

## ICL Search Tips

Please read the search tips below to maximize your use of ICL. The pages in [ICL's Help](#) section will provide further assistance in searching ICL and in literature searching in general. If you don't find the answers you need, send us a message through our [Contact Us](#) form. Download a [PDF version](#) of the search tips.

*New in 2016:* Users now have the option of automatically generating Vancouver style citations; see [Download options](#) below.

*Updated March 6, 2016.*

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### ~ My ICL ~

[Register an account](#) in *My ICL* in order to save search histories (*My Searches*) and collections of records (*My Collections*).

\* **Save ICL records:** Select citations from *Search Results* or from *Hold Citations*; click *Send to My Collections*.

\* **Save search histories:** In the *Search History* tab, select search statements; click *Send to My Searches*.

\* **Set up e-mailed alerts:** When you save a search you are prompted to set up alerts that match your searches; you can even choose the day and frequency of e-mailed alerts.

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### ~ Simple Search ~

\* On smartphones, ICL works best in landscape mode!

\* Type words in the search box to do a Google-type search. The Boolean operator AND automatically connects the terms. *Example:* the search *neck pain Côté* retrieves articles on neck pain by author Côté.

\* Use quotation marks to retrieve phrases. *Examples:* "low back pain", "future of chiropractic"

\* Use an asterisk (wildcard) to retrieve all forms of a word (also called truncation). *Example:* chiropract\* retrieves chiropractic, chiropractor, chiropractors

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### ~ Advanced Search ~

\* Type words or phrases in the default *All Fields*, or limit your search to specific fields, using the pull-down menus beside the search boxes. Combine terms in the search boxes using the Boolean operators AND, OR or NOT.

\* **Author searches:** Click on a specific name in the *Author Index* to place it in a search box, or enter author last name in the pull-down *Author* field.

\* **Subject searches:** Click on terms in the *Subject Index* to place them in the search boxes, or enter a subject word or phrase (“in quotation marks”) in the pull-down *Subject Keyword* field. A word or phrase entered in the *Subject Keyword* field retrieves all *Subject Headings* containing that word or phrase.

You may also search for subject headings and their definitions in ICL’s thesaurus, [Chiropractic Subject Headings \(ChiroSH\)](#).

\* **Limiters:** Limit searches by journal, year of publication, peer review or publication type. Limit before searching.

*Note:* Non peer reviewed citations include book reviews, letters, and most editorials.

\* **Search histories:** ICL automatically creates a search history. Click the *Search History* tab, check relevant search statements, then combine them using AND, OR, or NOT from the pull-down menu. To save your search history, click on the *Search History* tab, select the search statements, and click *Send to My Searches*.

\* **Managing search results:** To collect citations during a search session, check the ones you want to keep from your search results, then click *Hold Citations*. Click the tab *Held Citations* to view your collection. You may then *Display Abstracts*, *List*, *Print*, *Download* or *E-mail* all or part of your collection. You may also send your collection to *My Collections* in *My ICL* and save it permanently.

\* **Download options:** Click *Text (Citation)* to generate Vancouver style citations into a text document. Click *Tagged (Export)* to send records to bibliographic software such as EndNote or Reference Manager. Click *Excel* to send records to an Excel document.

\* **Web Links and Abstracts:** Links to journal articles (sometimes full text) or PubMed records are provided where available. ICL includes abstracts where available, with the permission of the journal publishers. Please report broken links to the [ICL Editors](#).