searching Medline and CINAHL, you may want to choose to search these databases via the Ebsco provider who can supply both of these databases on its platform. If searching PsycINFO and Medline, you may want to choose ProQuest.

## Tips on searching functionality for advanced searchers

	Phrase searching	Truncation	Proximity operators	Subject headings
<b>Ebsco</b>	Use double quotes to keep keywords next to each other. Eg. "Art therapy"	To find variant word endings, use the <b>asterisk</b> . Eg. Prevent* will find prevent, prevented, preventing, prevention.	<b>N</b> and a number to find keywords near each other. Eg Bipolar N1 disorder will find a maximum of one word between the two. (Such as bipolar affective disorder).	Yes. Click on <b>CINAHL Subject Headings</b> at the top of the screen (if searching CINAHL, or a similar link for other Ebsco databases).
<b>Ovid</b>	Multiple words typed together with no operators inbetween are automatically treated as phrases.	To find variant word endings, use the <b>asterisk</b> . Eg. Prevent* will find prevent, prevented, preventing, prevention.	<b>adj</b> and a number to find keywords near each other. Eg Bipolar adj1 disorder will find a maximum of one word between the two. (Such as bipolar affective disorder).	Yes. Click in the check box under the search bar for <b>Map Term to Subject Heading</b> .
<b>ProQuest</b>	Use double quotes to keep keywords next to each other. Eg. "Art therapy"	To find variant word endings, use the <b>asterisk</b> . Eg. Prevent* will find prevent, prevented, preventing, prevention.	<b>N/</b> and a number to find keywords near each other. Eg Bipolar N/1 disorder will find a maximum of one word between the two. (Such as bipolar affective disorder).	Yes. Click on <b>Advanced Search</b> and then on the <b>Thesaurus</b> link above the search bar.

## Saving search strategies

Please note that to save a search strategy, you will need to create and sign into Ebsco/Ovid/ProQuest with an extra username and password. Options to create these accounts for saving searches are available at the top of the screen for each provider.