Literature Search in PubMed –

Advanced Course

# Exercise 1:

1. Open PubMed <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?otool=unibaslib>
2. Go to the MeSH Database (link on the right).

**Task:**

Perform the following searches using PubMed Search Builder and note the number of hits:

1. *“Serotonin uptake inhibitors”[Mesh]*
2. Same search as 1) , but now limit to articles where this MeSH term describes the *major topic*:  
   *“Serotonin uptake inhibitors”[Majr]*
3. Same search as 1), but now limit to the subheading *therapeutic use“:*  
   *“Serotonin uptake inhibitors/therapeutic use”[Mesh]*
4. Same search as 2), but now limit to the subheading *adverse effects:*  
   *“Serotonin uptake inhibitors/adverse effects”[Majr]*

**Bonus task:**

Link 1st MeSH search with text words of your choice about same topic

# Exercise 2:

**Questions:**

**2a**: Does the additional intake of spironolactone reduce mortality in patients with heart failure?

**2b**: Do adults with exposure to mineral fibers have a higher mortality risk than adults without exposure to mineral fibers?

**Task: Create a suitable search.**

1. Identify the PICO aspects of the question and consider what you are looking for
2. Find suitable MeSH terms in the MeSH database
3. Find suitable text words (note synonyms and word variants)
4. Combine the MeSH terms and text words with OR and then the partial searches of the different PICO aspects with AND
5. *Bonus task: Filter your results with the RCT filter from Cochrane (*[*https://work.cochrane.org/pubmed*](https://work.cochrane.org/pubmed)*)*

**Mit: Filter RCT**