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***Searching Tips, Tricks and Hacks with Expert Searchers***

**Linda Slater**

**Easily translate search syntax from one database platform to another** (e.g. Ovid Medline exp Neoplasms/ to EBSCOhost CINAHL MH "Neoplasms+"

* Copy and paste a search strategy into word and then create a macro to replace the search syntax from one database platform to another.
* It is not possible to save macros and share them with other people unless you are a computer programmer type person.
* Here are instructions on creating macros in [MS Word](https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Create-or-run-a-macro-c6b99036-905c-49a6-818a-dfb98b7c3c9c) or [Excel](https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Quick-start-Create-a-macro-741130ca-080d-49f5-9471-1e5fb3d581a8)

**EBSCOhost CINAHL Tips and Tricks**

* You can change the order of the search queries from bottom to top





* To move references into a reference manager without the bother of putting them into the folder to export, you can have the references emailed to you as an RIS file.





**Lisa Tjosvold**

**Ovid Medline Tips and Tricks**

* + You can run limits on multiple lines of a search strategy by clicking on each line, then choosing the limit.





* + There are a large number of commands that you can use in the Ovid databases e.g. ..dedup to dedup lines of a search OR ..pg 1-7 to delete specific line number of a search strategy. A full list of these commands is available [here](http://resourcecenter.ovid.com/site/help/documentation/ospa/en/Content/syntax.htm).
	+ You can add notes to any line of a search query by putting them in square brackets. Examples:
		- exp Neoplasms/ [this term may be too broad, it might make sense to limit to more specific types of cancer]
		- 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 [this set of results encompasses the search concept quality of life]
	+ Frequency operator tells database that a term must appear at least x number of times in a particular field. Example
		- hope.ab./freq=3 In this query, the term hope must appear in the abstract field a minimum of 3 times.

**Sharna Polard**

**Palliative Care Searching Resource**

* An excellent resource for palliative care search filters is [CARESEARCH](https://www.caresearch.com.au/Caresearch/Default.aspx).
* It includes a number of search filters on a wide variety of topics and a large amount of grey literature (be aware that the site is Australian so much of the grey lit is from Australia).