Evaluating information

- **Author and publisher:**
  - Who is the author/creator or publisher?
  - What is their authority?
  - What is their bias and purpose in writing or presenting this information?
  - Is the content based on opinion or fact?
  - Is it a balanced treatment of the topic?

- **Coverage or scope:**
  - Is it appropriate for my purpose?
  - Is the information at the appropriate level and depth?
  - Have I found various sides of the story?
    - E.g. for and against in a controversial issue, or
    - some statistics as well as a personal account, or
    - information from a government department as well as from an Advocacy group.

- **Currency:**
  - How recent is the information?
  - Is the date of the information important to your topic?

- **Accuracy:**
  - Can the information be verified from other sources?
  - Is there a bibliography or reference list?

Library search techniques

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Used to</th>
<th>Ways this might be expressed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keywords</td>
<td>Computer simply searches for a string of letters.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Think about alternative words e.g. spine, lumbar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Think about broader and narrower terms e.g. massage, shiatsu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Some words will work better in different tools.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truncation</td>
<td>To search for different endings (e.g. autism* will find autistic and autism)</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td>To narrow a search so that two or more words must appear in your results (anywhere, in any order)</td>
<td>AND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ (i.e. the ‘plus’ sign)</td>
<td>‘With all of the words’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>To widen a search to include alternative words in your results (in any order)</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With any of the words</td>
<td>Without the words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- (i.e. the ‘minus’ sign)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Library search techniques continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phrase search</th>
<th>To narrow your search to results that include your words in a specified order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limits</td>
<td>To limit your results by various options, for example: Domain name (in Google) Full text articles (in journal indexes) Peer reviewed articles (in journal indexes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“soft tissue manipulation” (using quote marks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With the exact phrase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In the catalogue use single quote marks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Main sources of Information

1. Books
2. Journals, magazines, newspapers
3. Websites

What other information sources can you think of?

Books and Journals in the library

Location numbers for resources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anatomy and physiology</th>
<th>610-612</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese medicine</td>
<td>610.951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aromatherapy</td>
<td>615.321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massage therapy generally</td>
<td>615.822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shiatsu</td>
<td>615.8222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acupuncture Acupoints</td>
<td>615.892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathology (generally &amp; for massage)</td>
<td>616.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuromuscular techniques</td>
<td>616.706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopedic massage</td>
<td>616.70622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger points</td>
<td>616.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports medicine</td>
<td>617.1027</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Library subscribes to massage therapy magazines:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In Good Hands</th>
<th>P615.8205/INGO</th>
<th>2008, 2010+ (also online)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journal of Bodywork &amp; Movement Therapies</td>
<td>P615.8205/JOUR</td>
<td>Indefinitely from 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massage Australia</td>
<td>P615.82205/MASS</td>
<td>Indefinitely from 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massage Magazine</td>
<td>P615.82205/MASS</td>
<td>Indefinitely from 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massage Therapy Journal now MTJ</td>
<td>P615.8205/MASS</td>
<td>Indefinitely from 2003 Started</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of Aust Association of Massage Therapists</td>
<td>P615.8205/JOUR</td>
<td>Summer 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Searching the Catalogue  Go to the catalogue from Blue Mountains College Library web page

wsi.tafensw.edu.au/library-services/bluemountains

Click on ‘Catalogue’ (found in the middle of the web page)

You can limit results by location:

Different words and different endings will bring up different results
- Brainstorm  - alternative words [e.g. indigenous, aboriginal,]
- broader and narrower terms [autism, aspergers, ADHD]
- Different words will yield better results in different tools.
- The catalogue will allow you to truncate to find different endings e.g. autis$ finds autism and autistic
- Use ‘subject headings’ to find alternative words e.g. back pain  backache
- In ‘Power search’ you can limit by format and year, and use different ways of sorting results

Use the Library eResources to find journal & newspaper articles
Select an eResource

Or open the Massage Therapy Subject Guide or the Shiatsu Subject Guide and go from there.

PASSWORD: Use your TAFE username & password

Relevant eResources include: (see the libguide for massage for others)

ProQuest For medical journals select the ‘Health and Medicine’ subject area.
To search only ‘Joanna Briggs Institute systematic reviews, go to advanced search and in ‘Source type’ choose only ‘Evidenced-based medical resources.’

Cinahl Indexes nursing & allied health journals, Includes evidence-based & disease fact sheets.
ProQuest

ProQuest is available from the library or from home. Use ProQuest to access journal articles and evidenced-based resources.


PASSWORD: Use your TAFE username & password

To search in medical journals only select the ‘Health and Medicine’ subject area.

To search only ‘Joanna Briggs Institute systematic reviews’ go to ‘advanced search’ and in ‘Source type’ choose only ‘Evidenced-based medical resources.’

What is the Joanna Briggs Institute?
The Institute works with researchers, clinicians and managers to provide a collection of evidence-based resources designed to assist those in a caring role to make clinical decisions. These resources include Systematic Reviews, Evidence Based Summaries and Best Practice Information Sheets. We are able to access the Institute as a subset of ProQuest’s Nursing and Allied Health Source.

Basic search
- enter the keywords or phrase you wish to search for in the search box, you can limit your search by date, full-text or scholarly journals. A page will then appear listing the results found.

Advanced search
- is used for more complex searches. This will allow you to enter multiple search terms and specify the fields in which you wish the terms to appear (select the fields from the pull down menu at the end of each search box).

Searching tips
Remember to use the search operators (AND, OR, & NOT) between your search terms – otherwise the search may read your keywords as a phrase. If you want to search as a phrase, place your keywords in inverted commas (e.g. “massage therapy”).

Searches may be limited to Full text documents only.
To search for research on massage or shiatsu, you can modify your search. ‘Un-check’ the box for “evidence-based medical resources’ and add other keywords (e.g. research OR study). Change the field in which to search to ABSTRACT for a more focused search.
Cinahl

Available from library or at home. Access to Journal articles and fact sheets.


PASSWORD: Use your TAFE username & password

Provides access to:

Massage & Bodywork - Full Text: 02/01/2006 to present
Massage Magazine - Citation only 2009 to present. Hardcopy held in library 615.822/MASS
Massage Therapy Journal - Citation only 2004 to present. Hardcopy held in library 615.8205/MASS
Massage Today - Citation only 2006 to present, with selective coverage back to 2001
Journal of the Australian Traditional-Medicine Society Full Text: 03/01/2003 to present
JAMA index & citation only
BMJ index & citation only
Lancet index & citation only

Select Advanced Search and note that Cinahl also has:
‘Evidenced based care sheets’ and under ‘More’ there are ‘Quick lessons’

Take note of ‘Search modes’ and ‘Limits’ options e.g. Full text and Publication etc
Not ticking ‘full text’ allows you to find citations for some of the journals held in the library. Ticking full text means you can access the full journal article online.
If you want to search a particular magazine title, put the title in ‘Publications’
To include a phrase in your search, put it in double quotation marks e.g.
Key web resources

TOUCH RESEARCH INSTITUTE - http://www6.miami.edu/touch-research

Provides abstracts of research in the field of massage therapy.

Click here to see TRI Research and topics covered.

AUSTRALASIAN COCHRANE CENTRE - www.thecochranelibrary.com

The Cochrane Library contains Cochrane reviews which aim for the highest level of evidence on which to base clinical treatment decisions. Only abstracts are available free.

Cochrane reviews may have a ‘plain language’ summary at the end.

Basic Search will default to an AND search; or use the Advanced search to use search operators and limits.

Click on the tabs for different types of results.

Search Results


There are 3 results out of 7366 records for "massage in Abstract and arthritis in Abstract in Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews"

View: 1-3

Export All Results

Record Information

Issue: Current | All | Restrict to: Reviews | Protocols | Sort by: Record Title | Match % | Date

- Combined chiropractic interventions for low back pain
  - Bruce F Walker, Simon D Franch, William Grant, Sally Green
  - February 2011
  - Review

- Massage for low back pain
  - Andrea D Furman, Marta Imamura, Terri Dryden, Emma Irvin
  - June 2010
  - Review

- Thermotherapy for treatment of osteoarthritis
  - Lucie Brousseau, KA Yonge, Vivian Welch, S Marchand, Maria Judd, George A Wells, Peter Tugwell
  - October 2011
  - Review

Select All (to export citations) Export Selected Citations Export All Results

View: 1-3

Mostly citations of biomedical literature developed by the US National Library of Medicine, with links to full text articles which are available free on the web.

Provides access to:
- **BMJ** (British Medical Journal) indexed; citation & abstract & links to free full text
- Indexes and provides links to free full text of all **BMC complementary therapies journals** (from BioMed Central)
- **JAMA** (Journal of American Medical Association) indexed & citation only
- **Lancet** indexed, citation & abstract only

In the basic search PubMed combines terms with an AND, but in multiword searches it will combine some words into phrases (Automatic Term Mapping). If you don’t want this, separate each word with an AND. Or use Advanced Search to combine terms and words.

You can apply limits to your searches, e.g. only free full text articles, or results from particular journals, dates and types of documents. EG Under ‘Subsets’ there is a topic of ‘Complementary Medicine’

Click on an article you are interested in. You will see citation details and an abstract.

Go to the full text of the article by clicking on the icon on the right-hand side.

To GO BACK to your results list you MUST use this link.
**GOOGLE ADVANCED SEARCH  www.google.com.au**

Google has a useful advanced search which allows you to use a variety of techniques for combining keywords and setting limits.

**AND search**
Find pages with...

- all these words:

**PHRASE search**
- this exact word or phrase:

**OR search**
- any of these words:

**NOT search**
- none of these words:

**Search LIMITS**
- numbers ranging from: to 

Then narrow your results by...

- language: any language
- region: any region
- last update: anytime
- site or domain: 
- terms appearing: anywhere in the page

For example:

**GOOGLE SCHOLAR  www.google.com.au** then click on 'More' then choose 'Even More', then choose Scholar

For example:

**Google scholar** massage research infant OR baby 

Some articles are available online for free; for others only an abstract is available.