

## Ovid vs. PubMed

MEDLINE is produced by the National Library of Medicine. The raw content is made available to multiple vendors. How you access the database will influence how you construct your literature search, because the interface offered by different vendors may vary in their performance in important ways. Students, faculty and staff at UAA have two options; directly searching PubMed (the NLM version of Medline) or using Ovid, a commercial vendor's interface. The table below compares OVID and PubMed with respect to some common search features.

Feature	Ovid	PubMed
<b>Access</b>	Library Subject Guide pages: Free to UAA	Web: Free
<b># Concurrent Users</b>	3 for Medline; 10 for CINAHL	Unlimited
<b>URL</b>	<a href="http://proxy.consortiumlibrary.org/login?url=http://gateway.ovid.com/autologin.html">http://proxy.consortiumlibrary.org/login?url=http://gateway.ovid.com/autologin.html</a>	<a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?holding=uakclib">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?holding=uakclib</a>
<b>Update Frequency</b>	Daily file; weekly file	Daily
<b>Subject Searching</b>	"Maps" search terms to MeSH (medical subject headings)	Algorithm includes MeSH and text word searching
<b>Combine Search Statements</b>	Yes	Yes – using History feature
<b>Email Results</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Order Articles</b>	Yes – Order Button in Citation Manager section. Requests go to UAA Consortium Interlibrary Loan department which fill for free.	Yes – using Loansome Doc. Requests emailed to HSIS which fill for a fee.
<b>Search Multiple Databases</b>	Yes – CINAHL, HAPI, Evidence Based Medicine Reviews	No
<b>Phrase Searching</b>	Yes. Statements should be qualified: cold water drowning.tw.	Searches from preconstructed set of phrases. Does not do true adjacency searching. Enclosing a phrase in quotes bypasses automatic term mapping.
<b>Order of Citations</b>	Varies; usually most recent first.	Most recent first (unless using Related Articles feature)
<b>Limits</b>	Same as PubMed. Many additional limits available under the "limits" button. Can choose multiple entries from menu box. Can limit word or phrase to particular field of document: title, author, abstract, and >40 other specific fields. Example: drowning.ti.	Language, humans or animal, year of publication, document subset. Can only choose single entry from each menu boxes.
<b>Truncation</b>	Statements should be field qualified. Use \$ for unlimited suffix variations. Use # to replace exactly one character (wom#n.ti.). Use ? to replace 0 to 1 characters (lab?r).	Right-hand truncation only (injur*). Truncation turns off automatic mapping to MeSH term and turns off EXPLODE.
<b>Full-text Links</b>	Limited number – Use Check Library for Full Text link	Limited number – use gray button to Check Library for Full Text
<b>Limit to Full-text Online</b>	Yes	Yes to Full Text and FREE full text in PubMed Central journals
<b>Displays Local Holdings for Retrieved Records</b>	Yes	Yes (if using URL given above)
<b>Limit to Local Holdings</b>	Yes	No – however items available in our PRINT collection are noted by Green button "UAA/APU print available in library"
<b>Focus/Explode</b>	Easy	Use MeSH searching
<b>Extra Features</b>	Continuous history on search page permits combination of any number of search lines. Can save searches for 24 hours. Search PreMedline or OldMedline separately.	Related Articles; Clinical Queries; Single Citation Matcher; Systematic Reviews; MyNCBI; Includes citations to other related databases (Toxicology, History of Medicine).

### Why use Ovid?

The MeSH browser is more effective and easier to use. Subheadings are clearly identified and can be individually selected. The Search History is clearly visible and easy to modify and expand upon. Citations are formatted for direct exportation into bibliographic management systems. Journal titles are listed in full, rather than the abbreviated form of PubMed. Performing Author and Journal searches is easier using the “button” on the primary search page.

### Why Use PubMed?

Free to anyone with Internet access. The “Related Articles” feature is superb. Includes links to non-medical information from general science journals. MyNCBI used to permanently store searches and saved searches can be set up to run on a specified schedule. Some records have a “books” link from terms found in citations of the full-text of molecular biology textbooks. It can be used to search protein and DNA sequence databases.

### PubMed is More than MEDLINE

MEDLINE is the premier biomedical database developed and maintained by the National Library of Medicine. It includes fully indexed citations from selected journals. PubMed is all of the citations from MEDLINE and a) citations not yet fully indexed, b) older citations that precede the start of indexing, c) out of scope citations, and d) PubMed Central journals not yet selected for MEDLINE.

### PubMed Central vs BioMed Central

PubMed Central (PMC) <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov> is a digital archive of biomedical and life science journals operated by NCBI, a division of NLM. PMC is not a publisher. Participation by publishers in PMC is voluntary, although participating journals must meet certain editorial standards. Access to PMC is free and unrestricted. PubMed Central does not accept articles from individual authors.

BioMed Central (BMC) <http://www.biomedcentral.com/> is an independent, commercial publisher of online peer-reviewed biomedical journals that provided free access to articles at its site. BMC encourages individual authors to submit their articles to its journals. BMC deposits its articles in PMC as they are published.

Use the LIMIT “Links to free full text” when searching PubMed to find full-text articles from PMC and BMC.

### MedlinePlus

MedlinePlus brings together authoritative consumer health information from NLM, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and other government agencies and health-related organizations. MedlinePlus also has extensive information about drugs, an illustrated medical encyclopedia, interactive patient tutorials, and latest health news. Pre-formulated MEDLINE searches are included in MedlinePlus in the Health Topics section.