



How PubMed® Works: Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)

Notes and Examples:

1. MeSH is the National Library of Medicine's _____ thesaurus representing terms in the biomedical literature.
2. MeSH terms are organized _____ and are revised _____.
3. Indexers assign the _____ MeSH headings available to describe the topics of an article.
4. Example: Eye

[All MeSH Categories](#)

[Anatomy Category](#)

[Body Regions](#)

[Head](#)

[Face](#)

Eye

[Eyebrows](#)

[Eyelids](#)

[Eyelashes](#)

5. Searching with a broad MeSH term _____ to include the narrower, more specific terms.
6. Exercise # 1: If you search in PubMed using the MeSH term Fear, what other MeSH terms will be included in your search? _____



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7. The four types of MeSH terms are:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

8. Example: covid-19 vaccines

9. Example: Adverse effects

10. If you check off more than one subheading at a time, they will be combined with_____.

11. Example: covid-19 vaccines/adverse effects*

12. Example: clinical trial

13. Publication type can describe the type of_____, the type of_____,
or the source of funding.

14. Example: wolframmin

15. _____ are synonymous or close in scope to the preferred MeSHterm.



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Exercise #2

1. True or False: Searching with the subheading **therapy** will include results indexed with **surgery**.
2. What type of term is samital?
3. Look up PMID 28332850
 - a. What is the publication type?
 - b. What is the major topic of this article?

Exercise #3

Go to MeSH and look up hand washing.

1. What is the preferred term, or MeSH heading, for hand washing? _____
2. Can you apply the subheading education to this term? _____
3. How far back can you search this concept with the MeSH heading? _____
4. What narrower terms would be included in the search of hand disinfection?

Links shared in class:

16 Branches of MeSH (Whole tree view)

<https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/treeView>

Dates in MeSH (includes 2 dates)

<https://youtu.be/CBU7FYJ5Hnk>

Contact Us:

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