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Information Interface - Volume 29, Issue 2 - March/April 2001

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[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Director's Desk

Each year, academic programs in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences and the School of Public Health and Health Services undergo review, certification, and accreditation processes. The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library frequently takes part in these reviews by providing self-study information, summaries of Library services and resources, targeted reports on holdings in specific subject areas, and tours/orientations for visiting review teams. If your academic program is planning for an upcoming review and would like information on how the Library can provide support, please contact me at (202) 994-1826 or mlbaml@gwumc.edu The Library staff looks forward to working with you.

*Anne Linton, Director,
Library Services*



Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[Director's Desk](#)

[Medical Center Technology Update](#)

[Software and Pathology Labs](#)

[Access Policy for Non-Student](#)

[Library Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Annual Art Show](#)

[MD Consult Q & A](#)

[Collections & Acquisitions](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calendar](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
 School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
 School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Update on Information Technology at the Medical Center

Over the past year, Information Technology (IT) services at the Medical Center have undergone a major transformation from a separate Medical Center network to incorporation into the University Network operated by the Information System and Services (ISS) office under the direction of Dave Swartz, University CIO. This change resulted from the reconfiguration/spin-off of computer networks as the University Hospital, GW Health Plan, and Medical Faculty Associates organized independent IT services. This migration has caused both planned and unplanned outages of services. Every effort has been made to schedule planned outages at low-use times and with plenty of advance notice. ISS has responded to unplanned outages on an emergency basis. To date, nearly 80% of the migration tasks have been completed. Once completed, the network should stabilize and function within acceptable parameters. Several improved features should include increased network transmission speed and fiber to the desktop in selected areas.

Throughout this process, there has been some confusion about who is responsible for what operations and how to handle problems. Shelley Bader, Associate Vice President for Educational Resources, serves as chief liaison for the Medical Center to ISS. Additional questions about the network migration can be directed to her. The University ISS model for network support calls for a local support partner program to meet first level computer and core applications support as well as the specialized needs of individual schools. The local support unit for the VPHA, SMHS, and MISPH is Computer & Applications Support Services, CAS².

Michael Driscoll is Medical Center Director of Technical Operations. He manages the CAS² service team of three and works with ISS managers to coordinate network services for Medical Center faculty, staff, and students. The CAS² office is located in Ross Hall Room B01. The main telephone number for CAS² is (202) 994-9400. CAS² office hours are Monday - Friday, 8a.m. - 6p.m. Page access is provided for off-hour emergencies by calling 4-9400. The chart below outlines contact points for specific problems on campus:

Issue	Contact	Notes
Network outages	CAS ² Help Desk 4-9400 CAS ² Fax 4-9864 ISS provides voice system status at: 202-994-5530 #3	CAS ² will contact ISS which is responsible for all network operations

Inside this issue...

- [Information Interface Home](#)
- [Director's Desk](#)
- [Medical Center Technology Update](#)
- [Software and Pathology Labs](#)
- [Access Policy for Non-Student](#)
- [Library Welcomes New Staff](#)
- [Annual Art Show](#)
- [MD Consult Q & A](#)
- [Collections & Acquisitions](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Savvy Searcher](#)
- [Class Calender](#)
- [Library Hours](#)
- [Library Assistance](#)

GroupWise Email	CAS ² Help Desk 4-9400	
GWMail	ISS Help Desk: 202-994-5530 #2 E-mail: ithelp@gwu.edu	
Desktop Applications	CAS ² Help Desk 4-9400	
Assessments for computer purchases	CAS ² Help Desk 4-9400	
Difficulty printing to a networked printer.	CAS ² Help Desk 4-9400	They will contact ISS.
Lost passwords:		
GWMail	ISS Help Desk: 202-994-5530 #2	
GroupWise E-mail	CAS ² Help Desk 4-9400	
Novell Logon	CAS ² Help Desk 4-9400	
Grades Administrator	Library Reference Desk 4-9400	
Prometheus	Go to Prometheus and click on "forgotten password"	

Special note to students:

The public workstations on the first floor of the Library are connected to the University network. This means that all problems related to network connections and printing are handled by ISS. Library staff report all problems promptly and ask that they be handled as emergencies. An additional heavy-duty printer has been ordered for the first floor to even out the printing load. All first-floor workstations have recently been "re-imaged" to ensure that the appropriate software is loaded and that problem stations can be more easily restored to operability. We recognize that programs such as Prometheus are memory-intensive and, as funds become available, every effort is made to replace outdated workstations with PCs having greater speed and memory. Six new computers have recently been ordered for use on the first floor.

The workstations located in the Computer Lab and Women's Board Teaching Room are not connected to the University network. Instead they run on a local server which supports specially-licensed educational software. This configuration has allowed the Library to keep these machines up and running during most University network outages. Report any problems with these workstations directly to the Audiovisual Study Center Circulation Desk. A technician is on call most evening and weekend hours. A new heavy-duty printer has been ordered for the Computer Lab and six new workstations should arrive shortly to replace the computers in the open area of the Audiovisual Study Center.

Students can help Library staff keep workstations up and running by observing a few rules:

- > Report all problems promptly.
- > Print only what you need.
- > Refrain from loading your own software on Library workstations.
- > Don't rearrange hardware for your convenience.
- > Don't redirect printers or override software settings.



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Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Software and Pathology Labs

One of the Library's main roles is to support the educational mission of the medical center. Just as the Library purchases books and journals in support of this mission, the Library also acquires software to aid in the educational process. The software collection is composed of both content-oriented programs in medical and health fields, as well as productivity software such as word processing and statistical packages. Some of the library's recent purchases have included ArcView, CDCynergy, Essentials of Radiology, Direct Smear Atlas, Microbes in Motion, WebPath, ADAM Interactive Anatomy, and Stata. All of the software is available in the Bloedorn Audio Visual Study Center on the third floor of the Library.

In addition, the library is working with the Department of Pathology to digitize the reels of pathology slides and place them on the web for student use. Once on the web, students have access to the images 24 hours a day from any computer connected to the web. This arrangement provides greater access to the images for a larger number of students than in prior years. Once the complete collection of images has been organized on the web, the program will continue to be refined and supplemented with additional instructional features.



Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[Director's Desk](#)

[Medical Center Technology Update](#)

[Software and Pathology Labs](#)

[Access Policy for Non-Student](#)

[Library Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Annual Art Show](#)

[MD Consult Q & A](#)

[Collections & Acquisitions](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Access Policy for Non-Students

The Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library limits access to the Library to GW users after 2:00pm and to GWUMC users after 6:00pm on weekdays. On weekends, access is limited to GWUMC users only. This policy was carefully designed to maximize the study space and resources available for Medical Center students, staff, residents, and faculty during high use periods.

Therefore, Library staff cannot offer a blanket exception to this policy for friends, family, and significant others of students in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences or the School of Public Health and Health Services. There are over 1,200 students registered in the two schools. Under special circumstances, Library staff can provide special passes to accommodate visitors during restricted hours.

Students requesting a special pass for family or friends should contact Neg May, Circulation Desk Manager, (202) 994-1829, at least two days in advance of the needed pass.



Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[Director's Desk](#)

[Medical Center Technology Update](#)

[Software and Pathology Labs](#)

[Access Policy for Non-Student](#)

[Library Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Annual Art Show](#)

[MD Consult Q & A](#)

[Collections & Acquisitions](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calendar](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Himmelfarb Library Welcomes New Staff

The Himmelfarb Library welcomes Natalie Collins as the new Head of Cataloging and Reserves. Natalie Collins earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Victoria and her Master's in Library and Information Science degree from Dalhousie University. Before leaving her native Canada, Natalie was the Technical Services Librarian for the Nova Scotia Legislative Library. Prior to joining us at the Himmelfarb Library, Natalie worked for the CAPCON Library Network as a Member Services Librarian.

Reference and Outreach Services is pleased to welcome Michelle DiSturco to the Himmelfarb Library staff. She will serve as a Reference Librarian and will be working with the Problem Based Learning (PBL) Library Liaison Program. Michelle joins us after completing her Master's degree at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo. Michelle has experience working in the Health Sciences Library at Buffalo and at the Center for International Rehabilitation Research information and Exchange. In addition to her health information experience, she has also served as an archival assistant at the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, PA. Stop by and welcome Michelle. Ask her about some of her experiences with Andy!



Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[Director's Desk](#)

[Medical Center Technology Update](#)

[Software and Pathology Labs](#)

[Access Policy for Non-Student](#)

[Library Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Annual Art Show](#)

[MD Consult Q & A](#)

[Collections & Acquisitions](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calendar](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Annual Art Show

Spring is just around the corner and with it comes the Annual Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library Art Show. We are calling on all GWUMC artists to submit their creations for display during the month of April. All types of art, including drawing, paintings, sketches, ceramics, pottery, photography, and craft works are welcome.

We will begin accepting artwork on March 1st at the Reference Desk in the Himmelfarb Library. The contact person is Mina August. If you have any questions, please call her at (202) 994-2963 or email caugust@gwu.edu.



Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[Director's Desk](#)

[Medical Center Technology Update](#)

[Software and Pathology Labs](#)

[Access Policy for Non-Student](#)

[Library Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Annual Art Show](#)

[MD Consult Q & A](#)

[Collections & Acquisitions](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

MD Consult Q & A

What is MD Consult?

MD Consult is a comprehensive online resource for finding clinical information. It provides both clinical content and current awareness tools.

How can MD Consult keep me up-to-date?

MD Consult offers daily medical news headlines from Reuter's Health, and medical headlines from popular news sources (that patients might be reading). There are summaries of the latest articles published in major medical journals, current bibliographies on various clinical topics, updates on newly approved drugs, and opportunities for earning CME credit.

What are some of the clinical content features?

There are over 38 standard medical texts that can be browsed individually or searched collectively; full-text clinical information from over 50 medical journals; and an interface for searching citations in MEDLINE, AIDSLINE, HealthSTAR, and CANCERLIT. There are over 600 clinical practice guidelines compiled by medical societies and government agencies, and 3,000+ patient education handouts that can be customized to include special instructions/information for a particular patient. And to help you find drug information there is a full-text, searchable version of Mosby's GenRX.

How do I sign up for MD Consult?

If you would like to sign up for access to MD Consult, please visit the Reference Desk in the Library and a librarian will be happy to provide you information for signing up. Once you have signed up you will be able to access MD Consult both on campus and off.



Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[Director's Desk](#)

[Medical Center Technology Update](#)

[Software and Pathology Labs](#)

[Access Policy for Non-Student](#)

[Library Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Annual Art Show](#)

[MD Consult Q & A](#)

[Collections & Acquisitions](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

THE GEORGE
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UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER
WASHINGTON DC

[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

New Collections & Acquisitions

New Titles

ROBERT, ADER. *PSYCHONEUROIMMUNOLOGY* (3RD ED)
QP356.47 .P79 2001

BRAUNWALD, EUGENE. *HARRISON'S PRINCIPLES OF INTERNAL MEDICINE* (15TH ED)
RC46 .H333 2001

BRAUNWALD, EUGENE. *HEART DISEASE: A TEXTBOOK OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE* (6TH ED)
RC681 .H36 2001

DEVITA, JR., VINCENT T. *CANCER, PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF ONCOLOGY* (6TH ED)
RC261. C724 2001

HOLGATE, STEPHEN T. *ALLERGY* (2ND ED)
RC584 .A347 2001

KRUH, GARY D. *BASIC SCIENCE OF CANCER*
RC254 .B37 2000

MASSRY, SHAUL G. *MASSRY & GLASSOCK'S TEXTBOOK OF NEPHROLOGY* (4TH ED)
RC902 .T48 2000

MORRISSY, RAYMOND T. *ATLAS OF PEDIATRIC ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY* (3RD ED)
RD732.3 .C48 A853 2001

NOSHER, JOHN. *VASCULAR AND INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY: TEXTBOOK AND CD-ROMS*
RD598.5 .N67 2001

PERNOLL, MARTIN L. *BENSON & PERNOLL'S HANDBOOK OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY* (10TH ED)
RG110 .P47 2001

RIETSCHER, JR., ROBERT I. *FISHER'S CONTACT DERMATITIS* (5TH ED) RL244 .F56 2001

SCRIVER, CHARLES R. *THE METABOLIC AND MOLECULAR BASES OF INHERITED*

Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[Director's Desk](#)

[Medical Center Technology Update](#)

[Software and Pathology Labs](#)

[Access Policy for Non-Student](#)

[Library Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Annual Art Show](#)

[MD Consult Q & A](#)

[Collections & Acquisitions](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

DISEASE (8TH ED)
RC627.8 .M47 2001



[Comments](#) | [About](#) | [Intranet](#) | [SMHS](#) | [SoN](#) | [GWSPH](#) | [GWU](#)

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Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. I have a research paper due soon and need to do the research. Does the library have a service that can help me get started?

A. Yes. You can schedule a consultation with one of the reference librarians to assist you in beginning your research project. This free service is available to all students and can be a valuable resource in dealing with the staggering amount of health literature. To schedule a consultation, call the reference desk at 994-2850.

Q. How can I lookup the email address for a GW student?

A. On the GWU home page (www.gwu.edu) is a link to a GW directory (click on the telephone icon). In the middle of the directory window is a search box which will allow you to enter the person's name and status (student, faculty, staff).

Q. How can I send an attachment in GWMail?

A. Create a new message in GW Mail and fill in the To: and Subject: fields as usual. Then click on the "attach" button at the top of the window. You will then need to locate the file you wish to attach (click on "browse..." and find the file), and then attach it to the email message (click on "add"). Now click on "send" to send your email message with the attached file.



Inside this issue...

- [Information Interface Home](#)
- [Director's Desk](#)
- [Medical Center Technology Update](#)
- [Software and Pathology Labs](#)
- [Access Policy for Non-Student](#)
- [Library Welcomes New Staff](#)
- [Annual Art Show](#)
- [MD Consult Q & A](#)
- [Collections & Acquisitions](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Savvy Searcher](#)
- [Class Calender](#)
- [Library Hours](#)
- [Library Assistance](#)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Savvy Searcher

Advanced Search Techniques

As you become more comfortable searching medical literature databases like MEDLINE, you realize the value of searching by MeSH terms. Using the Ovid interface's mapping feature or PubMed's MeSH Browser, identifying the best MeSH term is usually easy. These features permit you to type the topic as you know it, and will provide you with a list of MeSH terms to choose from.

Sometimes though, the mapping feature and MeSH browser don't provide MeSH terms that quite describe the information that you want. This can occur when you're researching a complex topic that is represented by coordinating several MeSH terms and also when the topic is so new that MeSH terms don't yet exist to define it. What can you do to find the information that you need when this happens? The following are some search tips that can help you narrow your search to the information that you need.

The examples below illustrate the tips using the Ovid interface and MEDLINE. Many alternate search interfaces will provide equivalent capabilities; check the "Help" information when you use an alternate search interface. These tips can also be applied to any database that uses a controlled vocabulary like MEDLINE with its MeSH vocabulary (examples: CINAHL, CINAHL, PsycINFO, etc.).

Field Searching

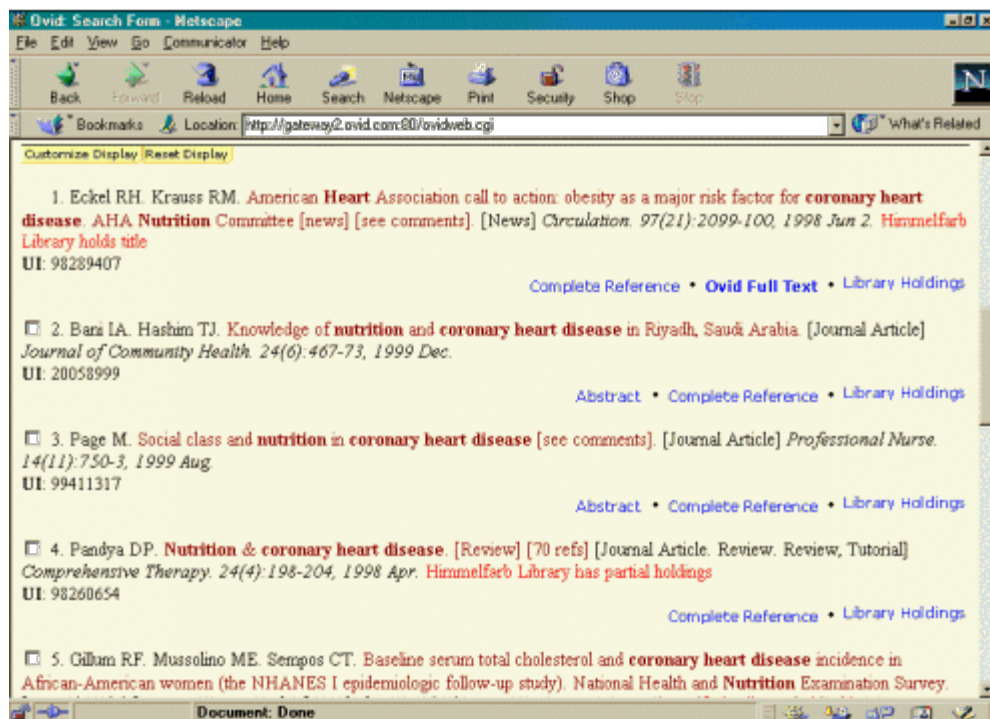
Field searching in Ovid allows you to bypass the mapping and subheadings screens to locate your terms in a specific field. For example, consider a case where you're interested in identifying articles on coronary heart disease and nutrition. Rather than finding the MeSH terms for these topics, you could search for these terms in specific fields of the record. Usually, searching by field works best when you start by trying to find articles with your terms in the title field, then moving on to the abstract field if necessary.

Inside this issue...

- [Information Interface Home](#)
- [Director's Desk](#)
- [Medical Center Technology Update](#)
- [Software and Pathology Labs](#)
- [Access Policy for Non-Student](#)
- [Library Welcomes New Staff](#)
- [Annual Art Show](#)
- [MD Consult Q & A](#)
- [Collections & Acquisitions](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Savvy Searcher](#)
- [Class Calender](#)
- [Library Hours](#)
- [Library Assistance](#)



On the screen above you see the results of searching for the terms coronary heart disease and nutrition in the title of the article (ti) and the abstract (ab). This is done by adding a period plus the code for the field (ti for title and ab for abstract) after the term. In this case, the terms were also enclosed in parentheses because the searched checked for two terms. The first search which was limited to the title of the article is a smaller set of more focused search results; articles on this topic are likely to have these words in the title.



The second search which checks for these terms in the abstract of the article is a larger and less focused set; articles on this topic are likely to have these words in the abstract, but a number of irrelevant articles will also have these words in the abstract.

Some additional useful field codes are:

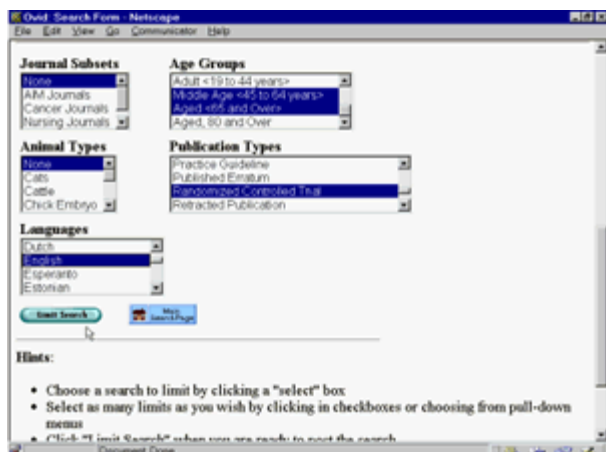
- au Author
- in Institution
- jn Journal name

A list of all field codes and a screen for selecting fields for a search can be found by using

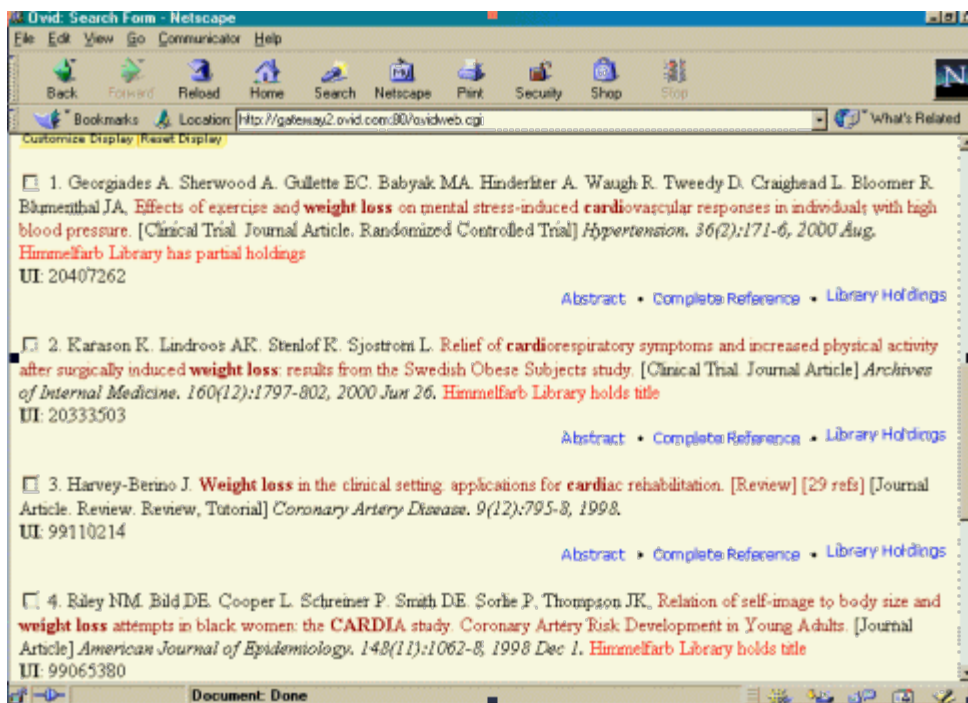
the "Search Fields" icon represented by a magnifying glass on the Main Search Page.

Truncation

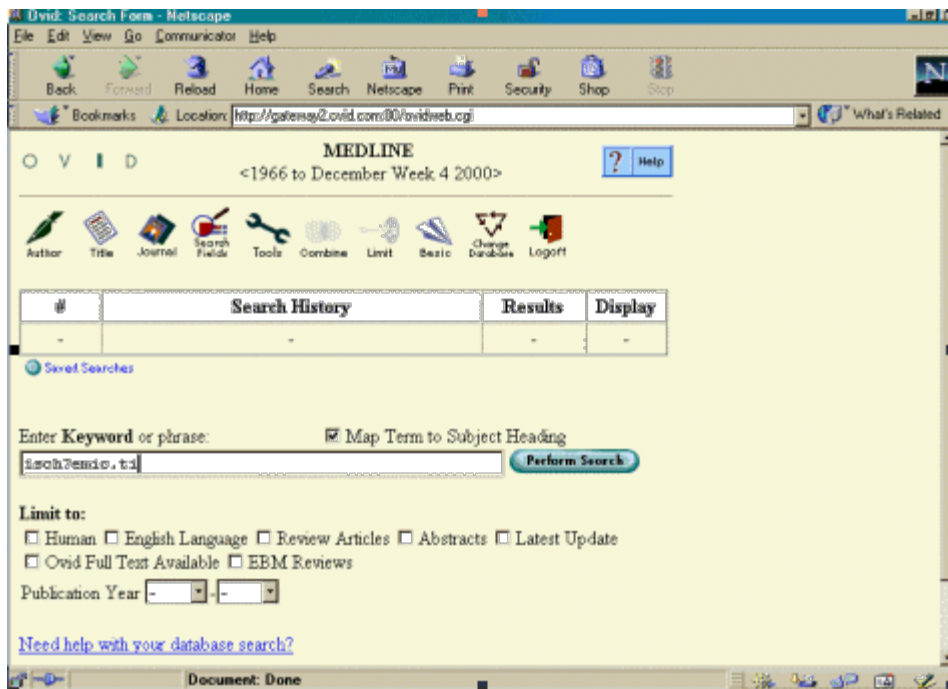
Truncation is a tool that can be used in combination with field searching in order to find a word with multiple endings or variant spellings of words. For example, consider a case where you are interested in finding information on weight loss and the heart. You'd like to include variations of the more medical term 'cardiac,' and want to include articles that mention cardiac, cardiovascular, cardiology, cardiorespiratory, etc. To find all variants, you could take the base of the word "cardi" and add the unlimited truncation symbol, the dollar sign (\$), so that the system finds words that begin with "cardi" and end in any way.



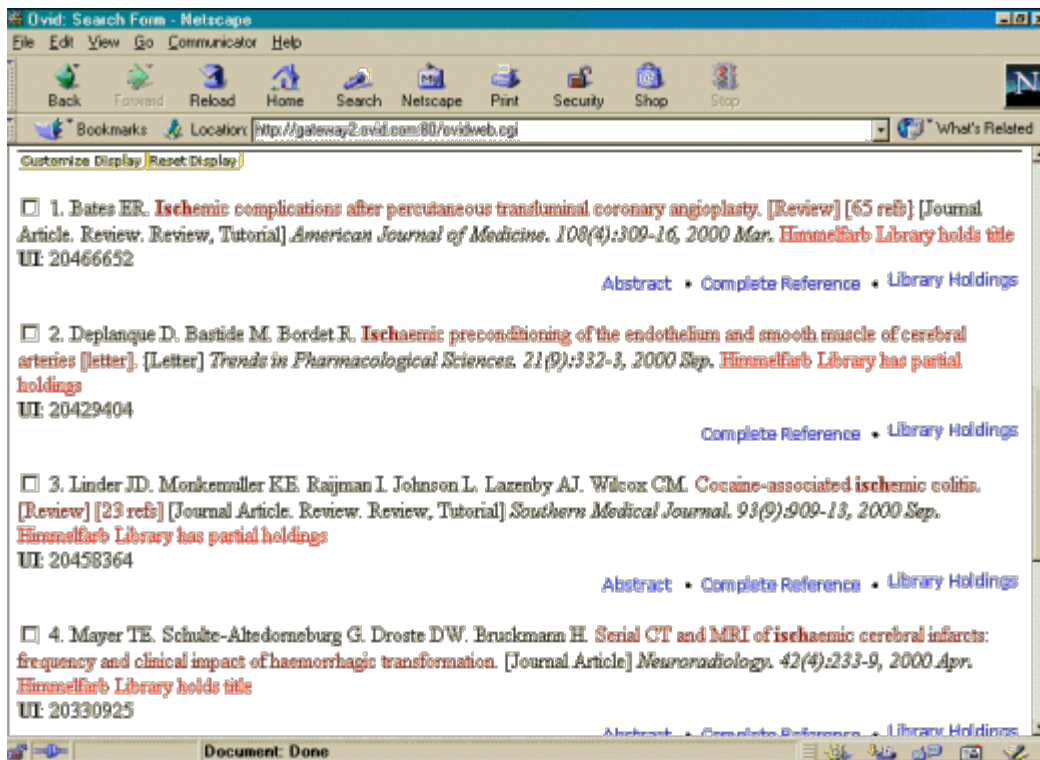
When you look at the results of this search, you see that number of variations of "cardi\$" appear in the results.



You can also use truncation within a word for cases where there may be several spellings of one word. This is particularly useful in cases where you want to include both the American and British English spellings. For example, to find articles that mention "ischemic" or "ischaemic" in the title, you can use the question mark (?) which indicates that one or no characters can occur at that position. The question mark can be used in the middle or at the end of a word.



As you look at the results, you should see examples of both the British and American English spellings.



Some additional useful truncation symbols are:

Used to substitute for one required letter. For example, wom#n will find both women and woman.

\$n Used to indicate the maximum number of letters at the end of a word. For instance, cardi\$3 will find words that begin with "cardi" followed by up

to three more characters. This search would find instances of cardiac, cardio, and cardial, but not cardiorespiratory or cardiovascular.

Finding additional articles

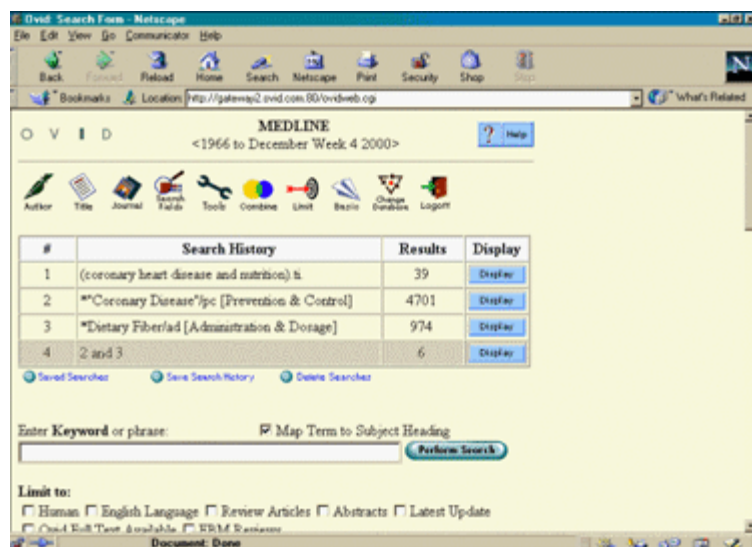
While field searching and truncation can be used as alternatives to searching by MeSH, you may get the best results by using these techniques to help you find the best MeSH terms for a particular topic. Another way to approach this is to use field searching and truncation to locate one perfect article, and then follow the leads provided by the MeSH terms to locate more articles like it.

For example, in the first search we searched for "(coronary heart disease and nutrition).ti" and found a number of articles including a great review article:

5. Pandya DP. Nutrition & coronary heart disease. [Review] [70 refs] [Journal Article. Review. Review, Tutorial] Comprehensive Therapy. 24(4):198-204, 1998 Apr. Himmelfarb Library has partial holdings UI: 98260654

To find more articles like this one, click on "Complete Reference" to see which MeSH terms are attached to it.

The MeSH terms that describe the main topic of the article are marked with an asterisk (*). To find more articles like this one, you could jot down the best MeSH terms and try different combinations of these terms in new searches.



Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Library Hours

The Library is open to GW Medical Center Personnel

Monday-Friday 7:30 am-Midnight

Saturday-Sunday 9:00 am-Midnight

The Library is open to University Personnel:

Monday-Friday 7:30 am-6:00 pm

The Library is open to the public:

Monday-Friday 7:30 am-2:00 pm

Please be prepared to show ID after 2:00 pm.



Inside this issue...

[Information Interface Home](#)

[Director's Desk](#)

[Medical Center Technology Update](#)

[Software and Pathology Labs](#)

[Access Policy for Non-Student](#)

[Library Welcomes New Staff](#)

[Annual Art Show](#)

[MD Consult Q & A](#)

[Collections & Acquisitions](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Savvy Searcher](#)

[Class Calender](#)

[Library Hours](#)

[Library Assistance](#)

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library



[Home](#) [About](#) [Site Map](#) [? Ask Us](#)

Information Interface

Office of Educational Resources
School of Medicine and Health Care Sciences
School of Public Health and Health Services

March/April 2001

Volume 29/Issue 2

Library Assistance

Administration	994-3528
AV Study Center	994-2856
Interlibrary Loan	994-2860
Reference Department	994-2850
Photocopy Service(HPS)	994-2860
Circulation	994-2962
Classroom Display Services	994-2856

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Inside this issue...

- [Information Interface Home](#)
- [Director's Desk](#)
- [Medical Center Technology Update](#)
- [Software and Pathology Labs](#)
- [Access Policy for Non-Student](#)
- [Library Welcomes New Staff](#)
- [Annual Art Show](#)
- [MD Consult Q & A](#)
- [Collections & Acquisitions](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Savvy Searcher](#)
- [Class Calender](#)
- [Library Hours](#)
- [Library Assistance](#)