Article Search Workflow

**Formulate a research question.** Consider these elements:

- **Phenomenon**: What happened?
- **Subject or Population**: Who did it?
- **Time**: When did it happen?
- **Location**: Where did it happen?
- **Cause or Motivation**: Why did it happen?
- **Process**: How did it happen?

**Identify search words.** Focus on the main nouns and verbs in your question. Consider their synonyms and related concepts. Add MeSH terms or other subject terms if appropriate.

**Formulate a search statement** Use search operators (AND, OR, NOT, *).
See [http://ucblib.link/LW](http://ucblib.link/LW) for details.

**Select a database.** See recommendations at [guides.lib.berkeley.edu/publichealth/databases](http://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/publichealth/databases).

**Search and refine results.**

*Sort and filter*

- Sort results by relevance.
- Filter to relevant conditions.

*Revise search statement*

- Identify new search words. Look to MeSH terms for inspiration.

*Find works related to an article of interest*

- Run the “similar articles” search.
- Conduct a cited reference search.

**Repeat workflow.** Based on new knowledge and changing interests, re-start if necessary.