Accessing the CINAHL database

Go to the Database and log-in. Log-in using your usual student log-in details.

1. Go to the Library website. 2. Find
2. Click, and then find ‘C’. 4. Click ‘C’. Go down the list of till you find CINAHL
5. Click on CINAHL Complete

Developing a search strategy

We need to be able to convert our topic sentence to a form that can be entered into the database.

What are the subjects in our topic? What are the subjects which relate to each other in our topic?

Our example search has three subjects: a. Risk Factors  b. Accidental awareness  c. anaesthesia.

We can enter these into the database’s search boxes

Try adding other possible words or phrases into each box like this: e.g.:
OR “inadvertent awareness” OR “intraoperative awareness”

Note the speech marks around phrases. For large results change ‘Select a Field’ to ‘Title’.

Hint

Also…entering anaesthe* rather than anaesthesia will include articles which use different forms such as anaesthetic

We can now click Search.
Clicking ‘Search’ will give a list of references to journal articles about your topic like the one above. Each consists of a title (blue) and other details including the authors and which journal it was published in. The one above is in the journal ‘Journal of Perioperative Care’ issue 12 of volume 25.

Read through the references and save the ones you want by clicking on the blue folder.

The Folder containing your saved references is at the top of the screen. You can e-mail them to yourself from there. Don’t forget to use the ‘E-Journal’ tab to access the full article by entering the name of the journal and following the link to the journal’s webpage. Enter the article title into the search box you find there.

Now do the search above and answer some questions

Answer the following questions:

1. “risk factors” AND “accidental awareness” AND anaesthesia yielded how many references? __________

2. Adding: OR “inadvertent awareness” OR “intraoperative awareness” to the second search box yielded how many references? __________

3. If there’s a difference in the number of references found? Can you say why? _________________

4. What would happen if you replaced anaesthesia with anaesthe* in the 3rd box? __________.