

A quick guide to differences in search behaviour

The Cochrane Library is moving to Wiley InterScience. Important differences in search functionality exist between the old and the new versions. To help you settle in, this card explains the differences and introduces some brand new functionality. Please familiarise yourself with this information before you start using the new version. This information applies to the online version only and not to the CDROM.



We hope that you will soon feel at home on Wiley InterScience.

Difference in search behaviour	Example Update Software search	Suggested Wiley InterScience search
A space between two terms now defaults to Boolean 'AND'. Previously a space defaulted to 'NEAR'.	colon cancer	colon NEXT cancer
A hyphen within a word is treated as a character. A hyphenated word is treated as a single term. Previously a hyphen was treated as a word-break. The search 'body NEAR weight' will not find the search terms if they occur as part of a hyphenated word. For example this search will not find the word 'body-height' near the word 'weight'.	body NEAR weight	Use wildcards to find the search terms where they occur as part of a hyphenated word: body* NEAR weight*
Where mixed cases are used, the search is case sensitive. For example a search for 'pH' will match 'pH', but not 'ph', 'PH', or 'Ph'.	Angioplasty (No case sensitivity)	angioplasty OR ANGIOPLASTY (No case sensitivity, provided case consistent.)
You can combine nested Boolean operators with proximity operators to build a complex search.	cancer NEAR therapy OR cancer NEAR treatment OR tumour NEAR therapy OR tumour NEAR treatment	(cancer OR tumour) NEAR (treatment OR therapy)

Insert a search term within quotation marks to find an exact match.

Continued overleaf

Difference in search behaviour	Example Update Software search	Suggested Wiley InterScience search
You can use a comma instead of Boolean 'OR'.	pertussis OR whooping cough	pertussis, whooping cough
Stemming automatically searches for common spelling variants.	randomise OR randomize	randomize
You can use the wildcard character (*) before and within a search term in addition to after a search term.	hypertension OR hypotension prenatal OR antenatal	hyp*tension *natal
To find a search term within a particular field, select the restriction from the pull-down boxes. It is no longer possible to enter field parameters directly into the search box.	administration:TI	Select 'Record Title' from pull-down box.
The search allows for diphthongs in some common words, for example 'tumor' matches 'tumor' and 'tumour', but to ensure that your search term matches its variant spellings, use a wildcard character.	hematoma OR haematoma	h*ematoma
A search now matches both singular and plural forms of the search term. A search for 'foot' will match records containing the word 'foot' and records containing the word 'feet'.	child	Override autopluralisation by entering the search term in quotation marks: "child"
You can specify how close two related words should be to each other in the text by using '/number' after the 'NEAR' operator.	malaria NEAR fever	malaria NEAR/6 fever
Used without a specific number, 'NEAR' defaults to finding two terms within 6/7 words of each other in either direction including stop words. 'NEAR' previously found terms 6 words apart in either direction excluding stop words.	foot NEAR diabet*	Increase the distance between the terms to allow for the stop words: Foot NEAR/11 diabet*
Accented characters do not match their equivalent unaccented form.	meniere's disease	Use wildcards to find both the accented and non-accented variations of a word: m*ni*re's NEXT disease

The Wiley InterScience search does not search references.