

NURS 360, Spring 2017: SAMPLE Literature Search History Grading Rubric

Below is a sample of grading rubric that could be used to grade literature searches. This rubric is being distributed to help students evaluate and modify their searches in order to find the information needed for clinical decisions, course assignments, etc.

Category	20 Points	16 Points	12 Points	8 Points	4 Points
Acquiring the literature	Uses five search techniques to find articles on the assigned topic. Search techniques are listed below.	Uses four search techniques to find articles on the assigned topic. Search techniques are listed below.	Uses three search techniques to find articles on the assigned topic. Search techniques are listed below.	Uses two search techniques to find articles on the assigned topic. Search techniques are listed below.	Uses one search technique to find articles on the assigned topic. Search techniques are listed below.

Search Techniques

- Uses keywords and synonyms to represent concepts for the assigned topic
- Combines search terms with AND/OR (see http://bit.ly/uhm_boolean).
- Enters multiple search statements to refine results by narrowing or broadening based on the results of the previous searches
- Uses limits appropriately: publication dates, language, publication type, etc. (see <http://bit.ly/19kDkRu>)
- Uses subject headings (i.e., Medical Subject Headings) (see http://bit.ly/uhmllib_mesh)

Sample PubMed Search: 20 Points

Search	Query	Items found	Note
#19	Search (("Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2"[Mesh]) AND "Obesity"[Mesh]) AND "Exercise"[Mesh] Filters: published in the last 5 years; English	211	<i>Applies an additional limit to filter the results of the previous set (#18) to those articles published in English.</i>
#18	Search (("Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2"[Mesh]) AND "Obesity"[Mesh]) AND "Exercise"[Mesh] Filters: published in the last 5 years	224	<i>Applies a limit to filter the results of the previous set (#17) to those articles published over the last 5 years.</i>
#17	Search (("Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2"[Mesh]) AND "Obesity"[Mesh]) AND "Exercise"[Mesh]	820	<i>Combines the sets representing the three subject headings for the concepts of this topic.</i>
#16	Search "Exercise"[Mesh]	145950	<i>#13, #15, and #16 are three separate searches for subject headings related to the three concepts of this sample search.</i>
#15	Search "Obesity"[Mesh]	167030	
#13	Search "Diabetes Mellitus, Type 2"[Mesh]	102221	

#5	Search type 2 diabetes AND obesity AND exercise Filters: published in the last 5 years; English	905	<i>Applies an additional limit to filter the results of the previous set (#4) to those articles published in English.</i>
#4	Search type 2 diabetes AND obesity AND exercise Filters: published in the last 5 years	942	<i>Applies a limit to filter the results of the previous set (#3) to those articles published over the last 5 years.</i>
#3	Search type 2 diabetes AND obesity AND exercise	2590	<i>Adds a third concept to the search to get fewer results.</i>
#2	Search type 2 diabetes AND obesity	27760	<i>Uses a more specific synonym term in place of the more general keyword "diabetes."</i>
#1	Search diabetes AND obesity	71267	

Sample PubMed Search: 16 Points

Search	Query	Items found	Note
#5	Search type 2 diabetes AND obesity AND exercise Filters: published in the last 5 years; English	905	<i>Applies an additional limit to filter the results of the previous set (#4) to those articles published in English.</i>
#4	Search type 2 diabetes AND obesity AND exercise Filters: published in the last 5 years	942	<i>Applies a limit to filter the results of the previous set (#3) to those articles published over the last 5 years.</i>
#3	Search type 2 diabetes AND obesity AND exercise	2590	<i>Adds a third concept to the search to get fewer results.</i>
#2	Search type 2 diabetes AND obesity	27760	<i>Uses a more specific synonym term in place of the more general keyword "diabetes."</i>
#1	Search diabetes AND obesity	71267	

Sample PubMed Search: 8 Points

Search	Query	Items found	Note
#1	Search diabetes AND obesity	71267	<i>A single search combining keywords with AND.</i>