

# Using Health Reference Center

Doña Ana Branch Community College  
3400 S. Espina, Room 260

Library Media Center  
(505) 527-7555

## What is Health Reference Center - Academic

Health Reference Center - Academic is a database which includes information on: Fitness, Pregnancy, Medicine, Nutrition, Diseases, Public Health, Occupational Health & Safety, Alcohol and Drug Abuse, HMOs, Prescription Drugs, and much more. Information is available in various formats: magazine or journal articles, reference book excerpts, dictionary definitions, or pamphlets.

## How to Search in Health Reference Center

1. Select the type of Search (See Below for Details) from the left frame.
2. Click in the entry box and type in your search terms. (You are able to enter more than one word by using the term AND).
3. Click on Search.
4. View your results.

## Types of Searching in Health Reference Center

INFOTRAC

■ Help - Search

■ Relevance search

■ Keyword search

■ Advanced search

■ Start over

Back to ...

■ Library

Dona Ana Branch Comm Coll Library  
Health Reference Center-Academic

Subject guide search

Click in the entry box and enter search term(s)

Search

Browse listing of subjects, people, products, locations and organizations that contain words you entered

Limit the current search (optional)

to articles with text

to academic publications

to refereed publications

to professional publications

to general publications

by date \_\_\_\_\_

to the following journa(s) \_\_\_\_\_

The left side of the screen (the blue frame) includes several different options for searching. Select the type of search that will work best for the research you are doing.

### Subject Guide Search

Find articles by topic. A Subject Search is where you must match one or more indexed entries assigned by the database. With your results, you will see a list of formats (periodicals, pamphlets, overviews, etc...) in which the word or words you typed occur, as well as the number of references indexed under each topic.

- It's usually best to search for only one or two words.
- In a subject search, the word AND is ignored (so it is unnecessary to type it in!).

### Relevance Search

Find articles by matching words in titles, citations, and abstracts, or in the entire text. The result list starts with the best matches according to how and where the words occur in articles.

### Keyword Search

Find articles by matching words in titles, citations, and abstracts, or in the entire text. The result list runs from newest to oldest. You are not able to choose a specific format (periodicals, pamphlets, overviews, etc...) as you do when using the Subject Search.

- Using AND matches your two words somewhere in the same article (For Example: diabetes and elderly).
- In a keyword search, your words are searched within two words of each other in either direction (to allow for variations).

### Advanced Search

Find articles by using any of several indexes, alone or in combination. Use the Advanced Search to limit by date, publication, or author's name.

## Helpful Tips!

- It's usually best to search for only one or two words. If you enter more than one word, enter the most important word first.
- Use an asterisk (\*) for truncation. For example, type in cancer\* and you will be searching for cancer, cancerous, cancers, etc ...
- Clicking on **View** allows the article to appear on the screen (if available). Scroll down to the bottom of the article to email the article to your email account.
- The **History** section at the bottom of the main search page, displays a history of your search result sets. This allows you to go back to a prior search or edit/limit a prior search.
- Use the **Dictionary** capability in the Keyword Search to look up medical terms for pronunciation, etymology, and definitions.