APPROACHING LITERATURE SEARCH SYSTEMATICALLY

Define your research question.

Determine which search engine to use.

Determine input terms.

ENHANCE YOUR SEARCH

Example: What is the role of dopamine in mouse models of Huntington’s disease?

Try using:

KEYWORDS
Ex. dopamine, Huntington’s, mouse

SYNONYMS & RELATED WORDS
Ex. dopaminergic role, mice, rats

BOOLEAN INPUT
I.e. AND or OR

SEARCH ENGINES

SCOPUS
Largest abstract and citation database for peer-reviewed literature.

QUERTLE
Major biomedical search engine focusing on semantic searching.

HINARI
Host of databases that allows developing countries to access health and biomedical literature.

MEDLINE
Bibliographic database of life sciences and biomedical information.

EMBASE
Biomedical and pharmacological bibliographic database.

PUBMED
Search engine for MEDLINE database of references and abstracts on life sciences and biomedical topics.

INDEX COPERNICUS
Communication platform for international collaboration in addition to literature, grants, and patents.

COCHRANE LIBRARY
Database of systematic reviews and meta-analyses.