

PubMed Basics

This guide is intended to get you started searching PubMed. For additional help, visit the PubMed Interactive Tutorial: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/pubmed_tutorial/m1001.html
the Searching PubMed section of the NCBI Help Manual:
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/bv.fcgi?rid=helppubmed.section.pubmedhelp.Searching_PubMed
or the **Help** link on the left side of the screen.

To begin, enter your keywords in the search box and click on Go.

The screenshot shows the PubMed homepage. At the top, there are logos for NCBI, PubMed, and the National Library of Medicine (NLM). Below the logos is a navigation bar with tabs for 'All Databases', 'PubMed', 'Nucleotide', 'Protein', 'Genome', 'Structure', 'DMIM', 'PMC', 'Journals', and 'Books'. The search bar is prominently displayed, containing the text 'aluminum AND (alzheimer* OR dementia)'. The 'Go' button is circled in red. Below the search bar are buttons for 'Limits', 'Preview/Index', 'History', 'Clipboard', and 'Details'. A yellow box highlights a 'My NCBI' promotional banner with the text 'Set up an automated PubMed update in less than 5 minutes.' and three steps: (1) Get a My NCBI account, (2) Save your search, and (3) Your PubMed updates can be e-mailed directly to you. The left sidebar contains various links, including 'About Entrez', 'Text Version', 'Entrez PubMed Overview', 'Help/FAQ', 'Tutorial', 'New/Noteworthy', 'E-Utilities', 'PubMed Services', 'Journals Database', 'MeSH Database', 'Single Citation Matcher', 'Batch Citation Matcher', 'Clinical Queries', 'Special Queries', 'LinkOut', and 'My NCBI (Cubby)'. The main content area below the search bar contains a list of search tips.

SEARCHING TIPS:

Topics

- Use **AND** between words that express different ideas, and **OR** between synonyms for the same idea.
- Always put **AND** and **OR** in capital letters.
- Put synonyms joined with **OR** in parentheses. *Example:* (Alzheimer* OR dementia)
- Use * to search for multiple words that begin with the same stem. *Example:* Alzheimer* will search for *Alzheimer* as well as both *Alzheimers* and *Alzheimer's*.

Authors

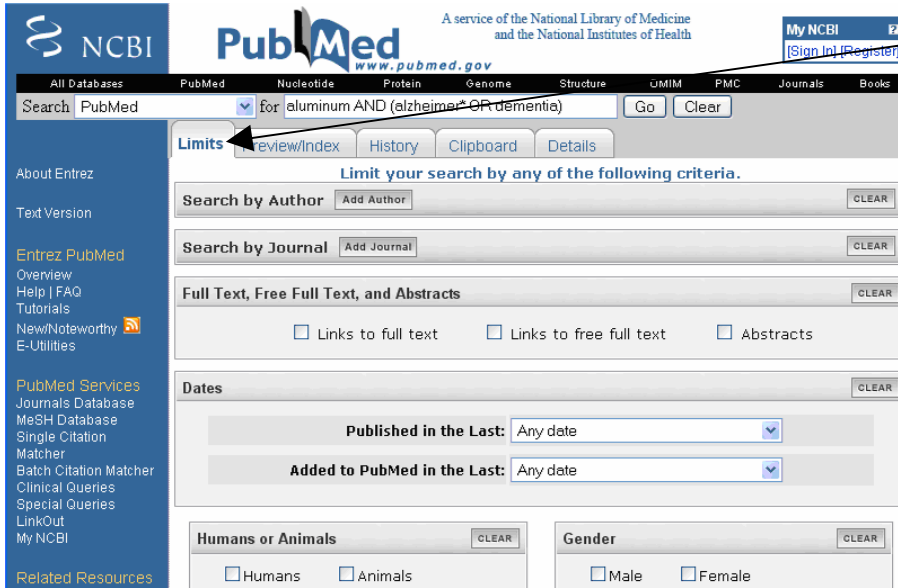
- Enter the author's last name followed by initials. *Example:* jones s

History

- To see past searches, or combine searches by search number, click on the **History** tab.

LIMITS:

You can **limit** your search by **age group, gender, studies on either humans or animals, languages, publication types, dates, and subsets** (such as Toxicology or Bioethics).



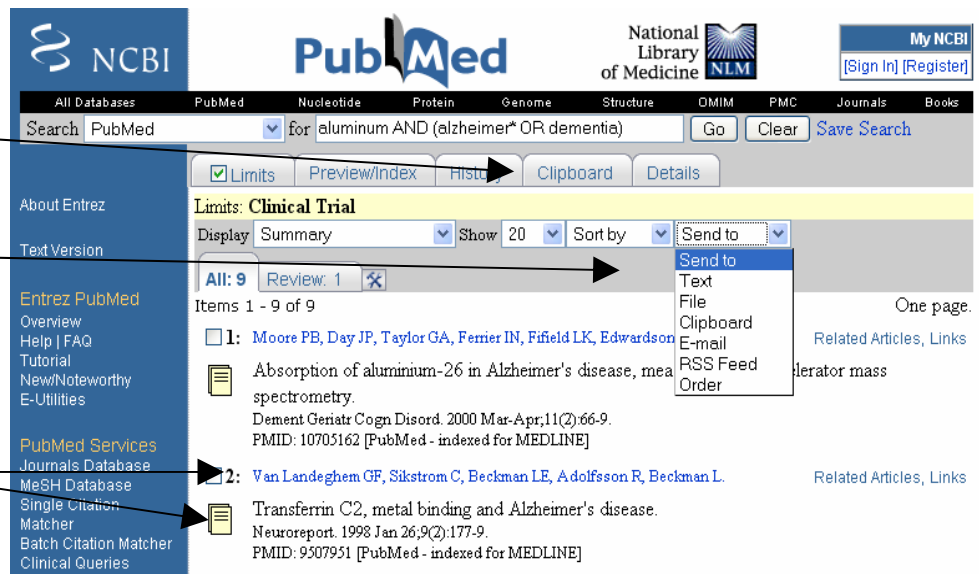
1. Click **Limits** on the Features bar.
2. Choose your **Limits**.
3. If necessary, **make changes to the search terms** in the search box or enter a new search.
4. Click **Go**. Your selected limits will be displayed and highlighted in yellow.

RESULTS:

Use the **Clipboard** to collect citations that interest you.

You can use the **Send To** dropdown box to add or remove citations from the clipboard, display the citations as text, email citations, or send them to an RSS feed.

Click on the **authors' names** or the **icon** to see the abstract and WSU Libraries **Find It!** button.

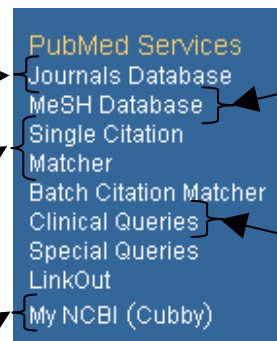


OTHER TOOLS:

The **Journals Database** will help you find the full name of a journal using an abbreviation.

The **Single Citation Matcher** allows you to search for a citation using partial information, such as volume number or number of the first page.

My NCBI (Cubby) allows you to save searches you use frequently.



The **MeSH (Medical Subject Heading) Database** will help you locate and define search terms

Clinical Queries limit your search to articles related to clinical practice, including systematic reviews and meta-analyses.