The Search Process

☑ Step 1
CINAHL automatically starts on the advanced search screen.

To limit the Publication Date use the drop down menu, Select a Field (optional) and select DT Publication Date. Put the preferred date range, in years, in the search bar to the left. This will search for articles published within the specified time frame.

To continue to narrow your search, scroll down to the Limit your results section and select specific limiters.

☑ Step 2
To limit results to Evidence-Based Medicine articles, under Publication Type, select:

- Case Study
- Clinical Trial
- Meta Analysis
- Meta Synthesis
- Practice Guidelines
- Randomized Controlled Trials
- Research
- Review
- Standards
- Systematic Review

(use Ctrl or Cmd to select multiple publication types at once)

☑ Step 3
To limit the results to Nursing Journals, select Nursing under Journal Subset.

☑ Step 4
To limit results to just United States publications, select USA under Geographic Subset.
Step 5

Click on the title of an article to view the Detailed Record, which includes: author information, abstract, publication type, and specific journal information.

All information required for the citation can be found in the Detailed Record.

Notes

Checking Peer Reviewed limits the results to journals and/or articles that CINAHL considers peer reviewed. To confirm if an article is Peer Reviewed, check the individual journal’s editorial process. The peer review criteria and reviewer or referee qualifications vary depending on the journal.

DO NOT check Evidence-Based Practice, this limits the results too much.

If you need to edit your search limiters, click on Show More, under Refine Results, to open a Search Options box. This allows you to narrow or expand your current search without having to start over.

Checking the EBSCO Full Text only box ensures that the returned results only include full text articles. Checking this box is optional. If you find an article that does not have full text availability, contact a Reference Librarian.

Limiting results to Nursing Journals via Journal Subset is more efficient than selecting Any Author is Nurse or First Author is Nurse because authors don’t always identify if they are a nurse or not.