NLM Technical Bulletin

National Library of Medicine | National Institutes of Health

Table of Contents

Sign Up for a Training Class - e1
September 05, 2008 [posted]

PubMed® Discovery Objective Expands to Search Results Screen - e2
September 09, 2008 [posted]

My NCBI Unavailable Prior to Launch of Redesign - e3
September 12, 2008 [posted]

Coming Soon to My NCBI: New Features, New Navigation, and My Bibliography - e4
September 16, 2008 [posted]
September 25, 2008 [Editor's note added]
October 08, 2008 [Paragraph replaced]

PubMed Central®: New Journals Participating and New Content Added - e5
September 18, 2008 [posted]
October 20, 2008 [2nd Edition]

Skill Kit: PubMed Central® ID and PubMed® - e6
September 25, 2008 [posted]

MEDLINE®/PubMed® Year-End Processing Activities - e7
October 06, 2008 [posted]

NLM® Resource — TOXLINE®: Direct Link to Document Ordering Pages for EPA TSCA Inventory Reports - e8
October 07, 2008 [posted]

Everyday Miracles: Medical Imagery in Ex-Votos - e9
October 07, 2008 [posted]

Improving the Odds for Title Searching in PubMed® - e10
October 07, 2008 [posted]

Fixes for My NCBI - e11
October 08, 2008 [posted]

PubMed® Entrez Date Modification for Older Citations - e12
October 09, 2008 [posted]

NLM® Resource — Haz-Map® Update - e13
October 16, 2008 [posted]

NLM® Resource — TOXMAP®: Interface Improvements - e14

October 16, 2008 [posted]

ClinicalTrials.gov to Include Basic Results Data - e15
October 21, 2008 [posted]

2009 MeSH® Now Available - e16
October 28, 2008 [posted]

MedlinePlus® Celebrates Ten Year Anniversary - e17
October 30, 2008 [posted]

Issue Completed October 30, 2008

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Last updated: 30 October 2008

September 05, 2008 [posted]

Sign Up for a Training Class

Sign up early for a National Library of Medicine® training class at a location near you! The January-April 2009 schedule scheduleof training classes on a variety of NLM search systems, along with the remainder of the 2008 year classes, is now available.

Sign Up for a Training Class. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e1.

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September 09, 2008 [posted]

PubMed® Discovery Objective Expands to Search Results Screen

As previously announced, new resources are being added to the PubMed search results page (Summary display). Drug Sensor was the first (see *Drug Sensor Added to PubMed® Results Page*) and more will be coming. These resources are being introduced on an experimental basis. They may be made available to a small percentage of users so as to gauge their effectiveness, and may even be presented in different ways in order to see if one format is better than another. Based on what we learn we will decide how soon to enable a feature for all users, whether to try a different format, or even to go back to the drawing board.

The following features, based on the search query, may be encountered in PubMed in the upcoming weeks:

- **Also Try** - Searches done by other users on the same topic for you to try.
- **More PubMed Articles** - Other articles that, based on your search terms, may be of interest.
- **Recent Activity** - A display of your recent PubMed searches and AbstractPlus views, PubMed Central® searches and Full Text views, Gene database searches and Full Report views.

By Kathi Canese
National Center for Biotechnology Information
and
Annette M. Nahin
MEDLARS Management Section

Canese K, Nahin AM. PubMed® Discovery Objective Expands to Search Results Screen. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e2.

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September 12, 2008 [posted]

My NCBI Unavailable Prior to Launch of Redesign

The My NCBI component of the NCBI Entrez system has been redesigned to bring it up-to-date with improvements made to PubMed® last year and to implement additional features. In order to provide a smooth transition from old to new, My NCBI will be unavailable for a few hours at some point in the near future. A notice will appear on My NCBI pages announcing the expected date of this unavailability. During the My NCBI downtime, anyone trying to access My NCBI, e.g., to register, sign in, change filters, save a search, will see an explanatory notice. When service resumes, users will be able to use their accounts as usual and try out the new My NCBI features. We expect things to go smoothly, but apologize in advance for any inconvenience, and appreciate everyone's patience. An upcoming article will explain highlights of the new system.

By Annette M. Nahin
MEDLARS Management Section

Nahin AM. My NCBI Unavailable Prior to Launch of Redesign. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e3.

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September 16, 2008 [posted]
September 25, 2008 [Editor's note added]
October 08, 2008 [Paragraph replaced] [Figure 2 replaced] [Paragraph replaced] [Figure 3 replaced]

Coming Soon to My NCBI: New Features, New Navigation, and My Bibliography

[Editor's Note: These features were implemented in PubMed on September 25, 2008.]

This is an overview of the changes coming to My NCBI in the near future. For detailed instructions on using My NCBI, see My NCBI Help.

New Features

There are several new features on the My NCBI Sign In page to help users easily access their accounts.

If selected, the **Remember my username** option retains the username on the Sign In page. Each time the My NCBI Sign In page is accessed using the same computer and browser, the username automatically appears in the Username text box. This feature utilizes apersistent cookie. If browser cookies are deleted, the username will not be remembered until this option is re-selected.

The **I forgot my username** feature sends the username to the e-mail address provided during My NCBI registration. If an e-mail address was not provided this feature cannot be used. The e-mail that is sent shows any My NCBI username(s) associated with that e-mail address. When the username is received by e-mail, and if the password is also forgotten, use the**I forgot my password** feature. Users will also have to know the answer they gave to the security question when they registered. Note that usernames and passwords are case-sensitive. If users cannot retrieve their username or remember their answer to the security question they will need to register for a new My NCBI account. We strongly encourage users to record the username, password, and answer to the security question for their My NCBI account in an accessible place.

Options for My NCBI partner organizations: Users belonging to one of the following My NCBI partner organizations can sign in to My NCBI using their credentials from that organization. These users do not need a separate My NCBI username and password.

- eRA Commons (NIH Extramural principal investigators, grantees or applicants)
- NIH (NIH employees and contractors)

- Publishers participating in the NIH Manuscripts Submission System
- UKPMC Funders Group

Use the "See more sign in options for My NCBI partner organizations" link at the bottom of the Sign In page to learn more about this new feature which includes linking existing accounts with a partner organization account.

New Navigation

My NCBI now has a homepage that, upon signing in, displays a summary of and links to the contents of the account, i.e., the preferences and filters selected and saved searches, collections and bibliography (see Figure 1). The Table of Contents sidebar also provides links to the account's contents.

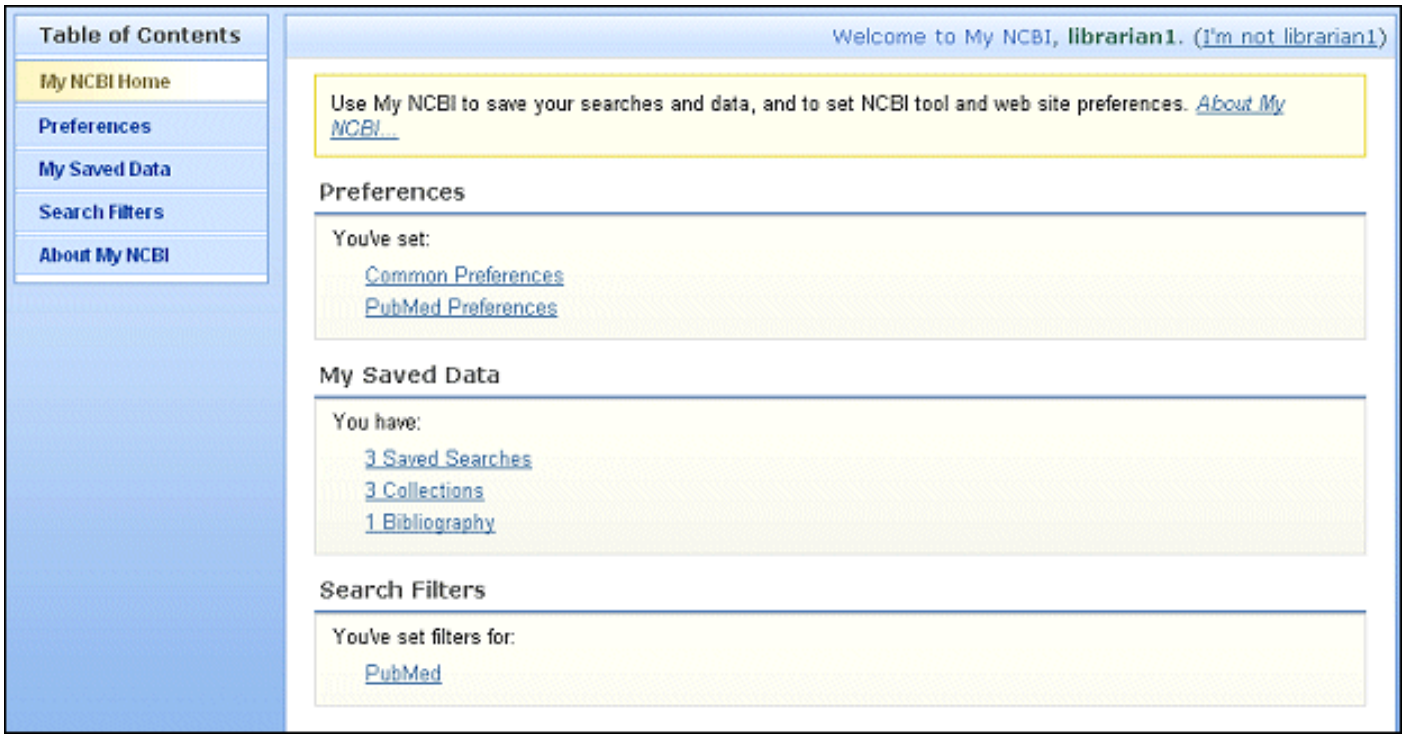

Figure 1: My NCBI homepage.

Preferences include Common Preferences and PubMed® Preferences.

Common Preferences is used to change the account password, enter an e-mail address, select how links are displayed, and turn on highlighting of search terms in results. Users signing in to My NCBI with their partner organization credentials will see their Linked Accounts information under Common Preferences.

PubMed Preferences is used to set options for the display of single citations and document delivery. PubMed Preferences is also used to apply PubMed search filters and/or activate an institution's Outside Tool.

My Saved Data include a summary of and links to **Saved Searches**, **Collections**, and **Bibliography**

(includes My Bibliography and Other Citations). The links to Saved Searches, Collections, and Bibliography are used to update or otherwise manage these data.

Search Filters display the selected filters and provides a link to the filters page to modify selections.

My Saved Searches *[This paragraph was replaced on October 8, 2008.]*
Access saved searches using the Saved Searches link under My Saved Data on the My NCBI homepage. To send a saved search to PubMed without update limits, click on the search name. To manage saved searches, click on the **Manage my Saved Searches** link. To check for new items, use the checkbox next to the name of the search and click the **Show What's New** button (see Figure 2). Use the (Edit) link to create a schedule to receive e-mail updates or make changes to updates currently received (see Figure 2). Use the saved search name link to send the saved search to PubMed without update limits (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: My NCBI Saved Searches.
[Figure 2 was replaced on October 8, 2008.]

My Collections *[This paragraph was replaced on October 8, 2008.]*
Access collections using the Collections link under My Saved Data on the My NCBI homepage. To display a collection in PubMed, click on the collection name. To manage collections, click on the **Manage my Collections** link. Use the (Edit) link to view the collection contents and remove items or to change the name of the collection (see Figure 3). Use the collection name link to display the collection in PubMed (see Figure 3).

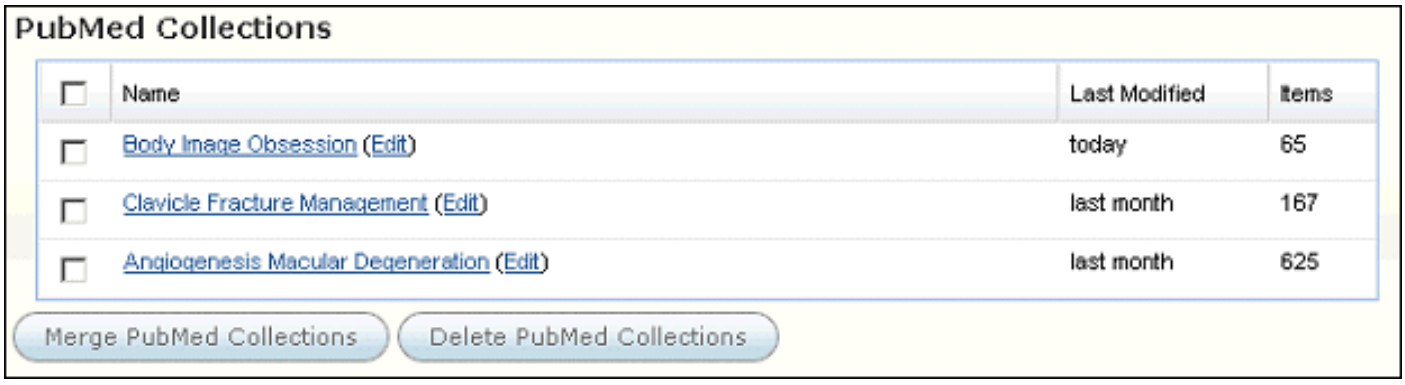

Figure 3: My NCBI Collections.
[Figure 3 was replaced on October 8, 2008.]

My Bibliography and Other Citations

My Bibliography is a new feature designed to make it easier for authors to search and collect citations for their publications. It combines the capabilities of saving a search strategy and saving search results in a collection. An author can create a saved search using a template and when he or she updates the search, new citations are easily added to the bibliography (a collection of citations.) My Bibliography search strategies are based on either an author's name or a list of PMIDs (PubMed unique identifiers). If the author's name is not unique to the MEDLINE® /PubMed database, additional search criteria (e.g., publication dates and grant numbers) can be used to distinguish citations. Authors publishing under different names can include up to two name variants in the saved search. Up to 1500 citations can be collected in one bibliography.

Authors publishing in two distinct areas of research may choose to differentiate their lists of citations. "Other Citations" offers one additional bibliography and works the same as My Bibliography. Although each My NCBI account offers only one My Bibliography and one Other Citations, users can have as many My NCBI accounts as needed.

Create Bibliographies

On the My NCBI homepage, click on the link to "0 Bibliographies" under My Saved Data. Then click on My Bibliography under Bibliographies. Click on or the "add items" link to create a bibliography (see Figure 4).

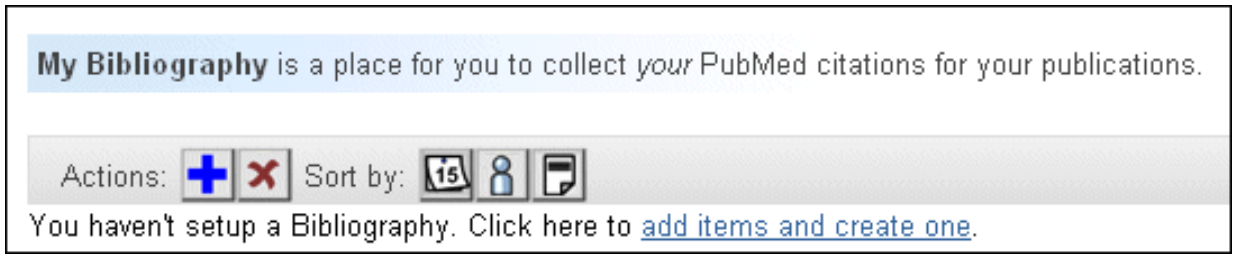

Figure 4: Create your My Bibliography.

On the "Add citations to My Bibliography" screen, enter an author name (or select it from the autocomplete listing). As this is done, the selection automatically goes to "Show all citations." (Alternatively, use Find your citations by PMIDs.) Click Go. (See Figure 5.)

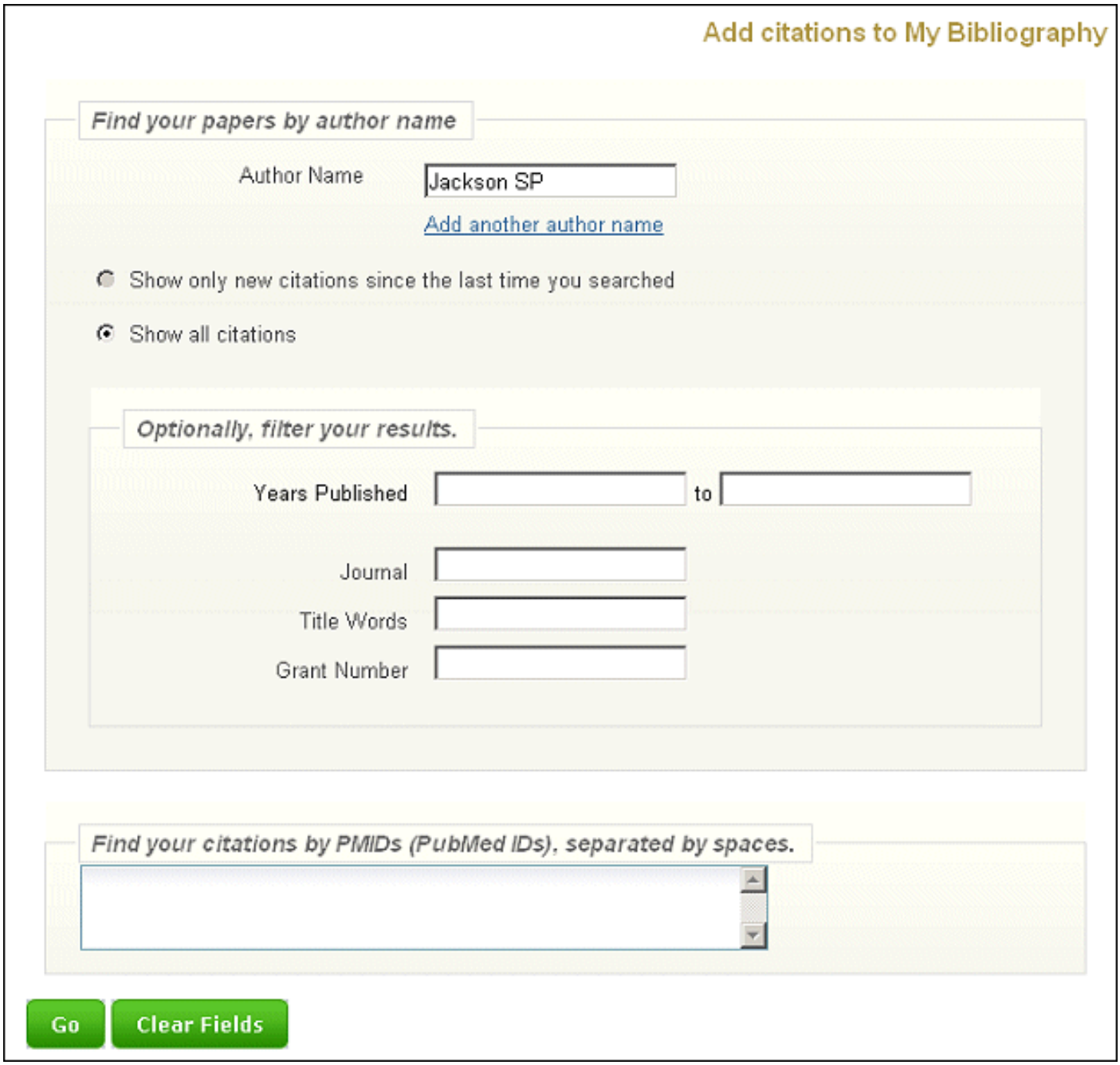

Figure 5: Template to search for citations to add to My Bibliography.

On the results page, select the citations to be added to the bibliography; use the Next links to page through all results. When finished, click Add to My Bibliography.

Manage Bibliographies

To **view** the items in a bibliography, go to Bibliography(ies) under My Saved Data. Click on My Bibliography or Other Citations. It is not possible to display bibliography items in PubMed. We hope to add this capability in the future.

To **update** a bibliography, go to Bibliography(ies) under My Saved Data. Click on My Bibliography and

then click to add new items. (Note: Automatic updates are not available for bibliographies.) On the "Add citations to My Bibliography" screen, select "Show only new citations since the last time you searched (last search date)" and click Go. On the results page, select the citations to be added to the bibliography; use the Next links to page through all results. When finished, click Add to My Bibliography.

To **replace** a bibliography, go to Bibliography(ies) under My Saved Data. Click on My Bibliography, select all the items in the bibliography and then click to delete them. Click to go to the search template and make revisions. Click Go. On the results page, select the citations to be added to the bibliography; use the Next links to page through all results. When finished, click Add to My Bibliography.

Other Citations are created and managed in the same manner as My Bibliography as explained above.

Other Changes

There is no longer a limit to the number of saved searches or collections per account.

Some preferences have changed:

- There are now two choices for Links display; the default Popup Menu or Plain Links.
- There are now four choices for single citation display: AbstractPlus (the default), Abstract, Citation, or MEDLINE.
- There are several more color choices for highlighting search terms in results.

By Margaret McGhee
MEDLARS Management Section

McGhee M. Coming Soon to My NCBI: New Features, New Navigation, and My Bibliography. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e4.

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September 18, 2008 [posted]
October 20, 2008 [2nd Edition]

PubMed Central®: New Journals Participating and New Content Added

Hand (New York, N.Y.)

[Posted in *NLM Technical Bulletin* September 18, 2008]

The journal *Hand (New York, N.Y.)* is now participating in PubMed Central, beginning with issue 2006; 1(1) to 2007; 2(3). Current content is forthcoming with a 12-month delay.

Hand (New York, N.Y.)
ISSN: 1558-9447 (print) 1558-9455 (electronic)
Title Abbreviation: Hand
Publisher: Springer
NLM ID: 101264149
PMC Full text coverage: from 2006; 1(1) to 2007; 2(3).
PMC URL: http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?action=archive&journal=664

Gastroenterology Research and Practice

[Posted in *NLM Technical Bulletin* September 18, 2008]

The journal *Gastroenterology Research and Practice* is now participating in PubMed Central, beginning with issue 2008; 1 (1). There is no embargo delay for this journal.

Gastroenterology Research and Practice
ISSN: 1687-6121 (print) 1687-630X (electronic)
Title Abbreviation: Gastroenterol Res Pract.
Publisher: Cairo: Hindawi Publishing Corporation
NLM ID: 101475557
PMC Full text coverage: from 2008; 1 (1).
PMC URL: http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=693&action=archive

The Open Aids Journal

[Posted in *NLM Technical Bulletin* October 20, 2008]

The journal *The Open Aids Journal* is now participating in PubMed Central, beginning with issue from 2007; 1 (1-27)to 2008; 2 (1-71). There is no embargo delay for this journal.

The Open Aids Journal
ISSN: 1874-6136 (electronic)
Title Abbreviation: Open AIDS J.
Publisher: Hilversum : Bentham Science Publishers
NLM ID: 101480215
PMC Full text coverage: from 2007; 1 (1-27)to 2008; 2 (1-71).
PMC URL: http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=686&action=archive

Systems and Synthetic Biology

[Posted in *NLM Technical Bulletin* October 20, 2008]

The journal *Systems and Synthetic Biology* is now participating in PubMed Central, beginning with issue from 2007 Mar; 1 (1) to 2007 Aug; 1 (3). There is no embargo delay for this journal.

Systems and Synthetic Biology
ISSN: 1872-5325 (print) 1872-5333 (electronic)
Title Abbreviation: Syst Synth Biol.
Publisher: Springer
NLM ID: 101300404
PMC Full text coverage: from 2007 Mar; 1 (1) to 2007 Aug; 1(3).
PMC URL: http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=537&action=archive

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PubMed Central®: New Journals Participating and New Content Added. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e5.

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September 25, 2008 [posted]

Skill Kit: PubMed Central® ID and PubMed®

PubMed Central is the U.S. National Institutes of Health free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature. As announced in the article, *PubMed Central IDs Display in PubMed AbstractPlus Format*, the PubMed Central ID (PMCID) is available for search and display on PubMed records.

PubMed Display Formats including PMCIDs

When available, the PMCID displays on the AbstractPlus format in the lower right, the Citation and Abstract formats at the bottom, and the MEDLINE® format with the field tag, PMC (see Figure 1).

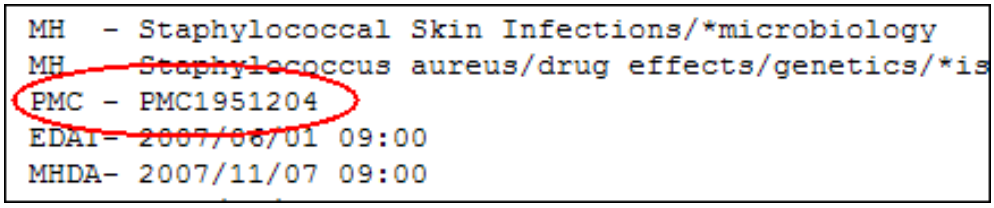

Figure 1: The PMCID in the MEDLINE Display Format.

Citations for articles with a delayed release will display an embargo date following the PMCID in the AbstractPlus, Citation, and Abstract formats, e.g., PMCID : PMC2494964 [Available on 08/01/10].

Finding PMCIDs in PubMed

- Search PubMed using the PMCID (including the PMC prefix) in the search box:

- Find PMCIDs (or PMIDs) using the PMID : PMCID Converter (see Figure 2), which translates one type of ID to the other. You can enter the PMIDs or PMCIDs one per line or multiple IDs per line separated by a space. Alternatively, copy the PMIDs from your PubMed search results by first moving the citations of interest to the Clipboard, then in the PMID : PMCID Converter, select the button "Get IDs from PubMed Clipboard." The results appear below the converter input box (see

Figure 3) .

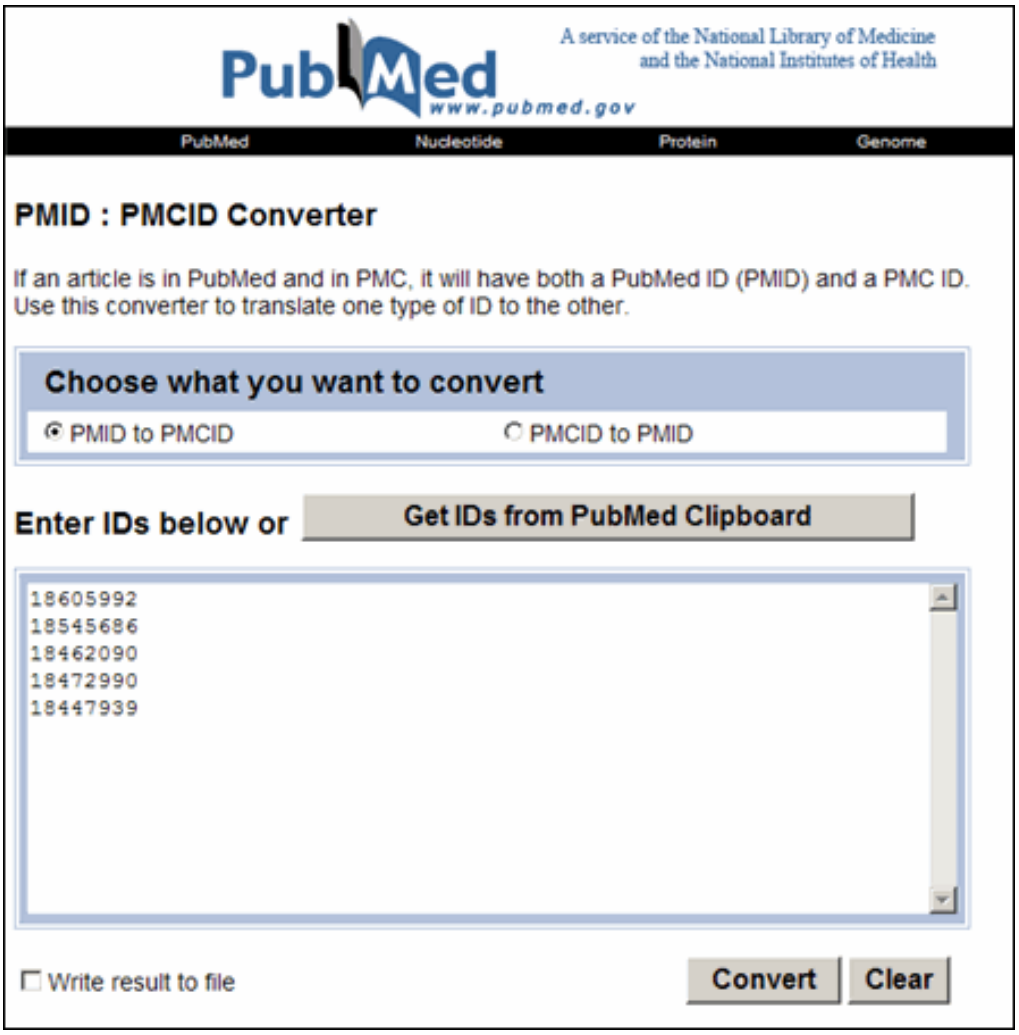

Figure 2: The PMID : PMCID Converter at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/si http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/pmctopmid.

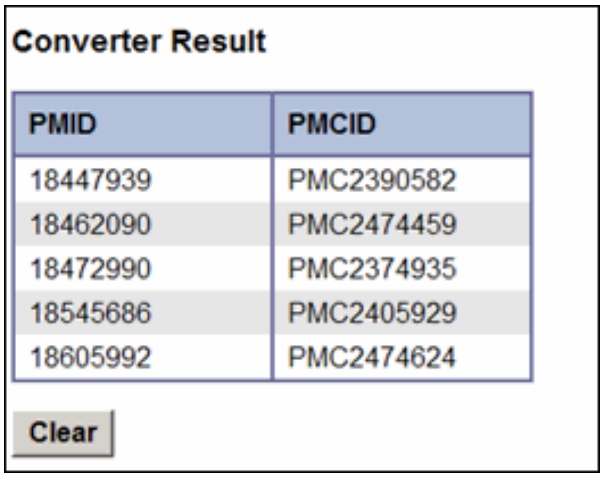

Figure 3: The PMID : PMCID Converter Result.

Downloading PubMed Citations with PMCIDs

PubMed records downloaded in the MEDLINE display format into reference management software will include the PMCID, provided that the reference management software has been updated to include the new PMC field. For details, please contact the software manufacturer.

Note: Records may also include the MID field (manuscript identifier). For more information about this MEDLINE display format field, see the MEDLINE/PubMed Element Descriptions.

To download PubMed records for import into reference management software:

1. From any results screen, select the citations you want to download using the checkboxes to the left of each citation (see Figure 4) . If you want to download all results, skip this step. All records will be selected.

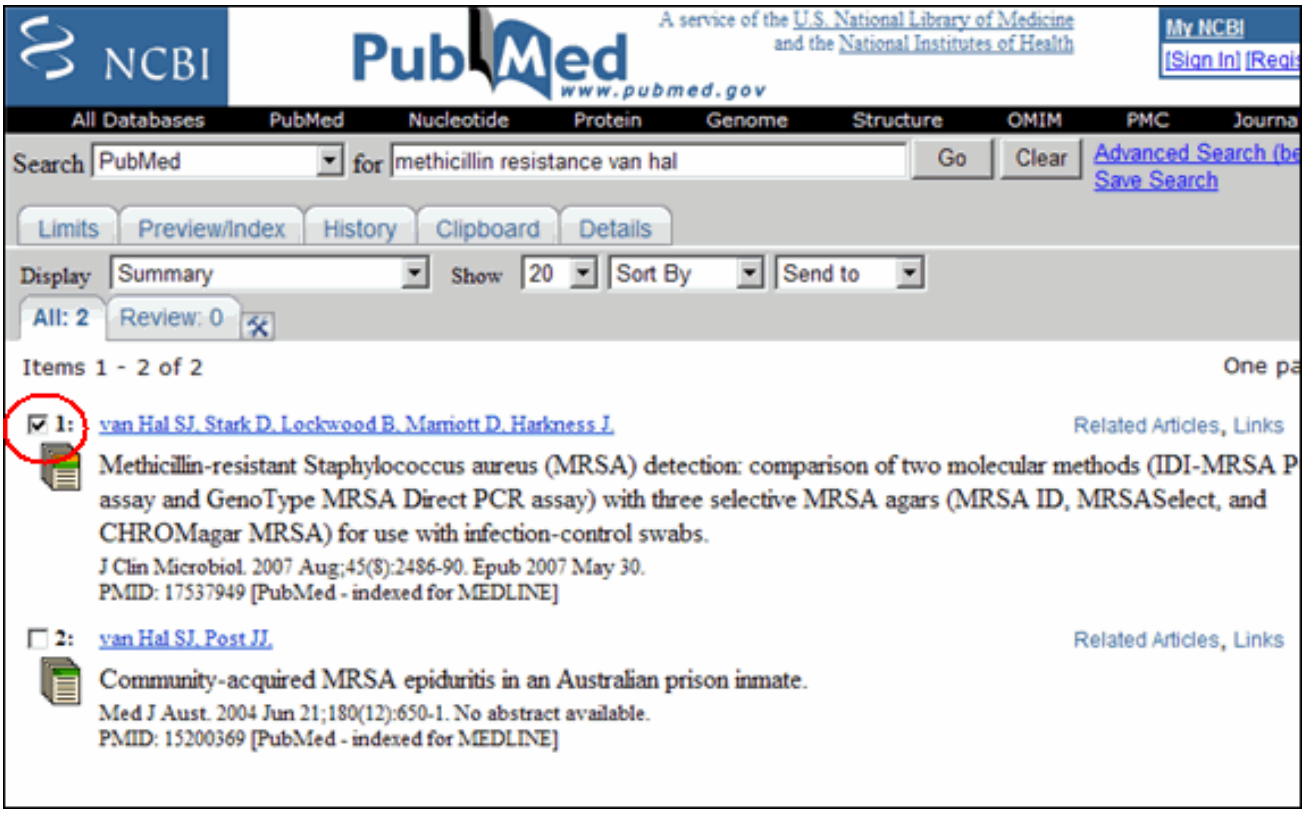

Figure 4: Select citations to download using the checkboxes to the left of each citation.

2. Change the display format to MEDLINE (see Figure 5).

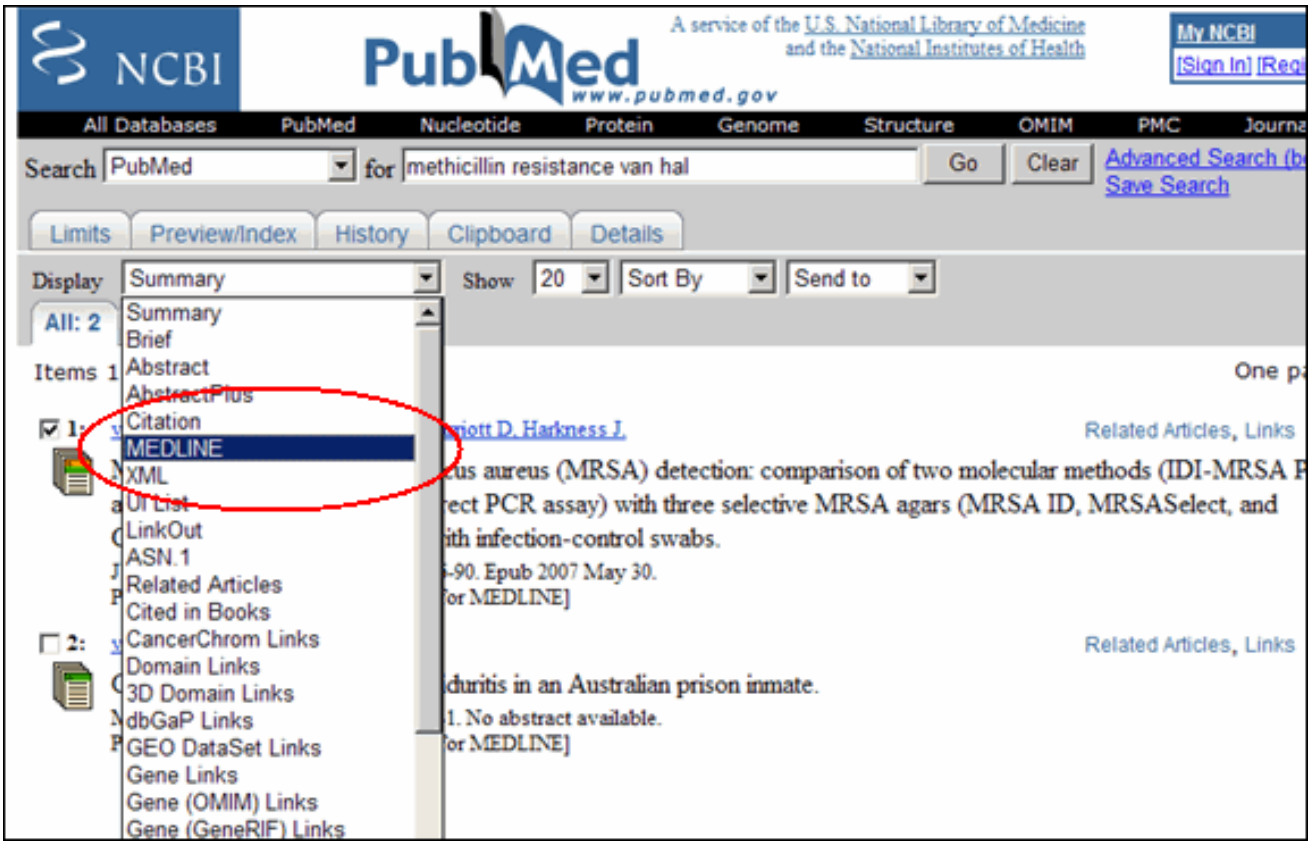

Figure 5: Select Display, MEDLINE.

3. Send to File (see Figure 6).

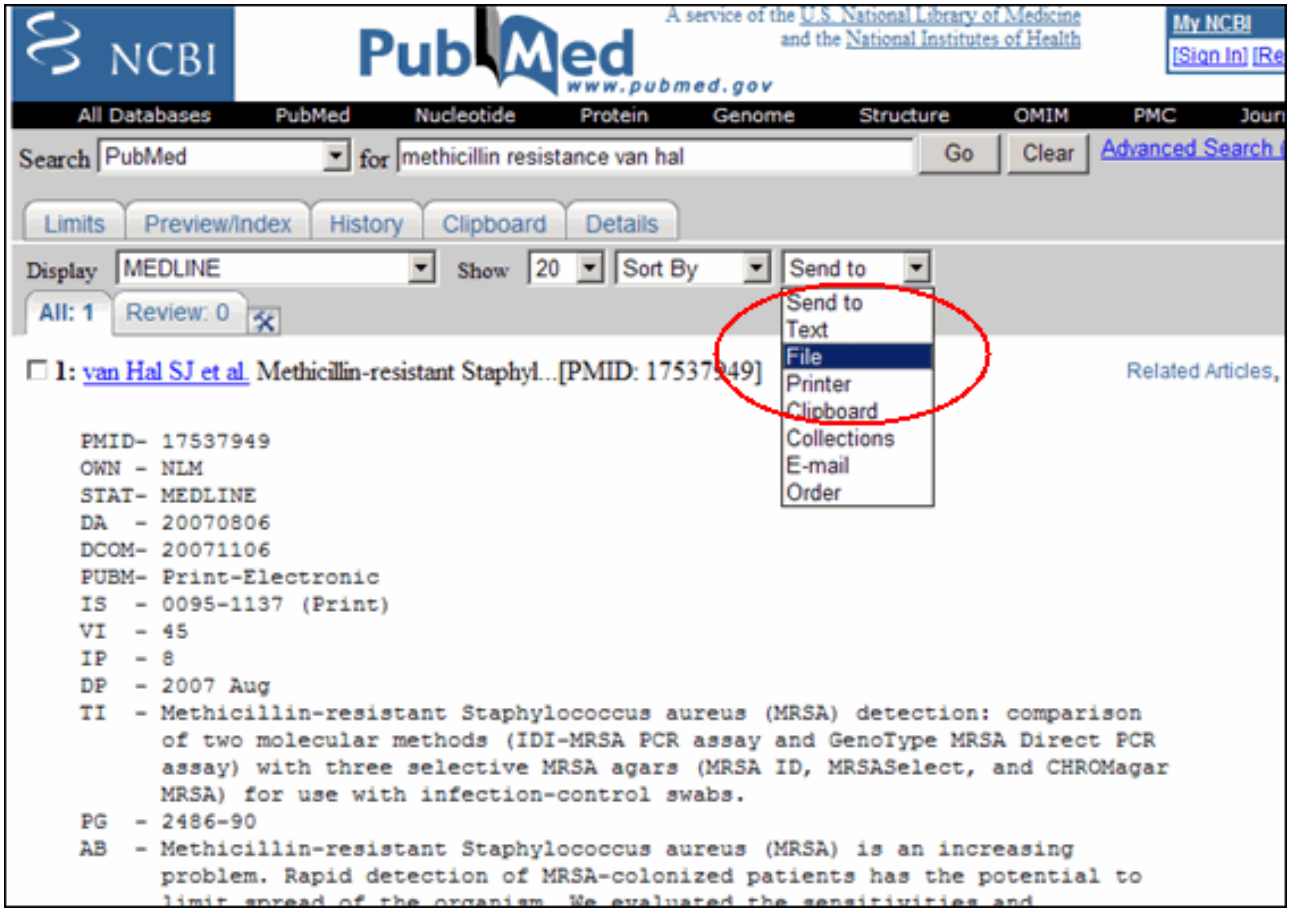

Figure 6: Select Send to, File.

Save this file on your computer. It can be imported into bibliographic management software. For more information about manipulating PubMed search results, see the PubMed Tutorials, available from the PubMed homepage sidebar.

Skill Kit: PubMed Central® ID and PubMed®. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e6.

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E-Mail Sign Up		Home	Back Issues	Indexes

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October 06, 2008 [posted]

MEDLINE®/PubMed® Year-End Processing Activities

The National Library of Medicine® (NLM®) is currently involved in MEDLINE year-end processing (YEP) activities. These include changing the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH®) and Supplementary Concept Substance Names on existing MEDLINE citations to conform with the 2009 version of MeSH, and other global changes.

Important Dates

- **November 19, 2008:** NLM expects to temporarily halt the addition of fully-indexed MEDLINE citations to PubMed.

- **Mid-December 2008:** The PubMed MEDLINE citations, translation tables, and the MeSH database will have been updated to reflect 2009 MeSH.

For details about the impact on searching from November 19 to mid-December, see: Annual MEDLINE®/PubMed® Year-End Processing (YEP): Impact on Searching During Fall 2008.

For background information on the general kinds of changes made annually, see: Annual MEDLINE®/PubMed® Year-End Processing (YEP): Background Information.

MEDLINE®/PubMed® Year-End Processing Activities. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct;(364):e7.

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October 07, 2008 [posted]

NLM® Resource — TOXLINE®: Direct Link to Document Ordering Pages for EPA TSCA Inventory Reports

[Editor's Note: This Technical Note is a reprint of an announcement published on NLM-Tox-Enviro-Health-L, an e-mail announcement list available from the NLM Division of Specialized Information Services. To subscribe to this list, please see the NLM-TOX-ENVIRO-HEALTH-L Join, Leave, or Change Options page.]

National Library of Medicine® TOXLINE users can now link directly to EPA Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Inventory reports via the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). Linking on the ordering information in the TOXLINE record will take users to the NTIS ordering page for a given report. The Toxic Substance Control Act Test Submission database (TSCATS) was developed by the Syracuse Research Corporation for the EPA. It is a central system for the collection, maintenance, and dissemination of information on unpublished technical reports submitted by industry to EPA under theToxic Substances Control Act.

To locate all TSCATS records in TOXLINE, enter "TSCATS" into the TOXLINE search box, or select the TSCATS subset from TOXLINE Limits. The NTIS ordering interface link can be found under the "Order Information" field of TOXLINE TSCATS records.

The TOXLINE database is the NLM bibliographic database for toxicology, a varied science encompassing many disciplines. TOXLINE records provide bibliographic information covering the biochemical, pharmacological, physiological, and toxicological effects of drugs and other chemicals. The database contains over three million bibliographic citations, most with abstracts and/or indexing terms and Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Registry Numbers. TOXLINE references are drawn from various sources and organized into component sub-files which are usually searched together, but which may also be used to limit searches.

TOXLINE covers much of the standard journal literature in toxicology (which it obtains from PubMed®), complemented with references from an assortment of specialized journals and other sources.

Contact Information

Please send questions to: tehip@teh.nlm.nih.gov.

NLM® Resource — TOXLINE®: Direct Link to Document Ordering Pages for EPA TSCA Inventory Reports. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e8.

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October 07, 2008 [posted]

Everyday Miracles: Medical Imagery in Ex-Votos

Ex-votos...are a moving record of a nation, a stethoscope measure of its heart.

Everyday Miracles: Medical Imagery in Ex-Votos, a new small exhibition on display at the U.S. National Library of Medicine® (NLM®), explores the relationship between faith and healing as expressed in the personal devotional paintings from Italy and Mexico. Ex-votos are small devotional paintings that were commissioned by the faithful for healing miracles and displayed in community churches as testimony to their devotion and gratitude. Painted with illustrations of patients, doctors, and diseases, ex-votos open a window to our understanding of how the faithful coped with illness in their daily lives. (See Figure 1.)

Figure 1: A pale, serene, young girl suffers from pneumonia while two female relatives pray for her recovery. Oil on tin, 1925/Courtesy Historia Antiques.

Using examples from the past three hundred years, the exhibition provides a glimpse of the role that faith has played for some in the healing of illness and injury. Illustrating both the prayers of the faithful and the symptoms of illnesses such as smallpox and tuberculosis, ex-votos offer a rare opportunity to view an individual's personal response to illness and healing as well as the symptoms of disease.

The exhibition features several expressively painted ex-votos and is complemented by a display of early medical guides from the 16th and 17th centuries published in Mexico and used to assist in the care and treatment of the sick.

Everyday Miracles: Medical Imagery in Ex-Votos is on display in the History of Medicine Division of the NLM from September 15, 2008 through January 31, 2009.

An online version of the exhibition in three languages—English, Spanish, and Italian—includes a gallery of more than twenty-five ex-votos (see Figure 2). For more information, please contact Jill L. Newmark.

Figure 2: Homepage from the online version of the exhibition *Everyday Miracles: Medical Imagery in Ex-Votos*.

By Jill L. Newmark
History of Medicine Division

Newmark JL. Everyday Miracles: Medical Imagery in Ex-Votos. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e9.

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October 07, 2008 [posted]

Improving the Odds for Title Searching in PubMed®

Searchers often copy an article title from another source then paste it into PubMed for a search. If a phrase in the title matches with an author name it can cause the search to fail. To improve title searching, PubMed now ignores phrases that match with author/investigator names that are made up only of stopwords (e.g., During A, May BE, Just BY). For example, in the search for the title, ***Prediction of performance level during a cognitive task from ongoing EEG oscillatory activities***, the phrase, ***during a***, is ignored and the search retrieves the expected citation. This special effect occurs when the phrase is part of a string of other words, none of which have search tags. When a name is entered by itself, e.g., *just by*, it is interpreted as a name search. To search for an author name (that matches with stop words)*plus* other terms, use an author search tag, e.g., *just by [au] AND seizure*.

A list of stopwords is available in Help. Be aware that "pasted in" title searches can still fail when a phrase in the title matches a name that is not made up of stopwords as these are not ignored. The field searching capability of the Advanced Search screen is a recommended alternative.

By Annette M. Nahin
MEDLARS Management Section

Nahin AM. Improving the Odds for Title Searching in PubMed® NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e10.

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October 08, 2008 [posted]

Fixes for My NCBI

As a result of technical issues, there were some problems with searches saved after the installation of the new My NCBI system on September 25, 2008. Searches that include search statement numbers (e.g., #3 AND #4) saved from September 25 to October 7 that do not work should be deleted and re-saved.

Also, searches saved with Limits are executing incorrectly, i.e., without Limits applied, when the search has been saved for automatic updates. Searches that include Limits that were saved on or after September 25 for automatic updates should be deleted. They can be re-saved without automatic updates at this time and later changed to automatic updates when the problem has been corrected (to be announced here).

To run a search to see if it has been saved correctly, access the My NCBI homepage and click on the link for # Saved Searches (under My Saved Data). On the My Saved Data screen, click on the name of the search in question and check the results.

We are in the process of changing the function of the links displaying search and collection names in My NCBI to be more self-evident. In the case of saved searches, the name links to a display of the results in the database (e.g., PubMed). In the case of collections, the name links to a display of the items in the collection in the database. On the "Manage" pages "View" links are no longer present. There is now an "Edit" link that goes to a screen where you can make changes to the saved search (e.g., frequency of updates) or collection (e.g., remove items).

For more information about the new version of My NCBI, see: *Coming Soon to My NCBI: New Features, New Navigation, and My Bibliography*.

Nahin AM. Fixes for My NCBI. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct;(364):e11.

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October 09, 2008 [posted]

PubMed® Entrez Date Modification for Older Citations

PubMed citations are displayed in reverse Entrez Date (EDAT) order, i.e., last in, first out. EDAT is the date the record is added to the PubMed database and appears on the MEDLINE display format. Until now, the exception was to set the Entrez Date the same as the Publication Date (DP) on records with publication dates before September 1997.

Publishers may submit citation and abstract data for articles published prior to for the indexing start date in MEDLINE (seePubMed Overview.) In order to prevent older citations from displaying with newer citations, or being included in My NCBI updates we are changing our policy for how the Entrez Date is set for older citations. Effective in late October, the Entrez Date will equal the publication date for citations that are older than one year when they enter PubMed. For example, in the future a citation entering PubMed with a publication date of April 15, 2002, will be assigned the EDAT — 2002/04/15. This change is prospective only; the EDAT on existing records will not change.

By Kathi Canese
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Canese K. PubMed® Entrez Date Modification for Older Citations. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e12.

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NLM Technical Bulletin
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October 16, 2008 [posted]

NLM® Resource — Haz-Map® Update

[Editor's Note: This Technical Note is a reprint of an announcement published on NLM-Tox-Enviro-Health-L, an e-mail announcement list available from the NLM Division of Specialized Information Services. To subscribe to this list, please see the NLM-TOX-ENVIRO-HEALTH-L Join, Leave, or Change Options page.]

The National Library of Medicine® Haz-Map has been updated. The latest update includes 180 new chemical profiles, submitted by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Haz-Map is an occupational health database designed for health and safety professionals and for consumers seeking information about the health effects of exposure to chemicals and biologicals at work. Haz-Map links jobs and hazardous tasks with occupational diseases and their symptoms. It covers 2030 agents, and 225 occupational diseases.

More information about Haz-Map can be obtained at http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/hazmap.html

NLM® Resource — Haz-Map® Update. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e13.

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October 16, 2008 [posted]

NLM® Resource — TOXMAP®: Interface Improvements

[Editor's Note: This Technical Note is a reprint of an announcement published on NLM-Tox-Enviro-Health-L, an e-mail announcement list available from the NLM Division of Specialized Information Services. To subscribe to this list, please see the NLM-TOX-ENVIRO-HEALTH-L Join, Leave, or Change Options page.]

TOXMAP now includes several interface improvements, updated mortality data (2001-2005), and names and locations of hospitals when the map is zoomed to the most detailed level.

Other recent changes include:

- Ability to view Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) reporting releases in a particular TRI year, similar to TRI chemical releases
- Inclusion of links to TRI state fact sheets
- Ability to zoom to the United States (US) national parks via "Zoom to a Place"
- Ability to toggle on and off the "auto-zoom" behavior in the main Search page
- PubMed® RSS feed
- Section 508 compliance improvements

TOXMAP is a Geographic Information System (GIS) from the Division of Specialized Information Services (SIS) of the US National Library of Medicine® (NLM) that uses maps of the United States to help users visually explore data from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Toxics Release Inventory and Superfund Program.

NLM® Resource — TOXMAP®: Interface Improvements. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e14.

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October 21, 2008 [posted]

ClinicalTrials.gov to Include Basic Results Data

Effective late September 2008, basic results data for certain clinical trials are required to be submitted by the sponsor or designated principal investigator to ClinicalTrials.gov for public posting. Some basic results for clinical trials will be submitted in late September; over time, increasing numbers of basic results submissions will be made available to the public. This reporting requirement is mandated by Section 801 of the Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 (FDAAA 801)]. In general, FDAAA 801 expands the scope of trials and information required to be submitted to ClinicalTrials.gov and requires submission of results data in several steps.

ClinicalTrials.gov was modified in November 2007 to accommodate the first step of FDAAA 801, which included:

- expanding the scope of required trials to include studies of devices and all diseases (only trials of drugs and biologics for serious or life-threatening diseases or conditions were required to be registered previously); and
- increasing the information required to be registered (e.g., the primary and secondary outcome measures being studied).

The second step involved accepting basic results information and making it publicly available. The summary data tables required for reporting trial results include the following:

- baseline characteristics, which are taken at the beginning of a trial and may include demographic and physiologic characteristics of the participants;
- participant flow to indicate the number of participants at each stage of the trial; and
- outcomes data, including pre-specified primary and secondary outcomes, and relevant statistical analyses.

Submission of adverse events information is not required by law until September 2009; however, optional tables for reporting serious adverse events and other, frequent adverse events observed during the trial are

available now. The ClinicalTrials.gov "Basic Results" Data Element Definitions (DRAFT) document includes definitions and annotations describing the minimal requirements for reporting results to ClinicalTrials.gov. Only those trials that are registered with ClinicalTrials.gov will be able to report results.

Several changes to the user interface were made to facilitate the availability of and search for basic results on ClinicalTrials.gov. The design of the basic results page is based on the look and feel of the updated user interface released in September 2007 (*Williams RJ, Tse T. New Look for ClinicalTrials.gov. NLM Tech Bull. 2007 Sep-Oct; (358):e2.*). Studies with results available are identified on the List Results page by a new term, "Has results" (see Figure 1).

Figure 1: List Results page identifying study records with posted "basic results" (as of October 7, 2008).

The study record features a new tab entitled either "No Study Results Posted" (in gray) or "Study Results" (in blue), depending on the availability of results. If no results are posted for a study, selecting the "grayed out" tab displays the following statement, "No Study Results Posted for this Study," and explanatory information about why results may not be available (e.g., trial not yet completed, mandatory submission requirements do not apply). If results have been posted, clicking on the "Study Results" tab will display those basic results data. A mock-up of the basic results display template is presented in Figure 2. See the ClinicalTrials.gov "Basic Results" Data Element Definitions (DRAFT) document to learn about all information that may be posted on the Study Results page.

The other significant change to the user interface is a new feature in "Advanced Search" titled "Study Results" (see Figure 3). Users can now limit a search based on the availability of results (i.e., all studies, studies with results, studies without results).

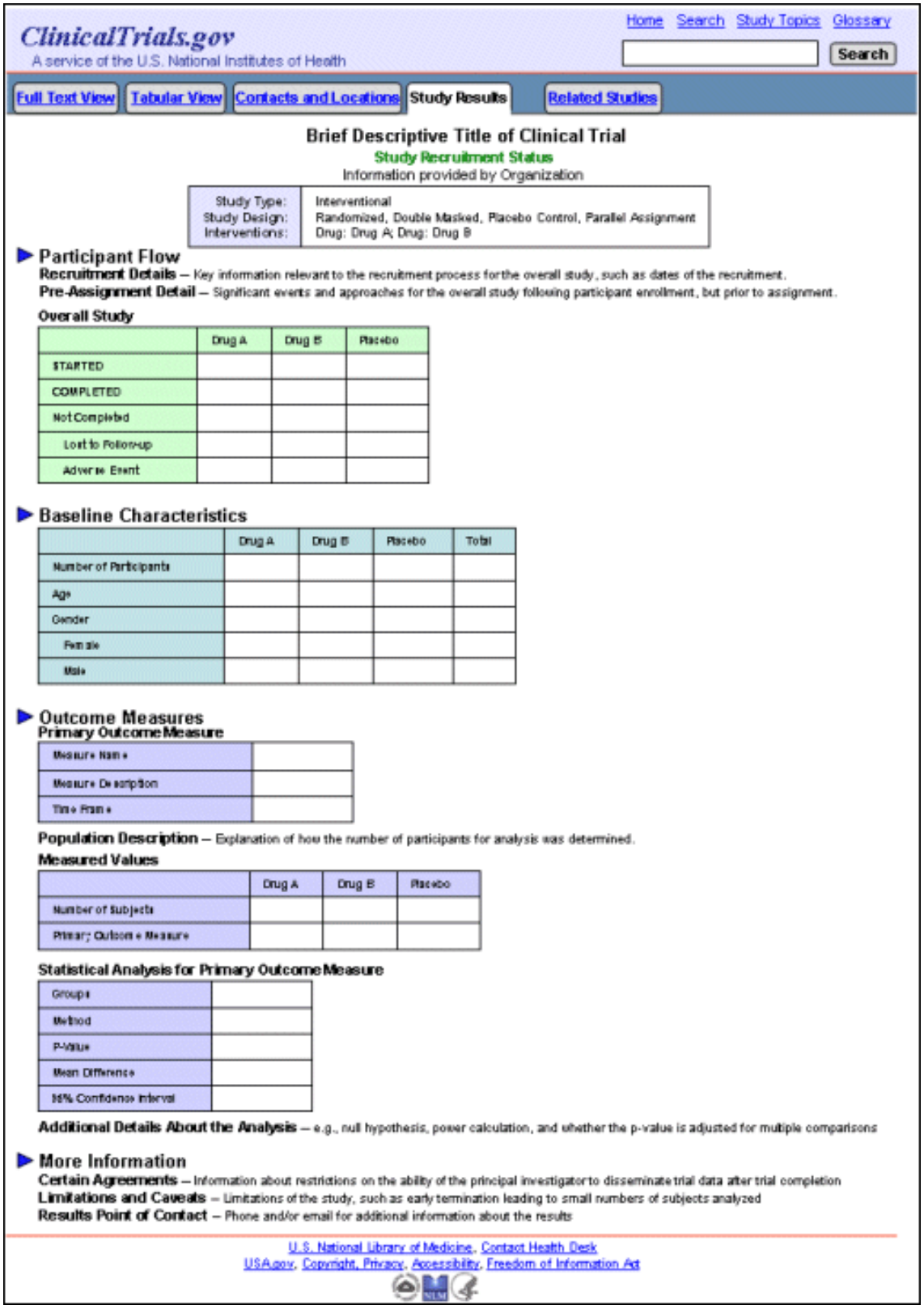

Figure 2: Mock-up of "basic results" display template under the "Study Results" tab on a study record page (Note: Adverse Event information not shown).

Figure 3: New "Study Results" limit on the Advanced Search page.

While the initial implementation of the Basic Results data entry and display features at ClinicalTrials.gov are now available, there are additional steps to be addressed. For example, another step defined by the law requires issuing new regulations to expand the results requirements. In addition, new search features, links to relevant resources, and other capabilities to facilitate users' information seeking needs will be developed. To receive occasional e-mail announcements about the latest changes to ClinicalTrials.gov, join the NIH FDAAA-UPDATE-L Listserv.

Contact Information

Please send your comments or questions to: custserv@nlm.nih.gov.

By Tony Tse, PhD
Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications
and
Rebecca J. Williams, PharmD
Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications

Tse T, Williams RJ. ClinicalTrials.gov to Include Basic Results Data. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e15.

PREVIOUS	2008 SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER	No. 364		
E-Mail Sign Up		Home	Back Issues	Indexes

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October 28, 2008 [posted]

2009 MeSH® Now Available

The MeSH Browser now has a link to 2009 MeSH. 2009 MeSH is also available for download in XML and ASCII formats. Also available for 2009 from the same MeSH download page are:

- Pharmacologic Actions
- New Headings with Scope Notes
- MeSH Replaced Headings
- MeSH MN (tree number) changes

The 2009 MeSH in MARC format is expected to be available later this year.

The default year in the MeSH Browser remains 2008 MeSH for now, but the alternate link provides access to 2009 MeSH. The MeSH Section will continue to provide access via the MeSH Browser for two years of the vocabulary: the current year and an alternate year. Sometime in November or December, the default year will change to 2009 MeSH and the alternate link will provide access to the 2008 MeSH.

2009 MeSH® Now Available. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e16.

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October 30, 2008 [posted]

MedlinePlus® Celebrates Ten Year Anniversary

MedlinePlus, the NLM® consumer health Web site, is celebrating its ten year anniversary.

MedlinePlus provides information on health topics, drugs and supplements, the latest medical news, a medical dictionary, an encyclopedia, surgery videos, interactive educational material, and links to other sites to locate clinical trials, understand genetic conditions, and information specifically for older Americans.

For more information see the press release.

MedlinePlus® Turns 10 Years Old. NLM Tech Bull. 2008 Sep-Oct; (364):e17.

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