
Limit n to x

Limits set n by command line limit x. Consult the field guides for available command line limits (e.g. [limit 2 to abstracts](#)).

..pg x

Deletes search statement x from the Search History (e.g. [..pg 4](#)).

..pg x,x,x-x

Deletes multiple search sets and/or a range of search sets (e.g. [..pg 2,5,7-9](#)).

..pg all

Deletes all search statements.

..ps

Displays your complete search strategy during the current session. If desired, use the browser's print function once strategy is displayed.

..c/x or use x

Change to database x. Consult the field guides for code names (e.g. [..c/nursing](#) or [use nursing](#)). Can use to open up more than one database (eg [..c/nursing,mesz](#) or [use nursing,mesz](#)).

..e x

Executes temporary or permanent saved search strategy x (e.g. [..e searchname](#)).

..dedup x

When searching multiple databases, removes duplicate bibliographic records indexed in multiple databases (e.g. [..dedup 3](#)).

..sv x

Saves search strategy temporarily (default is 24 hours) with name x (e.g. [..sv searchname](#)).

..sv ps(x)

Saves search strategy permanently with name x (e.g. [..sv ps\(searchname\)](#)).

..o

Ends search session and returns to the Login Page or designated logoff url.

Field Qualification

Individual fields can be searched directly, using the appropriate field identifier, set off with either periods or parentheses, (e.g. [diazepam.ti](#). or [diazepam\(ti\)](#)). Note: In Books@Ovid only periods not parentheses are used to set off field identifiers. Select the Search Fields icon for a complete list of searchable fields.

Tip: Use the field qualifier, [.so.](#), to search any element in the source field.

Truncation and Wild Cards – Statements Can be Field Qualified

At least two characters must precede any truncation or wild card symbol.

- Use **\$** or **:** to retrieve unlimited suffix variations (e.g. [computer\\$.ti.](#)).
- Use **\$n** or **:n** to restrict retrieval to indicated number of characters (e.g. [computer\\$3.ti.](#) retrieves [computer](#) or [computers](#) or [computerize](#), but not [computerization](#)).
- Use **#** to replace exactly one character (e.g. [wom#n.ti.](#)).
- Use **?** to replace 0 or 1 character (e.g. [labo?r.ti.](#)).

Boolean and Positional Operators or Combining Terms

- [pregnancy tests.tw.](#) – adjacency is assumed.
- [1 or 2](#) - combines all documents from search sets 1, 2.
- [\(pregnancy or birth\).ti.](#) – either term appears in the title.
- [\(pregnancy and birth\).ti.](#) – both terms appear in the title.
- [\(pregnancy not birth\).ti.](#) – includes 1st term, but excludes 2nd in the title.
- [\(information adjn retrieval\).tw.](#) – retrieves phrases in which “information” and “retrieval” are within n words of each other in either direction (stop words are excluded).
- [dolphins.ab./freq=x](#) – retrieves documents that have dolphins in the abstract at least x times.
- [\(information adjn retrieval\).yy./freq=x](#) – retrieves documents in which information and retrieval are within n words of each other, in either direction, occurring in a designated field, a minimum of x times.

Using Subject Headings (for databases with a thesaurus)

- **eye/** Search Subject Heading directly (bypass mapping).
 - **eye/de** or **eye/de,pa** Search indicated Subheading(s).
 - **exp eye** Explode a subject heading.
 - ***eye** Restrict to Focus, i.e. major emphasis of article(s).
 - **ptx eye** View the Permuted subject heading index.
 - **tree eye** or **thes eye** View a term in the subject heading Tree or Thesaurus.
 - **scope eye** Display Scope note for the subject heading.
 - **sh eye** Display available Subheadings for the subject heading.
-

Post Qualification

| ENTER | OVID DISPLAYS |
|-------|---------------|
|-------|---------------|

Post Qualifying Index Searches

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| liver.ti.ab. | 1. liver.ti.ab. |
| 1.ti. | 2. liver.ti. |
| (liver or lung).ti.ab. | 3. (liver or lung).ti.ab. |
| 3.ti. | 4. (liver or lung).ti. |

Adjacency in Post Qualification Statements

| | |
|------------|---------------------------|
| heart.ti. | 1. heart.ti |
| attack.ti. | 2. attack.ti. |
| 1 adj 2 | 3. (heart adj attack).ti. |

Post Qualifying Search Statements Containing Operators

| | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| dogs.ab. | 1. dogs.ab. |
| cats.ab. | 2. cats.ab. |
| 1 or 2 | 3. 1 or 2 |
| 3.ti. | 4. (dogs or cats).ti. |

Post Qualifying with Subheadings

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| myocardial infarction/ | 1. myocardial infarction/ |
| 1/et,dt | 2. myocardial infarction/et,dt |

Searching Indexes Containing Numbers

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| science.jn. | 1. science.jn. |
| "1".pg. | 2. "1".pg. |

Note: If the desired number exists as a search set you must use quotes (e.g. "1".pg.); otherwise, Ovid will post qualify that set to the field indicated. (e.g. science.pg.).

Searching Indexes Containing Stop Words, Commands or Subject Headings Containing Boolean Operators

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| bone and bones | 1. (bone and bones).mp. |
| "bone and bones" | Mapping Page |
| "bone and bones"/ | 2. "bone and bones"/ |
| root canal | Index Display Page |
| "root canal" | Mapping Page |



Command Line Syntax

Use the command line to bypass the buttons and save time. Characters (period, comma, etc.) must be entered in their correct order. Consult the database field guides for specific commands (http://www.ovid.com/site/products/ovidguide/OVIDguides_alpha.jsp) or click the Help button for more information.

Note: In the Books@Ovid database, enter the command from the keyword search box not from the default Natural Language search box.

x.yy.

Searches for a word or phrase x in field yy. Search multiple fields, separated by a comma (e.g. [transplantation.ti.](#)).

x.yy. /freq=#

Searches for word or phrase in field yy (usually the abstract .ab. or fulltext .tx. field), with the frequency of #, number of times or greater (e.g. [spine.ab./freq=5](#)).

x adj# x.yy.

Searches left to right or right to left for adjacent terms, within #, number of words, excluding stop words, in a specified field (e.g. [blood adj5 pressure.ti.](#)).

root x.yy.

Displays alphabetic position x in index for field yy (e.g. [root food.ti.](#)).

root x.yy,zz.

Displays alphabetic position x in combined indexes for fields yy and zz (e.g. [root food.ti.ab.](#)).

..L/n yr=x (note: "L" can be lower case)

Limits set n to publication year x, where x is a 4-digit year or hyphenated 4-digit year range (e.g. [..l/3 yr=2001-2002](#)).