

# **EBM Thread 2010: How to Find the Evidence**



**Eli Bastin / Owen Coxall / Tatjana Petrinic  
Bodleian Health Care Libraries**

# Session Objectives

- Build your search strategy
- Search PubMed
- Apply PubMed Clinical Queries
- Cochrane Library & Oxlip+
- Access outside Oxford

# Formulate your question

**P**atient, **P**opulation *or* **P**roblem

**I**ntervention

**C**omparison / **C**ontrol

**O**utcome

# Scenario

A GP with a special interest in **smoking cessation** wants to encourage his practice to engage with **teenagers** to stop them smoking. In order to persuade his colleagues he wants to see what evidence is available, particularly on the effectiveness of **brief intervention techniques**.

# Question

Can **brief intervention** be used as an effective **smoking cessation** technique with **teenagers**?

# Choose your search terms

**P**

Teenagers  
Adolescents  
Young people

**I**

Brief  
intervention  
Brief advice  
Brief  
counselling  
Minimal  
advice

**O**

Smoking  
cessation  
Stop smoking  
Quit smoking

# Search tips

**OR** - combine words where you want either or any of them to appear in an article  
e.g. teenagers **or** adolescents

**AND** - combine words where you want both or all to appear in an article  
e.g. teenagers **and** smoking

For spelling variations use \*

E.g. *adolescen\** will search for *adolescent*, *adolescents* or *adolescence*

# Build you search strategy

<b>P</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>O</b>
Teenage* <b>or</b> Adolescen* <b>or</b> Young people	Brief intervention* <b>or</b> Brief advice <b>or</b> Brief counsel*	Smoking cessation <b>or</b> Stop* smoking <b>or</b> Quit* smoking
<b>AND</b>		<b>AND</b>



# Search Pubmed

- Large database of biomedical journals
- Search using free text, MeSH & limits
- Clinical queries
- Free access – <http://www.pubmed.gov>
- Go through PubMed with Oxford links  
<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/medicine>

# Search the Cochrane Library

- International Cochrane Collaboration  
>90 countries  
*effects* of interventions
- Includes:  
Full-text Systematic Reviews  
Abstracts to further SRs and RCTs
- Available at:  
<http://www.thecochranelibrary.com>

# Search Oxlip+

- Access to a range of other databases including:
  - Embase
  - PsycInfo
  - Scopus
  - Sciverse
- <http://oxlip-plus.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>

# Access outside Oxford

Get access to electronic journals and databases outside Oxford network:

Single Sign On through Oxlip+

More information:

- [http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/eresources/remote\\_access](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/eresources/remote_access)