Literature Reviews

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* How does a literature review differ from other database searches?
* How can I conduct a lit review that is comprehensive when I only have x days/weeks?
* How do I keep my search organized?
* What should I search besides PubMed?
* Where can I get more information on conducting a literature review & other research methods?
* How can the library help with all of this?

*Questions we’ll address today*
Steps in Planning and Implementing a Literature Search booklet

* Presentation slides
* Literature Search Workbook (Excel)
* Recommended reading
What is a literature review?
* Get a thorough lay of the land
* More than one perspective on issue?
  Summarize & synthesize them all
* **What do we know?** vs. presenting evidence that supports what you think

  = cast a wide net with your search
  (**sensitivity** vs. **specificity**)

* **Keep in Mind**
* Multiple databases
* Longer search strings
* Synonyms and related terms connected with OR

```plaintext
Search ((("community health workers" OR "community health services" OR "home visits" OR "home care services" OR "in-home" OR "home visiting")) AND ("prenatal care" OR "prenatal education" OR "maternal health services" OR "antenatal care")) AND ("low income" OR "poverty" OR "socioeconomic status"))
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* Scholarly and grey literature

* How do I cast a wide net?
* Is your topic clearly defined?
* Can you explain your literature review in a single sentence?
* Try organizing with PICO (if it helps):
  * Population/Problem
  * Intervention
  * Comparison
  * Outcome

* Before you search
What are the most common barriers and facilitators to breastfeeding among teen mothers in urban communities?
teen mothers
breastfeeding
barriers
facilitators
* PubMed and...

researchguides.uic.edu/publichealth
* EMBASE
* PAIS
* CINAHL

* Choosing databases
* Brainstorm
* Pull from titles, abstracts, articles
* Look for controlled vocabulary (MeSH in PubMed)

* Harvesting search terms
(teen OR teens OR teenage OR teenaged OR teenager OR teenagers OR adolescent OR adolescents OR adolescence) AND breastfeeding AND (barriers OR facilitators OR "health knowledge, attitudes, practice"[mh] OR sociocultural OR culture OR cultural OR "social support" OR education OR "maternal perception") AND "united states"[mh]
* Add to MyNCBI Collections
* Save to RefWorks or another citation manager
* E-mail to yourself directly from database

* Save your results
* Save PubMed search to MyNCBI
* Copy & paste into workbook
* Re-run to retrieve same results
* Carefully logging terms means you can always repeat the search

* Save your search string
* search for articles in databases
  * submit requests through Interlibrary Loan
* look in reference lists/bibliographies of articles for authors writing on the same topic
  * Use Google Scholar (from library website) or E-journals search to locate full text
* use Scopus and Web of Science databases to find newer articles that cited a particular work

* The 3 main ways to find articles
* As you search, keep track of:
  * Databases searched
  * Search terms used
  * Where articles were saved
  * RefWorks/Zotero/EndNote/Mendeley
  * Use the cloud as backup

* Stay organized!
* Literature search workbook on researchguides.uic.edu/phlitreviews
* Or do whatever works for you
  * Evernote
  * Google Docs
  * Ol’ fashioned paper & pencil
... just do something!

* Stay organized!
Grey Literature
Don’t forget about it!
* Emerging research - good if you’re researching a “new topic” (e.g. recent policy like ACA)
* Publication bias in scholarly lit?
* Some primary sources are inherently grey
* Include alternative perspectives

* Reasons to include grey lit in your review
* greylit.org
* ppartners.org (portal to numerous sites)
* PAIS (library database; indexes scholarly & grey)
* when searching Google, include inurl:.gov

**Grey literature resources**

HPV vaccination rates inurl:.gov
* Have you searched all of the major databases relevant to your topic?

* Have you developed a comprehensive search string, using synonyms and avoiding bias?
  * Think creatively!

* Have you checked through the bibliographies of the sources you found?

* How do I know if I’ve found everything?
* Is there one journal in particular that specializes in your topic? Search its TOC

* Have you consulted with a librarian?

* Are you seeing the same author/study names repeated again and again?

**How do I know if I’ve found everything?**
* A search *could* go on forever. There’s always a new publication, another resource to check!

*However...*

*When your search starts to feel repetitive (you’re seeing the same things again and again), you are probably at a stopping point.*

* How do I know if I’ve found everything?
* Expand your search to be as thorough as you can in the time you have
* Cast a wide net - you’ll probably find more irrelevant results than relevant
* Pay attention to citations in both directions
* Take notes so you can retrace your steps
* Think creatively - seek input from others

* Tips for Success
* From library website:
* Databases A-Z → S

* Sage Research Methods contains E-Books, book chapters, articles, and videos on every research method imaginable.

* Go here to educate yourself on lit reviews, qual./quant. methods, data analysis...
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*Ask a Librarian!