Database Comparison & Checklist

See the PT guide ([libguides.lhl.uab.edu/pt](http://libguides.lhl.uab.edu/pt)) for more on each of these databases

**PubMed**

PubMed comprises more than 23 million citations to biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books. It indexes mostly articles, but also some online books and covers the date range 1950s to present. You can access PubMed from the PT guide or the Lister Hill Library homepage. On the homepage, click the "PubMed via LHL" logo in the middle. You'll want to access PubMed through the library website while at UAB to gain access to licensed full-text. **(Note:** Once you graduate, you can access PubMed at www.pubmed.gov.) For more details on PubMed, see our PubMed via LHL guide: [libguides.lhl.uab.edu/PubMed](http://libguides.lhl.uab.edu/PubMed)

Features to look for and practice using:

- Full-text at UAB search filter
- Clipboard
- Email citations/abstracts to yourself
- Search filters (left sidebar on results page)
- Article Linker button to access full text
- View MeSH Terms assigned to article record
- My NCBI account (save searches &/or individual results, set up email alert)
- Advanced Search > Search History
- MeSH ([Medical Subject Headings] Database)

**CINAHL**

CINAHL stands for Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature. In addition to nursing, this database covers allied health topics such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, rehabilitation, health promotion, education, home health, and much more. It indexes more than 3.8 million citations for mostly articles, but also books, dissertations and theses, conference proceedings, and more and covers 1930s-present. You can access CINAHL from the PT guide or the Lister Hill Library website (click the CINAHL tab in the middle). **(After graduation, you can also access CINAHL with your APTA membership through ArticleSearch.)**

- Search limit options
- Folder
- Email citations/abstracts to yourself
- Article Linker button to access full text
- View CINAHL Headings/"Subjects" assigned to article record
- My EBSCOhost account
- Advanced Search
- Search history
- CINAHL Headings look-up
Scopus

Scopus is a multi-disciplinary database of peer-reviewed literature. It includes international sources from the life sciences, social sciences, health sciences, and physical sciences. It indexes mostly peer-reviewed journal articles but also conference papers. You can access Scopus from the PT guide or the Lister Hill Library website (click the Scopus tab in the middle).

Features to look for and practice using:

- My List
- Cited by
- Email citations/abstracts to yourself
- Search filters (left sidebar on results page)
- Location of Article Linker button to access full text
- Search History
- Reference list for an article

Cochrane Library

A collection of databases containing evidence about the effects of interventions on healthcare. The key databases included in the Cochrane Library are:

- **Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews** (CDSR or "Cochrane Reviews")
  Full-text systematic reviews written by Cochrane Review Groups; 2005-present

- **Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects** (DARE or "Other Reviews")
  Abstracts of other systematic reviews that have been quality-assessed; 1990s-present

- **Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials** (CENTRAL or "Clinical Trials")
  1930s-present

The default search setting in Cochrane Library is to search all of these databases (plus a few others) simultaneously. Search results are divided according to which database they came from (see left column of your search results page). This database has an international scope and covers almost all types of healthcare interventions: surgical, pharmaceutical, rehabilitation, psycho-social, alternative and natural treatments, and more.

You can access Cochrane Library from the PT guide or the Databases page on the LHL Web site: [www.uab.edu/lister/databases](http://www.uab.edu/lister/databases). APTA members may access the three Cochrane Library databases listed above via ArticleSearch.
Other PT Databases

PEDro

(Physiotherapy Evidence Database) is a free database provided by the Centre for Evidence-Based Physiotherapy at The George Institute for Global Health, which is affiliated with the University of Sydney. It is international in scope and focuses on physiotherapy-related topics. It includes 18,000+ citations to randomized control trials, systematic reviews, and clinical practice guidelines in physiotherapy. All trials in PEDro are independently assessed and rated for quality. It covers roughly 1930s to present and can be accessed through the PEDro website.

ArticleSearch

ArticleSearch is an APTA members-only resource that provides access to several databases and health care literature from:

- CINAHL Complete (with some full text)
- Cochrane Controlled Trials Register (CENTRAL)
- Cochrane Methodology Register
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (DARE)
- Health Technology Assessments
- NHS Economic Evaluation Database
- ProQuest
- Joanna Briggs Institute

As UAB students, you get access to most of these licensed resources through the Lister Hill Library website, but keep ArticleSearch in mind for after you graduate!

Hooked on Evidence

Note: This database is being phased out and, as of January 17, 2014, is no longer adding new records. Older records will remain accessible. Hooked on Evidence is a database provided by APTA and contains research evidence on the effectiveness of physical therapy interventions. It is available only to APTA members and covers physical therapy related topics and contains roughly 5,500 entries. It indexes studies published in English, peer-reviewed journals that address the effectiveness of a physical therapy intervention. Specifically, it indexes clinical trials, cohort studies, case-control studies, case reports, single-subject experimental designs, and cross-sectional studies. Summaries of key points (“extractions”) from these types of articles are provided. It covers the years 2002 to 2013.

Complete list of Lister Hill Library’s PT-related databases: www.uab.edu/lister/databases?action=category&cID=26