

# Searching EuropePMC

This doc describes how to use Boolean search to retrieve records from EuropePMC via [Application Program Interface](#) (API).

## Databases Covered

EuropePMC combines results from the following databases:

- [PubMed and PMC](#),
- The [Agricola](#) agricultural library,
- [Preprints](#) from 24 different life-sciences-related preprint databases.

## Entering a Boolean Query

Boolean Operators can be used to specify the structure of your search.

### Basic Boolean Operators

When entering your search terms of interest, use:

- AND/OR/NOT to separate terms,
- quotation marks to search for an exact term (which also turns off Automatic Term Mapping), and
- parenthesis to dictate groupings and priority order

to narrow in on publications of interest. For example,

`stroke AND (trevo OR solitaire) AND "modified Rankin Scale"`

will retrieve all EuropePMC-indexed publications that contain **all of the following** in their title, abstract, or keywords:

- The word stroke
- The word trevo or the word solitaire and associated ATM
- The exact phrase "modified Rankin Scale."

### Using Search Fields and Filters

If you want to specify how a term will be interpreted by EuropePMC, specify the field in the following manner: (FIELD) term, using one of EuropePMC's pre-specified fields (or filters), which will narrow how that specific term is interpreted.



Note that this structure is different from that used by PubMed, meaning that a query must be altered before being copied over from one database to the other!

## MeSH Fields

Use of MeSH in EuropePMC...

## Filter by Study Traits

EuropePMC enables searches to be narrowed by the following [study characteristics](#):

- Publication type, by searching for one of PubMed's supported [publication types](#) using, for example, `review[PT]`;
- Full Text available, by appending `full text[SB]`;
- Publication date, by searching for `YYYY-MM-DD[Date - Publication] : YYYY-MM-DD[Date - Publication]` (only the Year is required for the filter to function);
- Language, by searching for the `language[LANGUAGE]`;
- And [others](#) (see full list here)

## Filter by Study Contents

You can also narrow the section of the publication in question that your term will be searched within by specifying:

- Title only, `term[TITLE]`
- Title or Abstract (TIAB), `term[TITLE/ABSTRACT]`
- Text only, `term[TEXT WORD]`

## Guidance on Search Creation

See also our guidance on the following search creation tips, which match across PubMed and EuropePMC:

- [PICO](#)
- [Expanding or Narrowing?](#)
- [How many records is "enough," and When to stop?](#)

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Last update: **2022/07/17 21:36**