

Search Solutions – The Path to Successful Search

Locate clinical trials being conducted in a particular year on a specific drug

TOPIC: In this example, using four biomedical databases – [MEDLINE®](#), [Embase®](#), [BIOSIS Previews®](#) and [SciSearch®: A Cited Reference Database](#) – you want to find recent clinical trials for the drug infliximab, a drug used to treat rheumatoid arthritis.

All four databases are central to biomedical research; however, as the example shows, they are searched differently. Both MEDLINE and Embase have their own thesaurus to help in locating search terms. In these two databases, you will use the EXPLODE command to select all narrower terms for clinical trials quickly and easily. In BIOSIS Previews and SciSearch, you want to use as many keyword synonyms as possible to conduct the search.

COMMAND SUMMARY

Databases: BIOSIS Previews, Embase, MEDLINE and SciSearch: A Cited Reference Science Database

Search Strategy

Enter ti,su(infliximab) and dtype(clinical* or multicenter* or randomized* or meta* or controlled) or mesh.exact.explode("clinical trial") fdb(medlineprof)

Enter emb.exact.explode("infliximab -- clinical trial") or (ti,su(infliximab) and emb.exact.explode("clinical trial") fdb(embase))

Enter ti,su,if(infliximab) and ((clinical or random* or controlled) pre/0 (trial or study) or multicenter or meta pre/0 analys* or phase pre/0 (i or ii or iii or 1 or 2 or 3)) fdb(biosispreviews or scisearch)

Enter s1 or s2 or s3

Limit to 2011

Preview, click title, select records

Tips

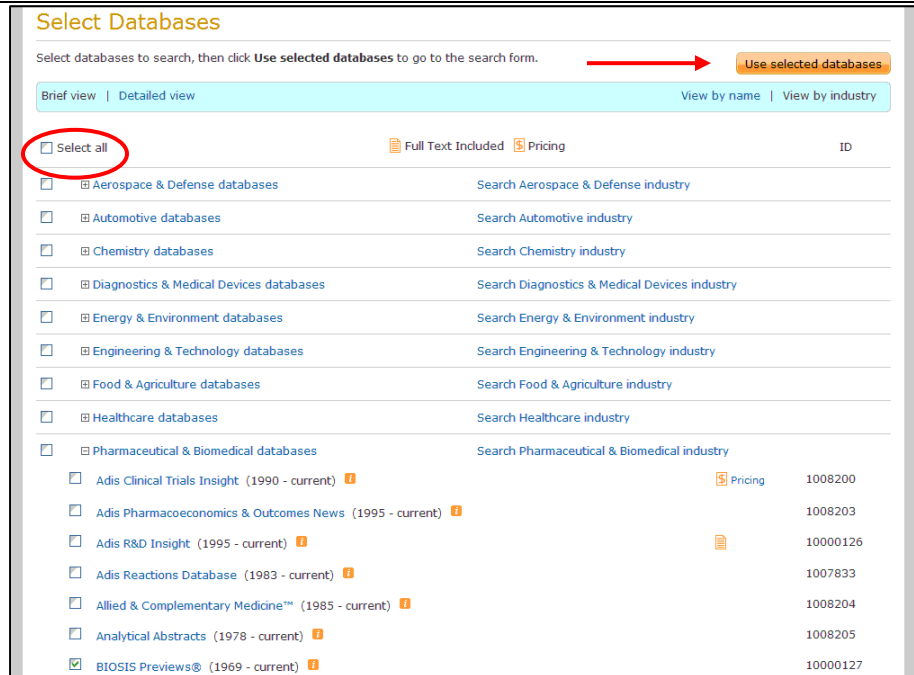
Limited truncation is available and recommended for best results. For example, random* can be entered as random[*4] or random\$4. The syntax is term[*#] or term\$# where # is a number.

pre/0 can be entered as p/0

SOLUTION – ADVANCED SEARCH

1. Click **Change** at the top of the screen. The list of databases appears. Deselect the checkbox for **Select all**. Click **View by industry** and scroll down. Click the plus sign to expand the **Pharmaceutical & Biomedical** databases. Select BIOSIS Previews, Embase, MEDLINE, and SciSearch: A Cited Reference Science Database.

Press **Use selected databases**.



Select Databases

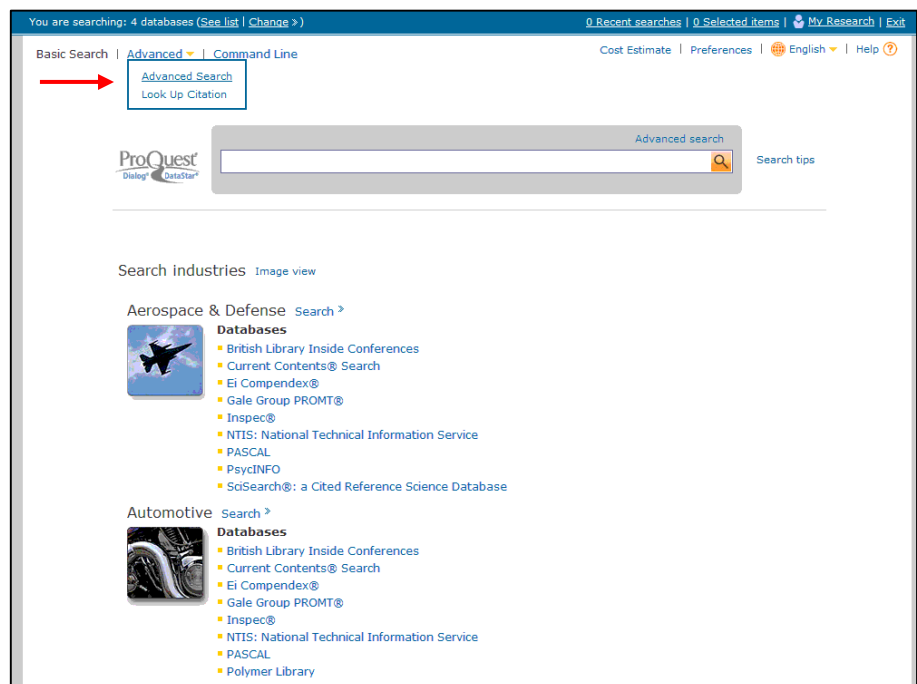
Select databases to search, then click **Use selected databases** to go to the search form. [Use selected databases](#)

[Brief view](#) | [Detailed view](#) [View by name](#) | [View by industry](#)

Select all Full Text Included Pricing ID

<input type="checkbox"/>	Aerospace & Defense databases	Search Aerospace & Defense industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Automotive databases	Search Automotive industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemistry databases	Search Chemistry industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Diagnostics & Medical Devices databases	Search Diagnostics & Medical Devices industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy & Environment databases	Search Energy & Environment industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering & Technology databases	Search Engineering & Technology industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Food & Agriculture databases	Search Food & Agriculture industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthcare databases	Search Healthcare industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pharmaceutical & Biomedical databases	Search Pharmaceutical & Biomedical industry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adis Clinical Trials Insight (1990 - current)	Pricing 1008200
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adis Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes News (1995 - current)	1008203
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adis R&D Insight (1995 - current)	10000126
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adis Reactions Database (1983 - current)	1007833
<input type="checkbox"/>	Allied & Complementary Medicine™ (1985 - current)	1008204
<input type="checkbox"/>	Analytical Abstracts (1978 - current)	1008205
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BIOSIS Previews® (1969 - current)	10000127

2. You are now searching in four databases, and in Basic Search. Click **Advanced** at the top of the page to go to the Advanced Search page.



You are searching: 4 databases (See list | Change >)

0 Recent searches | 0 Selected items | My Research | Exit

Basic Search | **Advanced** | Command Line Cost Estimate | Preferences | English | Help

[Advanced Search](#)
[Look Up Citation](#)

ProQuest
Dialog | eLibrary

Advanced search Search tips

Search industries [Image view](#)

Aerospace & Defense Search >

Databases

- British Library Inside Conferences
- Current Contents® Search
- Ei Compendex®
- Gale Group PROMT®
- Inspec®
- NTIS: National Technical Information Service
- PASCAL
- PsycINFO
- SciSearch®: a Cited Reference Science Database

Automotive Search >

Databases

- British Library Inside Conferences
- Current Contents® Search
- Ei Compendex®
- Gale Group PROMT®
- Inspec®
- NTIS: National Technical Information Service
- PASCAL
- Polymer Library

3. Create the first of three search sets: enter search terms for the first concept, qualifying to MEDLINE using the **From Database** field code (**FDB**). Check the box to **Show number of results and stay on this page**. Press **Search**.

Note: You can find the database codes in the Help text. Click **Help** and when Help opens, click **Search**. Then enter **FDB**. Click **Targeting databases when you search**.

The screenshot shows the ProQuest Advanced Search interface. At the top, it says "You are searching: 4 databases (See list | Change >)" and "0 Recent searches | 0 Selected items | My Research | Exit". The "Help" link is circled in red. The search terms are: "TI,SU(INFLIXIMAB) AND DTYPE(CLINICAL* OR MULTICENTER* OR RANDOMIZED* OR META* OR CONTROLLED) OR MESH.EXACT.EXPLODE('CLINICAL TRIAL') FDB (MEDLINEPROF)". The "Show number of results and stay on this page" checkbox is checked and circled in red. The "Search" button is highlighted in orange.

4. Set 1 appears under Recent searches. Clear the search form and enter search terms for Set 2, qualifying to Embase using the **From Database** field code (**FDB**). Press **Search**.

The screenshot shows the ProQuest Advanced Search interface after the second search. At the top, it says "You are searching: 4 databases (See list | Change >)" and "1 Recent searches | 0 Selected items | My Research | Exit". The "Search" button is highlighted in orange and the "Clear form" button is highlighted in red. The search terms are: "EMB.EXACT.EXPLODE('infiximab -- clinical trial') OR (TI,SU(INFLIXIMAB) AND EMB.EXACT.EXPLODE('CLINICAL TRIAL') FDB(EMBASE))". The "Show number of results and stay on this page" checkbox is checked. Below the search options, it shows "1 Recent searches" and "528 result(s)*". The "Search" button is highlighted in orange.

5. Now two sets appear under Recent searches. Clear the form and enter search terms qualifying to BIOSIS Previews and SciSearch using the FDB field code. Click **Search**.

You are searching: 4 databases (See list | Change >)

2 Recent searches | 0 Selected items | My Research | Exit

Basic Search | Advanced ▾ | Command Line

Cost Estimate | Preferences | English ▾ | Help ?

ProQuest
Dialog® | QuestStar®

Advanced Search

Look Up Citation

Recent searches

Thesaurus | Field codes | Tips

TI,SU,IF(INFLIXIMAB) AND ((CLINICAL OR RANDOM* OR CONTROLLED) PRE/0 (TRIAL OR STUDY) OR MULTICENTER OR META PRE/0 ANALYS* OR PHASE PRE/0 (I OR II OR III OR 1 OR 2 OR 3)) FDB(BIOSISPREVIEWS OR SCISEARCH) | in | All fields (no full text) - ALL ▾

AND ▾ | in | All fields (no full text) - ALL ▾

AND ▾ | in | All fields (no full text) - ALL ▾

▢ Add a row | Remove a row

Show number of results and stay on this page

Search Clear form

Search options | 2 Recent searches

° Not all selected databases will return results for this field. View details

2 Recent searches

Sort: 2-1 | 1-2 Show all details ▾

2

Searched for: EMB.EXACT.EXPLODE("infiximab -- clinical trial") OR (TI,SU(INFLIXIMAB) AND EMB.EXACT.EXPLODE("CLINICAL TRIAL") FDB(EMBASE)) 6016 result(s)*

Show details ▾

1

Searched for: all(TI,SU(INFLIXIMAB) AND DTYPE(CLINICAL* OR MULTICENTER* OR RANDOMIZED* OR META* OR CONTROLLED) OR MESH.EXACT.EXPLODE("CLINICAL TRIAL") FDB(MEDLINEPROF)) 528 result(s)*

Show details ▾

*approximate result count without duplicates

^ Back to top

6. OR the three sets together by entering S1 OR S2 OR S3. Click the **Search options** tab to enter a date range.

You are searching: 4 databases (See list | Change >)

3 Recent searches | 0 Selected items | My Research | Exit

Basic Search | Advanced ▾ | Command Line

Cost Estimate | Preferences | English ▾ | Help ?

ProQuest
Dialog® | QuestStar®

Advanced Search

Look Up Citation

Recent searches

Thesaurus | Field codes | Tips

s1 or s2 or s3 | in | All fields (no full text) - ALL ▾

AND ▾ | in | All fields (no full text) - ALL ▾

AND ▾ | in | All fields (no full text) - ALL ▾

▢ Add a row | Remove a row

Show number of results and stay on this page

Search Clear form

Search options | Recent searches

° Not all selected databases will return results for this field. View details

3 Recent searches

Sort: 3-1 | 1-3 Show all details ▾

3

Searched for: TI,SU,IF(INFLIXIMAB) AND ((CLINICAL OR RANDOM* OR CONTROLLED) PRE/0 (TRIAL OR STUDY) OR MULTICENTER OR META PRE/0 ANALYS* OR PHASE PRE/0 (I OR II OR III OR 1 OR 2 OR 3)) FDB(BIOSISPREVIEWS OR SCISEARCH) 2382 result(s)*

Show details ▾

2

Searched for: EMB.EXACT.EXPLODE("infiximab -- clinical trial") OR (TI,SU(INFLIXIMAB) AND EMB.EXACT.EXPLODE("CLINICAL TRIAL") FDB(EMBASE)) 6016 result(s)*

Show details ▾

1

Searched for: all(TI,SU(INFLIXIMAB) AND DTYPE(CLINICAL* OR MULTICENTER* OR RANDOMIZED* OR META* OR CONTROLLED) OR MESH.EXACT.EXPLODE("CLINICAL TRIAL") FDB(MEDLINEPROF)) 528 result(s)*

Show details ▾

*approximate result count without duplicates

7. Search options provide limiters you can select to narrow the search. Qualify to a **Date range** by using the drop list. Since you're limiting results to data published during one year, enter the four-digit year in the year box.

Deselect **Show number of results and stay on this page** and press **Search**.

8. Browse results. Duplicate records have been removed automatically.

On this page you can narrow results further by using **Search within** and **Narrow results by options**.

Click **Preview** to preview records of interest. Select records you wish to view in bulk.

You can look at full records by clicking titles, or by clicking **Selected items**. Email, print, cite, export or save selected records by clicking on the corresponding icon. You can also easily create a **Saved Search**, **Alert** or **RSS feed** based on your search strategy.