

Guide to using CINAHL Headings (can be used for PsycINFO Thesaurus also)



Getting Started

From the Library homepage [www.library.dcu.ie] -> **Subject Portals** -> **Nursing** -> **list of databases** and then choose **CINAHL** or **PsycINFO**.

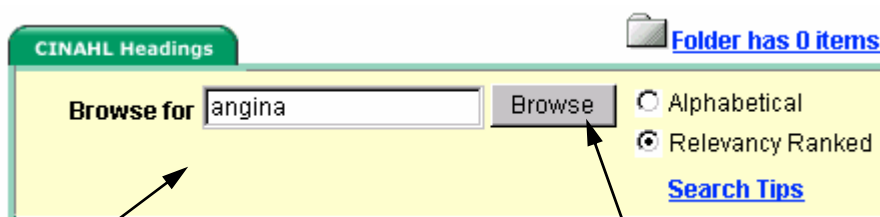
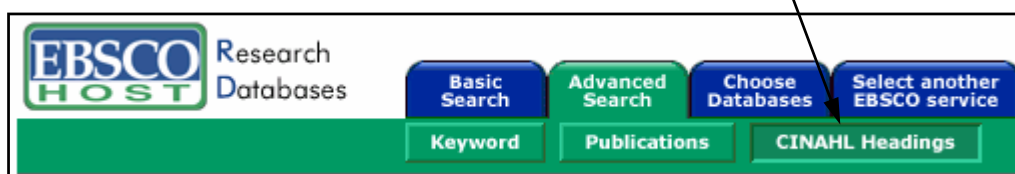
Searching—Keyword or Thesaurus?

Even though these databases have thesauri of controlled terminology, they can still be searched using your own Keywords- [enter terms in search box and link synonymous terms with *OR* {anorexia *or* bulimia *or* eating disorder}] Many people begin searching in this way. However, to get the most of the databases it is important to use the Thesaurus / CINAHL Headings

Using CINAHL Headings/ PsycINFO Thesaurus

You can choose to do a Basic, Advanced or Publications search. The default is Advanced search. It also has the added benefit of a controlled vocabulary thesaurus [**CINAHL Headings/ PsycINFO Thesaurus**] which allows you to check whether you are using the correct terminology in your search and hence make the most of the database.

[1] Click 'CINAHL Headings'. This will take you to the box below.



[2] Enter search term you want to check in the

[3] Click 'browse'

Choosing a heading to search

Find: Search

CINAHL Headings Folder has 0 items.

Browse for Browse

Select heading, then add to search using: or Add

(Click term to display details.)

	Explode	Major Concept
<input type="checkbox"/> Angina, Unstable		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ludwig's Angina		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Angina Pectoris	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Chest Pain		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Nitroglycerin		<input type="checkbox"/>

Click to select a heading and then click 'Add' to add to your search.

Click to return only documents where this heading is a major concept.

Click hyperlinks for more information on a subject heading or to qualify under a subheading.

Click to search this heading as well as any narrower headings associated with this one. Explode is available only for headings which have narrower headings.

This screen shot shows the resultant list when we browse the CINAHL Headings for the term 'angina'. At this point you can choose to search the database using one of the terms (e.g. Angina Pectoris) by clicking on the box beside it and then clicking 'add'. This will enter the term into the Find box. Next click 'search' to search on that term.

Term added to search. Click 'search' to

Find: Search

If you want to find out more about a particular term or want to qualify the term under a subheading before searching then click the hyperlinked heading to bring you on to the next screen.

CINAHL subject heading terms are arranged in a hierarchy that permits searching at various levels of detail from general to specific to find the most precise terms. The headings can be *exploded* to retrieve all references indexed to that term as well as all references indexed to any narrower term(s), or you can focus your search by retrieving only documents where the term is a *major concept*.

Use 'explode' to search for 'Angina Pectoris' along with any narrower terms. Use 'Major Concept' to retrieve only documents where this heading is the central focus.

Construct your search with a number of terms by using Boolean Operators to link them in an appropriate way.

Angina Pectoris Select heading, then add to search using:

Tree Views

- [Cardiovascular Diseases +](#)
- [Heart Diseases +](#)
- [Coronary Disease +](#)
- Angina Pectoris +**
- [Angina, Unstable](#)
- [Coronary Thrombosis](#)
- [Coronary Vasospasm](#)
- [Myocardial Infarction +](#)
- [Myocardial Ischemia](#)

On Search:

- Explode
- Major Concept

Qualify Subheadings:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blood | <input type="checkbox"/> Mortality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chemically Induced | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classification | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complications | <input type="checkbox"/> Pathology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diet Therapy | <input type="checkbox"/> Prevention And Control |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosis | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychosocial Factors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Therapy | <input type="checkbox"/> Physiopathology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Prognosis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Radiography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnology | <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Factors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethical Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Rehabilitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embryology | <input type="checkbox"/> Radiotherapy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Epidemiology | <input type="checkbox"/> Symptoms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Etiology | <input type="checkbox"/> Surgery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Familial And Genetic | <input type="checkbox"/> Trends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History | <input type="checkbox"/> Therapy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immunology | <input type="checkbox"/> Transmission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation And Jurisprudence | <input type="checkbox"/> Urine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Metabolism | <input type="checkbox"/> Ultrasonography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Microbiology | |

See where your term fits in the hierarchy of broader and narrower terms.

Choose a subheading to refine your search. You may choose more than one subheading at a time. Click on a subheading to find out more about it. You may not always get results from a particular subheading.

The Scope note gives information on what is meant and what is not meant by a term. Some terms may also have History Notes.

Scope:

The symptom of acute chest pain resulting from myocardial ischemia. The pain is usually distinctive in nature, location, and radiation and may be brought on by emotional stress or physical activity.

Once you have constructed your search using whichever subject headings and subheadings you choose, click on 'Search' to conduct the search. You will get a results list from where you can review, print, email, or save to disk the documents that you find the most useful. For information on these basic functions please refer to the database guide for the Nursing & Allied Health Collection.

TIP: Use 'Search History' to revise a search (e.g. add extra limiters such as year of publication, publication type etc), combine a number of searches to make a very precise search, or save your search into a personal account ("MyEbscoHost") so that you can be alerted by email when new results matching your criteria are added to the database.