Evidence-Based Practice in Occupational Therapy

Karen Gilbert
Information Resources

I. SEARCHING WEB-BASED RESOURCES FOR JOURNAL ARTICLES

Why use a database rather than the Web?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Databases</th>
<th>The Web</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subscription (provided by EKU)</td>
<td>Free access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generally high quality of information</td>
<td>We must question information quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer-reviewed articles</td>
<td>Rarely peer-reviewed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Known author</td>
<td>Author not necessarily known</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarly information</td>
<td>Popular information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject specific</td>
<td>General knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports refined searching</td>
<td>May support advanced search techniques</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

To access EKU databases:
- Go online to [http://www.library.eku.edu](http://www.library.eku.edu). For off-campus access, see [http://www.library.eku.edu/offcampus/](http://www.library.eku.edu/offcampus/) for instructions to log on.
- Click on the Find Articles link
- Choose from:
  - Frequently Used Databases
  - Databases by Title
  - Databases by Subject (Health Sciences or Psychology)

Suggested EKU databases (but there are many other Health Sciences and Psychology databases to explore):
- CINAHL
- MEDLINE
- Sociological Abstracts
- PsycINFO
- Psychology & Behavioral Science Collection
- Sociological Collection

Two public databases to consider:
- The Cochrane Library [www.thecochranelibrary.com](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com)
Search Input Example from CINAHL:

Find: mental illness

and

vocational rehabilitation

Limiters - note that you can refine your results list in helpful ways: to just scholarly (peer reviewed)/full-text articles/date of publication. Some databases will allow you to limit by gender, age group, special interest, etc.

If an article is not full-text online in an EKU database, click on the button, which may direct you to the article you want, in full-text, in a different database. Some of the articles you want may be available in print, in the Periodicals department on the first floor of the Main Library.

II. SEARCHING AUTHORITATIVE WEB SITES

- Criteria for Evaluating Health Sciences Web Sites
- Recommended Web Sites for the Health Sciences

INDIVIDUAL HELP

- If you have a question, you can always e-mail me at: Karen.Gilbert@eku.edu