Getting into PubMed with USC Links
From the University Libraries’ homepage sc.edu/libraries click on Databases below the search box. If you are off campus or on the wireless network you’ll be prompted for your username and password after you select a database.

On the A-Z Databases page, either search for PubMed, use the alphabetical link or find Public Health as a Subject to see a list of databases. Important: PubMed is a freely available database, but if you use our customized version you’ll have links to USC-subscribed full text.

Basic Search
Enter your terms in the search box. PubMed automatically combines terms with AND, plus maps search terms to MeSH [Medical Subject Headings] to improve search results.

Advanced Search
- Build a search with connector words
  - AND both must be present, narrows a search
  - OR either may be present, expands a search
  - NOT excludes terms
  - * wildcard, fills in zero to many characters at the end of a term

Important: using wildcards turns off automatic mapping of terms in PubMed so generally it is not recommended

- Limit search terms to specific fields (ex. author, journal)

- Combine previous searches

Filters
You can apply filters to limit your results once you’ve done a search.

Important: Applying filters other than language or date will exclude records that haven’t yet been indexed for MEDLINE so you won’t find the most recent results.

Filters include:
  - Article types
  - Publication dates
  - Species

Show additional filters to see Sex and Ages

Once a filter is shown in the left column, click the link to activate the filter.

Dealing with the Results
Results Display
With the Display Settings link you can change the display format, number of results displayed and the way results are sorted.

Saving, Emailing, etc.
Select specific results by checking the box to the left of each title. Use Send to for options including emailing, saving as a file or saving to clipboard (up to 500 items stored for up to 8 hours during your session).

Important: The USC links to the full text are not maintained on the emailed records when you use your email on the wireless network or from off campus.

Getting the Full Text
The default display is Summary format. Summary format does not show the library links to Full Text Finder, either click on the title of the article or change the display format.

MeSH terms (Medical Subject Headings)
Identify the official terms used in PubMed and see hierarchical relationships to other terms. Use the pulldown menu to the left of the search box to pick MeSH.

NCBI
If you register for an NCBI account, you can have PubMed store your searches strategies, collected citations, and get automatic e-mail updates.

Clinical Queries
Clinical Queries, a PubMed Tool available from the PubMed homepage or www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/clinical, makes it easy to find articles that report applied clinical research (clinical studies, systematic reviews, and medical genetics).

Want to know even more? The National Library of Medicine has short online tutorials

Let me know what you think of this guide http://sc-library.USC-Library-Guides-Evaluation.sgizmo.com/s3/

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