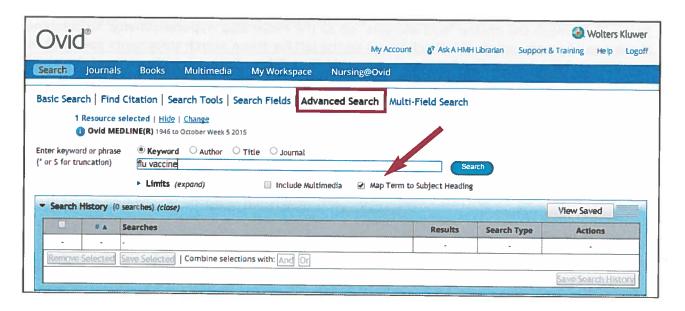
## From the **Health Science Library**

## Getting to Know OvidSP: How to Use MeSH in MEDLINE to Retrieve Highly Relevant Journal Articles

Medical Subject Headings, or MeSH, are the controlled vocabulary terms (think "tags") that subject experts apply when indexing articles in the Ovid MEDLINE database. What are the advantages of using MeSH? MeSH helps find articles directly related to your topic while weeding out those that may use the same keywords but are irrelevant (think 20356 Google results!). It can also bring up articles that may be missed by searching solely with keywords. For example, searching for articles on the "flu" may miss those articles that only refer to the infection as "influenza". Similarly, MeSH helps your search strategy distinguish between articles about the influenza infection in humans with those about the virus itself (i.e., Influenza A, etc.)

How does one construct a search that takes advantage of MeSH in Ovid MEDLINE? Let's suppose you want to find articles on *the problems with giving flu vaccines to people with egg allergies*. This query has two main concepts that need to be present in relevant articles: 1) flu vaccines and 2) egg allergies.

To get started, select the [Advanced Search] tab in Ovid MEDLINE. Make sure the Map Term to Subject Heading checkbox is selected. Type the first concept of your topic flu vaccine into the search box.

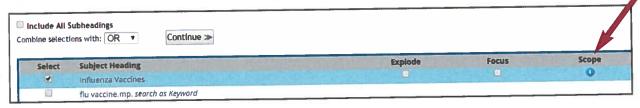


Ovid automatically maps your keyword phrase (e.g. flu vaccine) onto the MeSH (e.g. influenza vaccines) that may be appropriate for your topic (see screenshot below). If more than one MeSH term is presented, click on the **Scope** note icon to determine the best MeSH to select and click [Continue].

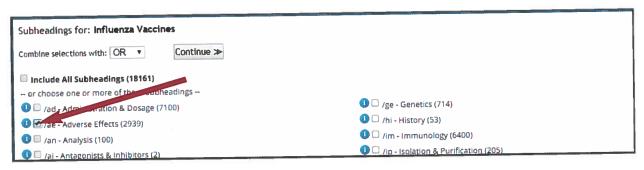
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# medical staff newsletter

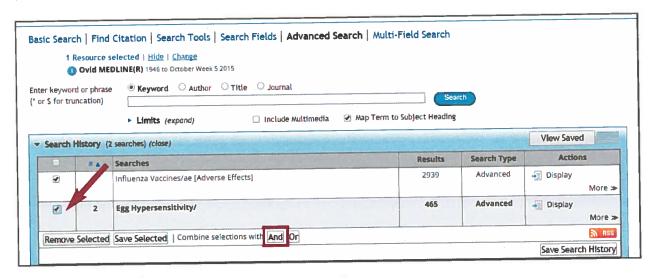
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The next step is to select any relevant **Subheadings** to help further refine the search. In this case, we are looking for problems related to the flu vaccine so we might want to choose **Adverse Effects** as a Subheading so that Ovid will find articles that only include the MeSH **Influenza Vaccines** paired with **/ae [Adverse Effects]**. If you don't want to narrow to specific subheading(s), just click [Continue] without selecting (or select the **Include All Subheadings** checkbox at the top).



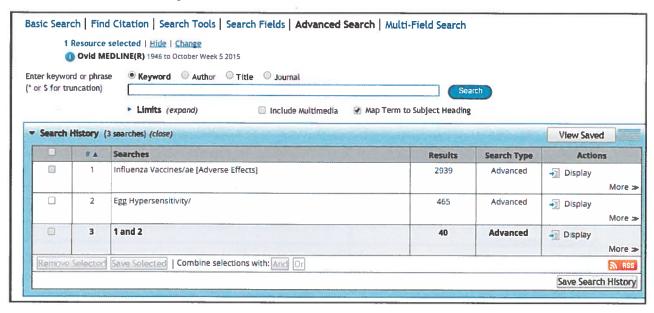
Repeat the same steps for the other main concept(s) of your topic. As you see in the screenshot below, Ovid maps the phrase "egg allergies" on to the MeSH **Egg Hypersensitivity**. To combine these two concepts, select the check boxes on the left for those search statements you want to combine and then select the Boolean operator **AND** or **OR**. In this case, both concepts must be present in the article so we choose AND.



Voila! You have found a list of highly relevant articles on the adverse effects of the flu vaccine for people with egg allergies.

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Now try it out for yourself and let us know how it goes! Stay tuned for next month's MSN article discussing what would have happened if we had done this search without using MeSH.

For information on how to access Ovid/Library Resources from off-site, visit http://huntingtonhospital.libguides.com/physicianoffsiteaccess or contact the library (397-5161, library@huntingtonhospital.com) for individual username & password access.

### **Culture of Patient Safety with the WHO Checklist**

While anesthesia took the mantle to initiate the new Huntington version of the WHO Checklist, many people have been instrumental in the initial rollout. The OR, Labor and Delivery and the Cath Lab Suite have already made great progress, and soon the new process will be hospital wide. Audit results show increased compliance compared to our prior process, but there is still work to be done. The "Sign In" and "Sign Out" are new to everyone's workflow, and new OR leadership will be instrumental in ensuring the program's success It's all about promoting an overall culture of safety and teamwork. Our specialty uniquely understands the concept of "alarm fatigue." We don't want to create extra work for work's sake, but we want to take practical steps that will make a difference in patients' lives. At the 2015 Euroanaesthesia conference in Berlin, research was presented showing Surgical Checklists decrease overall mortality by 21% worldwide and post operative complications decreased by 30%. The impact is certainly greater in poorer countries, but still meaningful in all. Skepticism is not just normal, but how we, as physicians, are trained to think. The data is starting to show, though, that one simple and inexpensive common sense intervention can have a large impact on patient safety.

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