

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 `FIRST_PDATE: [2020-01-01 TO 2022-01-01]` (only the Year is required for the filter to function);
- Language, by searching for the `language[LANGUAGE]`;
- And [others](#) (see full list here)

`(JOURNAL:"ss") AND (AUTH:"ss") AND (FIRST_PDATE:[2020-01-01 TO 2022-01-01])`

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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