A step-by-step guide to searching PubMed...

...for articles on electronic cigarettes as a smoking cessation technique
To search Pubmed you can go straight to http://www.pubmed.gov

However, to go to PubMed with Oxford links go to SOLO http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk and search for PubMed.

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<td>Moves of special collections into the Weston Library will take place until summer 2016 as material currently stored at other locations is transferred. During this period items can still be ordered as normal but please be aware that material may take up to 24 hours to arrive in the reading room and, on occasion, entire collections will be unavailable for up to 2 weeks whilst they are relocated.</td>
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For more information please see Where to consult Special Collections or email specialcollections.bookings@bodleian.ox.ac.uk to book material.

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Click on View Online to link through to PubMed.
We’re going to start off by searching for the appropriate subject headings [MeSH] for our population. Click on MeSH Database to start this process.
Type smoking into the search box and click on search
1. A list of subject headings matching what you’ve typed into the box will be displayed

2. Select the appropriate subject heading and click on Add to search builder

3. Search for articles tagged with the subject heading by clicking on Search PubMed
A list of articles tagged with the subject heading “Smoking Cessation” will be displayed. Don’t start looking at these now. We’re going to look at searching for keywords in title & abstract. Click on Advanced.
1. Type the terms or synonyms in separate search lines. We’ve used an * at the end of smok* to capture articles on smoker, smokers, smoking etc...

2. Click on the drop down menu to select OR

3. Click on the drop down menu to select Title/Abstract

4. Click on Add to history
1. We’ll now look for cessation terms. Type the synonyms in separate search lines

2. Click on the drop down menu to select OR

3. Click on the drop down menu to select Title/Abstract

4. Click on Add to history
1. We’re going to combine our smoking and cessation terms. Click on the Add link next to the #3 search. Click on the Add link next to the #4 link.

2. Click on Add to history
1. We’re now going to add the title and abstract search to the MeSH term to form a final smoking cessation set. Click on the Add link next to the #4 search. Click on the Add link next to the #5 link.

2. Click on the drop down menu and change to OR.

3. Click on Search.
Don’t start looking at these now. We first need to look for our electronic cigarettes keywords. Click on PubMed.gov.
We’re going to search for the appropriate subject heading [MeSH] for our intervention. Click on MeSH Database to start this process.
Type electronic cigarettes into the search box and click on search.
1. An exact match for your search will appear

2. Click on Add to search builder

3. Search for articles tagged with the subject heading by clicking on Search PubMed
A list of articles tagged with the subject heading “Electronic Cigarettes” will be displayed.

Don’t start looking at these now. We’re going to look at searching for keywords in title & abstract. Click on Advanced.
1. Title/Abstract search for the keywords

2. Click on Add to history
1. We’re now going to add the title and abstract search to the MeSH term to form a final electronic cigarettes set. Click on Add next to #8 repeat with Add next to #9

2. Select OR from the drop down menu

3. Click on Add to history
1. We’re now going to create our final set, combining smoking cessation and electronic cigarettes. Click on Add next to #6, repeat with Add next to #10

2. Select AND from the drop down menu

3. Click on Search
You can now start screening your results...but, you might want to apply some limits to focus the search.
Click on 5 years to restrict to 2010 onwards
To view other limits, click on "Show additional filters"

Click in the Languages box if you want to see language options
Click on English to exclude non-English papers
E-cigarettes are losing ground among smokers and non-smokers.

Author Information

Abstract

We largely agree with the discussion points in the letter by Donzelli regarding our recent article demonstrating significantly decreased odds for smoking abstinence among smokers who ever used e-cigarettes and his caution about using e-cigarettes. However, we do not agree that they can be used to replace frontline medically assisted efforts because they are not regulated products. The US Prevention Services Task force made a similar decision. It is rather reassuring that all observational studies, including ours, that used a powerful cohort design reached similar conclusions about e-cigarette use not predicting quitting among smokers. One of the causality guidelines by Bradford Hill is the reliability of an association across multiple studies and populations. (Am J Public Health. Published online ahead of print September 17, 2015: e1.

doi 10.2105/AJPH.2015.302896)

PMID: 26378864 [Published - as supplied by publisher]

Similar articles
As you’re screening, click on the box to select relevant articles.
1. Once you’ve selected some records, scroll back up to the top of the screen.

2. You can choose E-mail results to yourself, send to Citation Manager etc. I often add to the Clipboard to have a closer look at the relevant records.
Have a look at the PubMed tutorials – follow the link from the PubMed home page.

Click on the Similar articles links from relevant articles to find other related studies.

A few final tips...
If you have comments to make, or need further help, please contact:

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