EBM Thread 2010: How to Find the Evidence

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Session Objectives

• Build your search strategy
• Search PubMed
• Apply PubMed Clinical Queries
• Cochrane Library & Oxlip+
• Access outside Oxford
Formulate your question

Patient, Population or Problem
Intervention
Comparison / Control
Outcome
A GP with a special interest in smoking cessation wants to encourage his practice to engage with teenagers to stop them smoking. In order to persuade his colleagues he wants to see what evidence is available, particularly on the effectiveness of brief intervention techniques.
Question

Can brief intervention be used as an effective smoking cessation technique with teenagers?
Choose your search terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P</th>
<th>I</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teenagers Adolescents Young people</td>
<td>Brief intervention Brief advice Brief counselling Minimal advice</td>
<td>Smoking cessation Stop smoking Quit smoking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Search tips

**OR** - combine words where you want either or any of them to appear in an article e.g. teenagers **or** adolescents

**AND** - combine words where you want both or all to appear in an article e.g. teenagers **and** smoking

For spelling variations use *****
E.g. *adolescen* will search for adolescent, adolescents or adolescence
## Build your search strategy

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<td>Teenage* or Adolescen* or Young people</td>
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<td>Smoking cessation or Stop* smoking or Quit* smoking</td>
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Search Pubmed

• Large database of biomedical journals
• Search using free text, MeSH & limits
• Clinical queries
• Free access – http://www.pubmed.gov
• Go through PubMed with Oxford links http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/medicine
Search the Cochrane Library

• International Cochrane Collaboration
  >90 countries
  *effects* of interventions

• Includes:
  Full-text Systematic Reviews
  Abstracts to further SRs and RCTs

• Available at:
  [http://www.thecochranelibrary.com](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com)
Search Oxlip+

- Access to a range of other databases including:
  - Embase
  - PsycInfo
  - Scopus
  - Sciverse

- [http://oxlip-plus.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/](http://oxlip-plus.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/)
Access outside Oxford

Get access to electronic journals and databases outside Oxford network:

Single Sign On through Oxlip+

More information:

- [http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/eresources/remote_access](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/eresources/remote_access)