

OvidSP – A Basic User Guide

COVERAGE

OvidSP gives access to all the main health and medical databases. Each database indexes hundreds of journals and allows for subject searching of journal literature.

All EBM Reviews – allows you to search the seven Evidence Based Medicine Review databases, including Cochrane, simultaneously.

AMED (Allied and Complementary Medicine) (1985 – present) – covers a selection of journals in complementary medicine, palliative care, and several professions allied to medicine.

British Nursing Index and **British Nursing Index Archive** (1985 – present) – covers all aspects of nursing, midwifery, and community healthcare.

EMBASE (1980 – present) – this is a major biomedical and pharmaceutical database

Food Science and Technology Abstracts (1969 – present) – covers food science, food technology, and human nutrition.

Maternity and Infant Care – (1971-) – covers pregnancy, labour, post- and neonatal care

Ovid MEDLINE (1950 – present) – this leading health database covers medicine, nursing, allied health, and biomedicine.

PsycCRITIQUES (1956 – present) – contains full-text reviews of books, popular films, videos, and software relevant to psychology.

PsycINFO (1806 to present) – covers psychological, social, behavioural, and health sciences.

OvidSP also provides access to:

Environmental Science (1973 -) covers all aspects of Environmental Science

Transport – covers transportation research and economic information

World Textiles (1970 -) – covers the textile industry and textile technology

ICONDA (1976 -) – a planning and construction database

ACCESS

OvidSP is accessible on and off-campus with an ATHENS username and password.

- From the University of Ulster library homepage (<http://library.ulster.ac.uk/>) click on **Databases** from the menu displayed on the left hand side.
- Click on **O** from the A-Z List of Titles.
- Scroll down and click on **OvidSP** – you will be asked to enter your **ATHENS** username and password.
- Click on Continue at the OvidSP welcome screen.
- Select the database you wish to search (if you are unsure which database to search click on **I** for more information).

BASIC SEARCHING

This is what the Ovid Basic Search form looks like.

The screenshot shows the Ovid Basic Search interface. At the top, there are navigation links: [Change Database](#) | [Your Journals@Ovid](#) | [All Journals](#) | [Books](#). Below this is a search history bar with a dropdown arrow, the text "Search History (0 searches) (Click to expand)", and buttons for "Remove Duplicates" and "View Saved". The main search area has a header "Search" and "Ovid MEDLINE(R), Ovid MEDLINE(R) Daily Update". Below the header are tabs for "Basic Search", "Find Citation", "Search Tools", "Search Fields", "Advanced Ovid Search", and "Multi-Field Search". The "Basic Search" tab is active. It contains a text input field with a question mark icon and the text "Enter your topic or question in ordinary English." To the right of the input field is a "Search >>" button. Below the input field are two checkboxes: "Check Spelling" (checked) and "Include Related Terms" (unchecked). At the bottom of the search area is a "Limits (Click to expand)" dropdown arrow.

The Search form will remain the same regardless of which database you are searching.

The Basic Search is designed for people who are new to searching. It allows you to enter queries using everyday language and displays your results in order of relevancy.

To perform a basic search, follow these steps:

- Type a subject, phrase, topic, or question e.g. treatments for childhood obesity
- OPTIONAL: Apply a limit(s) e.g. published between 2005 and 2009
- If you tag the box to 'Include Related Terms' OvidSP will search for related words and alternative spellings.
- Click the Search button.

Search Ovid MEDLINE(R), Ovid MEDLINE(R) Daily Update

Basic Search Find Citation Search Tools Search Fields Advanced Ovid Search Multi-Field Search

Enter your topic or question in ordinary English.

Check Spelling Include Related Terms

▼ Limits (Click to close)

Abstracts English Language Full Text
 Review Articles Humans Core Clinical Journals (AIM)
 Latest Update

Publication Year -

VIEWING RESULTS

Each result will look like the one below.

Remember – the databases on OvidSP are not full-text. Therefore your results will be a list of journal citations not the actual articles themselves.

Score: ★★★★★

1. Mathur P. Das MK. Arora NK. Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and childhood obesity. [Review] [32 refs] [Journal Article. Review] *Indian Journal of Pediatrics*. 74(4):401-7, 2007 Apr. UI: 17476088

Authors Full Name
Mathur, Prashant. Das, Manoj K.

[Find Similar](#) | [Find Citing Articles](#)

[Abs](#)
[Complete Reference](#)

Click on UU Find It to check if the article is available full-text or in the library's print journal collection.

Click on view abstract to see a summary of the article.

Score The score indicates how relevant the article is to your search from one to five stars.


View Abstract Click here to see a summary of the article

Click here to check if the article is available full-text.

PRINTING AND SAVING RESULTS

As you look at your list of results, tag any which you think may be useful by ticking the boxes on the left as shown below.

Score: ★★★★★

- 1. Uli N. Sundararajan S. Cuttler L. Treatment of **childhood obesity**. [Review] [94 refs] [Journal Article. Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't. Review] *Current Opinion in Endocrinology, Diabetes & Obesity*. 15(1):37-47, 2008 Feb. UI: 18185061
 - Abstract
 - Complete Reference
 - 

Authors Full Name


Uli, Naveen. Sundararajan, Sumana. Cuttler, Leona.

[View Abstract](#)

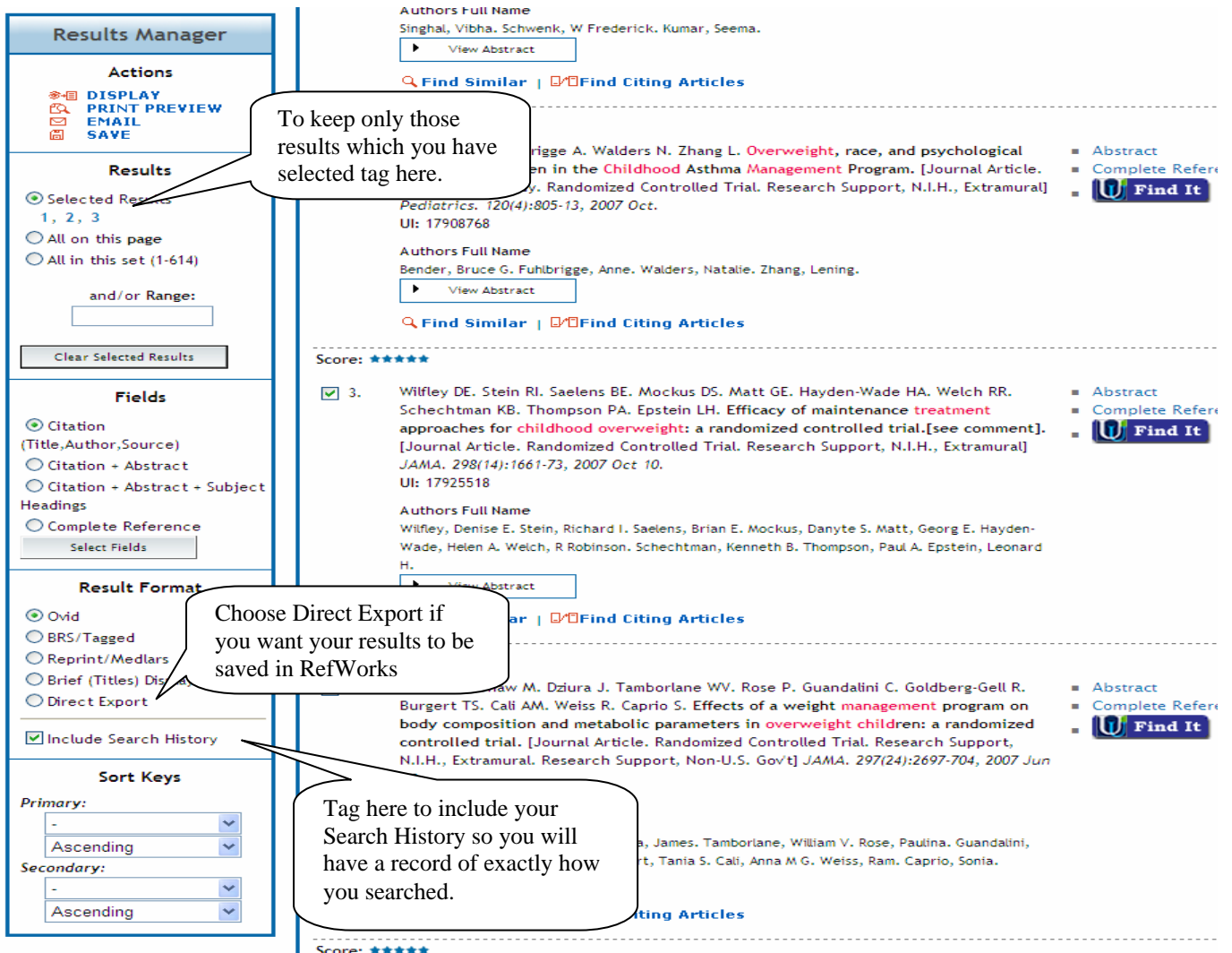
[Find Similar](#)

[Find Citing Articles](#)

Score: ★★★★★

- 2. Mathur P. Das MK. Arora NK. Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and **childhood obesity**. [Review] [32 refs] [Journal Article. Review] *Indian Journal of Pediatrics*. 74(4):401-7, 2007 Apr. UI: 17476088
 - Abstract
 - Complete Reference
 - 

To print, email or save your results use the Results Manager box to the left of the screen.



The screenshot shows a search results page with a sidebar on the left titled "Results Manager". The sidebar contains several sections: "Actions" with icons for Display, Print, Preview, Email, and Save; "Results" with radio buttons for "Selected Results 1, 2, 3", "All on this page", and "All in this set (1-614)", along with an "and/or Range:" field and a "Clear Selected Results" button; "Fields" with radio buttons for "Citation (Title, Author, Source)", "Citation + Abstract", and "Citation + Abstract + Subject Headings", and a "Complete Reference" option with a "Select Fields" button; "Result Format" with radio buttons for "Ovid", "BRS/Tagged", "Reprint/Medlars", "Brief (Titles) Display", and "Direct Export", and a checked "Include Search History" option; and "Sort Keys" with "Primary:" and "Secondary:" dropdown menus, both set to "Ascending".

Callout boxes provide instructions: "To keep only those results which you have selected tag here." points to the "Selected Results" radio button; "Choose Direct Export if you want your results to be saved in RefWorks" points to the "Direct Export" radio button; and "Tag here to include your Search History so you will have a record of exactly how you searched." points to the "Include Search History" checkbox.

The main content area displays search results for three articles, each with a score of ★★★★★ and options for Abstract, Complete Reference, and Find It. The first article is by Uli N. Sundararajan et al. (2008), the second by Mathur P. Das et al. (2007), and the third by Wilfley DE et al. (2007). The sidebar is highlighted with a blue border.

CHANGING DATABASES

If you wish to search on another database, click on Change Database at the top of the screen.

ADVANCED SEARCHING ON OVIDSP

There are more advanced ways to search on OvidSP. If you require more advanced searching techniques please refer to our advanced guide which can be found at <http://library.ulster.ac.uk/electronic/guides/ovidsp2.pdf>.

HELP

OvidSP has an excellent help section which you can access at any time by clicking Help at the top right of the screen.

Do not worry if you are having problems finding information on OvidSP – just contact a member of the Life and Health Sciences subject team who will be happy to help.

EXITING FROM DATABASE

To exit from the database, click on Logoff at the top right of the screen.

Last updated 10th June 2009.