

Mental Health Resources

Objectives:

- What are some open access mental health resources?
- How can you use citations to advance your research?

Merck Home Health Handbook

Scope: Open access general health handbook, which includes an overview followed by detailed information on mental health subjects.

Coverage: Last print book was published in 2009. The handbook is now online and is continuously updated - each date of revision is indicated at the bottom of each topic page.

Searching: Natural language searching, aided by browsable sections.

Strengths: Contains a well placed search bar; Website is available as a mobile version.

Weaknesses: Not just a mental health resource, so might not be as comprehensive as others; Search terms entered in search box are highlighted throughout page, which can be distracting.

Medline Plus

Scope: Open access government website providing medical information for patients and caregivers.

Coverage: Includes information and resources for over 900 medical conditions. Date of revision is indicated at the bottom of each page.

Searching: Natural language searching aided by guided search. Search results can be refined by type or keyword. Search results page includes article about search topic.

Strengths: Easy-to-understand information about wide variety of medical topics; Dual language site.

Weaknesses: Not just mental health resource, so not all site content is relevant; Contains great deal of information but due to site design, much of it is not immediately obvious or accessible and is easily overlooked.

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

Scope: Open access government website providing information on wide range of mental health topics.

Coverage: Detailed information about 15 mental health areas. Over 60 publications available. Extensive information about health and education, outreach, research, funding, labs, and news.

Searching: Natural language searching aided by guided search. Results can be filtered by type of resource and media. Related searches suggested. Advanced searching performs boolean search. Safe search capabilities.

Strengths: Comprehensive and mental health focused; Useful for those seeking mental health management information and those seeking mental health data and scientific information.

Weaknesses: Almost too much information; Live help function is hard to find.

APA Psychologist Locator

Scope: Utilized to find a psychologist in the user's area.

Coverage: United States.

Searching: Searchable by text, map or name with advanced search options.

Strengths: Provides psychologist profiles - office hours, personal statement, payment methods, fees

Weaknesses: Not all profiles are complete; not a comprehensive list of doctors.

PsycINFO

Scope: Paid index and abstract database over behavioral sciences and mental health. Can access through the University of Texas libraries. EBSCO is the vendor.

Coverage: 3 millions records of peer-reviewed literature from 2,543 different journals. Updated monthly as journals are added or discontinued.

Searching: Boolean searching (has a search builder), advanced search is the default setting. Take advantage of the filters to narrow your search results. Use subject terms, laid out in the thesaurus.

Strengths: Geared specifically towards mental health, Extensive tutorials for searching

Weaknesses: Does not have always have access to the full-text.

PubMed

Scope: Open access source that includes citations and abstracts from the fields of biomedicine and health. Covers portions of behavioral sciences and mental health.

Coverage: Over 22 million citations and abstracts. Updated weekly.

Searching: Boolean searching (has a search builder), uses Medical Subject Headings (MeSH), Add history allows the user to 'preview' the number of results received from the current search, can continue to build off of the previous search, Show Index can be used to see all terms within that search field

To search for full text articles use: AND pubmed pmc [sb]

| | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Boolean Operators | AND OR NOT | Combine search terms to narrow/broaden search |
| Wildcard | # | Replaces extra characters in alternate spellings |
| Wildcard | ? | Replaces one character |
| Truncation | * | Replaces any number of characters. Will find all form of the root word |

Strengths: can create an account to save searches and citations, extensive FAQs and tutorials, Gives other resources that could be useful to the user

Weaknesses: Not specifically for mental health, May take a few weeks for citations and articles to categorized with MeSH

Competing Source: PsycINFO

A - Drop box, can change which NML resource the user is searching

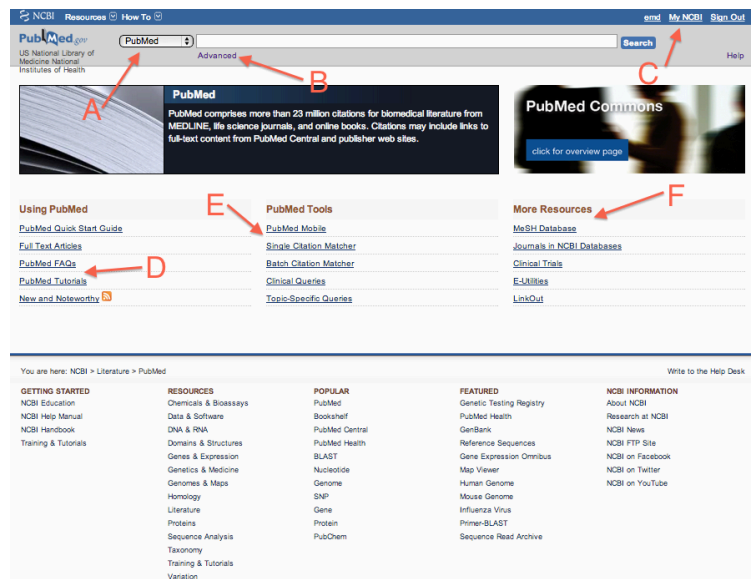
B - Search Box (use Boolean Operators), Advanced option

C - Sign in or create a NCBI account

D - FAQs and Tutorials

E - The mobile application and the Citation Matcher

F - Other resources the user might find helpful



American Psychological Association. "PsycINFO." American Psychological Association. Accessed November 11, 2013. <http://www.apa.org/pubs/databases/psycinfo/index.aspx>.

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"Psychologist Locator," Practice Central, accessed November 10, 2013, <http://locator.apa.org/>.

PubMed. Accessed November 11, 2013. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed>.

National Institute of Mental Health. Accessed November 11, 2013. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml>.

Medline Plus. Accessed November 11, 2013. <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus>.