Note: EBMR is an excellent medical database for information on systematic reviews, controlled trials etc. For articles on nursing interventions and outcomes Cinahl is a better source.

### What is the Evidence-Based Medicine Reviews database?

**EBM Reviews** is a collection of four individual databases. They can be searched together or separately. Some are bibliographic, and others are full text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Journal Club</strong> (1991-present)</td>
<td>Contains 2 journals - <em>ACP Journal Club</em> (by the American College of Physicians) and <em>Evidence-Based Medicine</em> (joint publication of the ACP and the BMJ Publishing Group). Top clinical journals are reviewed to identify clinically relevant articles. Enhanced abstracts are written, including commentaries on the applicability of the studies to clinical practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR) 1991+</strong></td>
<td>Prepared by the Cochrane Collaboration. The reviews are presented in two types: (1) <strong>complete reviews</strong> - regularly updated reviews, prepared and maintained by Collaborative Review Groups. (2) <strong>protocols for reviews</strong> - background, objectives and methods of reviews. Meta-analysis is performed when possible on the included studies. Full text reviews of the topic and findings frequently cover over 100 pages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CCTR) 2001+</strong></td>
<td>Lists randomized controlled trials identified by contributors to the Collaboration and others, as part of an international effort to hand search the world's journals and create an unbiased source of data for systematic reviews. Primarily an index of journal articles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effectiveness (DARE)</strong></td>
<td>Produced by the staff of the National Health Services' Centre for Reviews and Dissemination at the University of York, England. Contains critical assessments of systematic reviews from a variety of medical journals. The selected articles are summarized and evaluated in full text reports.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: EBMR is an excellent medical database for information on systematic reviews, controlled trials etc. For articles on nursing interventions and outcomes Cinahl is a better source.
PLANNING A SEARCH

General Search Information:
- Unlike Cinahl/Medline, there is no thesaurus in EBMR to consult for official terminology.
- When searching by keyword use as many synonyms and variant spellings of your terms as possible:
  (disabled/impaired/handicapped) (labor/labour)
- Search terms automatically “map” or locate words in defined record parts (fields).
- Record fields vary by individual database. Searching all EBMR databases simultaneously will map terms to these fields:
  - `ti = title`  
  - `ot = short title (non English title)`  
  - `ab = abstract`  
  - `tx = full text of the document`  
  - `kw = keyword (subject headings for non-Medline records)`  
  - `ct = caption text (descriptive text for tables/figures/graphics)`  
  - `sh = MeSH (Medline) headings`  
  - `hw = heading word (single word in a MeSH heading)`  
- Other useful fields:
  - `mp = multi purpose (searches title, short title, abstract, full text, keyword and caption text)`

Search Strategy:
- Searching terms individually will make it easier to add or eliminate words later.
- Searching terms together saves time but requires careful use of AND/OR/NOT in search statement.
- Use the dollar sign (`$`) following the root word to retrieve variant endings (`neoplasm$` for `neoplasms` or `neoplasm`).
- Use the pound sign (`#`) within or at the end of a word to substitute for one character (`wom#n` for woman or women).
- Type a question mark (`?`) to replace one or zero characters in a search for variant word spellings (`an?esthesia` for anaesthesia or anesthesia).

Search Tips
- If your search results are too large:
  - Eliminate searching article bibliographies by typing your term(s) followed by `.mp.`.
  - Specify header word, keyword, MeSH heading by typing `.hw./.kw. or .sh.` following one or two terms.
  - Use options in `Limit to:` section such as `Publication Year`.
  - Select the Ovid `Search Fields` icon and limit your search to specific fields (e.g., title abstract).
- If your search results are too small:
  - Check your results and review `keywords` field for additional concepts.
  - Add synonyms for more of your concepts.
  - Use the `$` to retrieve terms with variant endings.

Other Tips
- Don’t save journal article records to the shopping cart. Check and one of the "Go to: Article" links, if available, OR click to search URSUS for the print journal at the library, OR submit an Interlibrary Loan (Illiad) request form. Full text will be available to you in 3-5 working days.

STARTING A SEARCH

1. From USM Library home page select `Indexes and Databases`.
2. Click on E, then `Evidence Based Medicine Reviews`.
3. The default is to search all 4 databases simultaneously.
4. To search an individual database, select **Change Database** and select desired titles

**REVIEW THE EBMR SEARCH SCREEN**

The EBMR database has a number of search options. Explore some of these to review their functions

For guidance on a specific search operation, consult **Help**
Sample Clinical Question:
How does heparin compare with the use of compression stockings in preventing DVT in the elderly following surgery?

Key Concepts: heparin/compression stockings/DVT/elderly/surgery

Search Statement:
(elder$ or aged) and heparin and compression stocking$ and (dvt or deep vein thrombosis) and surgery

From the main search page, enter your terms in the search box using $ with AND/OR as appropriate

Limits are available to apply to your search, but if used initially may be too restrictive. Click Search
At the top of the screen are given the results for the combined databases. Click Details to see the number of records from each database. Select Display to view results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Search History</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Display</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>((elder$ or aged) and heparin and compression stockings and (dvt or deep vein thrombosis) and surgery).mp. [mp=t1, ot, ab, b1, kw, ct, sh, hw]</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>DISPLAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The search results for each database are displayed, together with information on the record parts (fields) that were scanned (mapped).

Each term has been scanned against the document text and abstract, so some results may not be relevant. Select Find Similar to retrieve other related records. Select Complete Reference to review keywords for additional or alternative terms.
Review keywords and add new terms to broaden search statement

Humans; *Anticoagulants/tu (therapeutic use); *Bandages; *Fibrinolytic Agents/tu (therapeutic use); *Heparin/tu (therapeutic use); Heparin, Low-Molecular-Weight/tu (therapeutic use); *Heparin, Low-Molecular-Weight/tu (therapeutic use); *Hip Fractures/sg (surgery); Orthopedic Procedures; *Postoperative Complications/pc (prevention & control); *Pulmonary Embolism/pc (prevention & control); *Venous Thrombosis/pc (prevention & control)

SEARCH EXAMPLE - EACH TERM ENTERED AND SEARCHED SEPARATELY

By typing and searching individual concepts, it is easier to combine or add new terms. Each term appears in the Search History, and can be combined

Combine desired search terms using AND/OR. Select Expand/Contract to change number of viewed results
The Combined Searches set is listed last. Click Display to view search results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Results</th>
<th>Display</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>((elder$ or aged) and heparin and compression stocking$ and (dvt or deep vein (thrombosis) and surgery).mp. [mp=t, ot, ab, bx, kw, ct, sh, hw])</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>heparin.mp. [mp=t, ot, ab, bx, kw, ct, sh, hw]</td>
<td>5739</td>
<td>DISPLAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>(deep vein thrombosis or dvt).mp. [mp=t, ot, ab, bx, kw, ct, sh, hw]</td>
<td>1830</td>
<td>DISPLAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>compression stocking$.mp. [mp=t, ot, ab, bx, kw, ct, sh, hw]</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>DISPLAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>surgery.mp. [mp=t, ot, ab, bx, kw, ct, sh, hw]</td>
<td>37961</td>
<td>DISPLAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>(elder$ or aged).mp. [mp=t, ot, ab, bx, kw, ct, sh, hw]</td>
<td>198199</td>
<td>DISPLAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To print/email/save, check box adjacent to desired record(s). Select the Results Manager.

Results of your search: ((elder$ or aged) and heparin and compression stocking$ and (dvt or deep vein thrombosis) and surgery).mp. [mp=t, ot, ab, bx, kw, ct, sh, hw]

Viewing 1-10 of 18 Results


Records from the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews contain lengthy full text reports. To retrieve these, select Topic Review.
Sample record from CDSR. Many records contain tables and charts that may be unclear or incomplete when printed. Select Print Preview to reformat for the best possible output.

Heparin, low molecular weight heparin and physical methods for preventing deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism following surgery for hip fractures [Review]

Handoll, HG; Farrar, MJ; McLimie, J; Tytherleigh-Strong, G; Milne, AA; Gillespie, WJ

Date of Most Recent Update: 26-November-2003
Date of Most Recent Substantive Update: 23-June-2002

Cochrane Bone, Joint and Muscle Trauma Group,
Dr. Helen Handoll, University of Tresidder, c/o University Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Old Deaketh Road, Little France, Edinburgh, EH16 4SU, UK. Phone: +44 131 242 3499, Fax: +44 131 242 8467, E-mail: h.hendoll@ed.ac.uk, GB.

Abstract

Background: Hip fracture patients have a high risk of thrombo-embolic complications following surgical management.

Objectives: To examine the effects of heparin (unfractionated (U), and low molecular weight (LMW) heparins), and physical methods (compression stockings, calf or foot pumps) for prevention of deep venous thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism after surgery for hip fracture in the elderly.
Note: Print Preview in the database does not show the number of pages in the document. To obtain this number, select print preview from the File option on the browser toolbar.

This search also retrieved records from CCRT, a bibliographic database

The information in the CCRC database is cited in journal articles. To locate the article in full text, OR in print, OR to submit an Interlibrary Loan (Illiad) request, click Article Linker

NOTE: USM’s subscription to EBMR provides for two simultaneous users. Please click When finished.