

CARESEARCH INFORMATION SHEET NO. 04:

PALLIATIVE FILTER (PUBMED VERSION)

Explanatory Notes

This version of the palliative filter was designed to be a PubMed-equivalent version of the OVID Medline version [1-2]. The PubMed system holds both Medline records and non-Medline records. It is important to note that while it will retrieve non-Medline records too, it was only validated to search for Medline records most effectively. Note that this search additionally includes the journal BMC Palliative Care (which is not possible on OVID Medline as it is not indexed for Medline).

Use this search strategy to create one large subset of indexed records likely to be relevant to palliative care.

There are several advantages to using the PubMed version of the palliative filter. Not only is it free, but it will also retrieve more references than OVID Medline (because the PubMed system indexes a large amount of material not indexed on Medline). It also:

1. Is saved as a link on CareSearch and can be run automatically (no typing!)
2. Is embedded into a range of 40+ topic searches available as links on CareSearch
3. Can be quickly combined with your own choice of topic search.

Running the Filter

The simplest way to run this search is to select the link on the CareSearch website. It is located in the Palliative Filter Syntax page (in the Finding the Evidence/PubMed Topic Search Section) on the CareSearch website. A range of 40+ pre-written PubMed Topic Searches that include this filter are also available in the Finding the Evidence/PubMed Topic Search Section.

Instructions to run your own PubMed Topic Search

- Step 1: Run the palliative filter from the CareSearch website
- Step 2: CLEAR the search box
- Step 3: Enter your topic search, select GO
- Step 4: CLEAR the search box
- Step 5: Select the HISTORY tag, identify the set numbers for Steps 1 and 2
- Step 6: CLEAR the search box
- Step 7: Combine the set numbers by typing in, eg, #1 AND #2, select GO

Example

Let's say you are interested in anything to do with 'narrative' in the palliative care context. A useful textword for this concept might be 'narrative', and the correct MeSH term is 'narration'.

- Step 1: Run the palliative filter
- Step 2: CLEAR the search box
- Step 3: Enter the terms narrative OR narration, select GO
- Step 4: CLEAR the search box
- Step 5: Select the HISTORY tag, identify the set numbers for Steps 1 and 2
- Step 6: CLEAR the search box
- Step 7: Combine the set numbers by typing them in the search box, eg, #1 AND #2

The resultant search will provide you with a range of reference restricting the concept of narrative to the palliative context.

For information, the exact URL syntax that is used for the PubMed palliative filter is detailed below. Typing this into the address box of your Internet browser will provide you with the same results that you would retrieve by selecting the link on the CareSearch pages, as noted above.

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http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?cmd=search&db=pubmed&term=(advance+care+planning[mh]+OR+attitude+to+death[mh]+OR+bereavement[mh]+OR+terminal+care[mh]+OR+hospices[mh]+OR+life+support+care[mh]+OR+palliative+care[mh]+OR+terminally+ill[mh]+OR+death[mh:noexp]+OR+palliat*[Text+Word]+OR+hospice*[Text+Word]+OR+terminal+care[Text+Word]+OR+1049-9091[journal]+OR+1472-684X[journal]+OR+1357-6321[journal]+OR+1536-0539[journal]+OR+0825-8597[journal]+OR+1557-7740[journal]+OR+1552-4264[journal]+OR+1478-9523[journal]+OR+1477-030X[journal]+OR+0749-1565[journal]+OR+0742-969X[journal]+OR+1544-6794[journal]+OR+0941-4355[journal]+OR+1873-6513[journal]+OR+0145-7624[journal]+OR+1091-7683[journal]+OR+0030-2228[journal])+AND+english[lang]
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References

1. Sladek R, Tieman J, Fazekas BS, Abernathy AP, Currow DC. Development of a subject search filter to find information relevant to palliative care in the general medical literature. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2006, 94(4):394-401.
2. Sladek R, Tieman J. Applying evidence in the real world: a case study in library and information practice. *Health Information and Libraries Journal* (accepted for publication 19 February 2008).