PubMed et al

From the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health
What is complementary and alternative medicine (CAM)?

NLM defines complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) as health care practices not currently considered an integral part of conventional medicine. It covers a broad range of healing therapies, approaches, and systems. Some examples of CAM include acupuncture, herbs, homeopathy, chiropractic, hypnosis, and traditional Oriental medicine.

A strategy is called complementary when it is used in addition to conventional treatment. It is often called alternative when it is used instead of conventional treatment. Many people who use CAM therapies are seeking ways to improve their health and well-being and to relieve symptoms and side effects of conventional treatment.

Who will use this database?

CAM on Pubmed will be used by researchers, CAM practitioners, health care providers, students, people with illnesses, their family and friends, advocacy organizations, and many others as a resource to find citations related to complementary and alternative medicine. Please note that it is not the intention of the NLM or NCCAM to provide specific medical advice, but rather to provide people with access to sources of information.

How many citations are included within CAM on Pubmed?

Currently, there are over 270,000 citations in the CAM subset of Pubmed (from 1966 forward). As research in complementary and alternative medicine grows and more articles are published, we expect the number of citations to increase.

NLM Services

- Gateway
- LocatorPlus
- MedlinePlus
- PubMed Central
- Bookshelf
- LoanSome Doc
- Pubmed
  - PDA
- Other Databases
  - Protein
  - Toxline
Common “searching”

- Big and merged databases
- Automatic term mapping
  - Pop machine injuries
  - MeSH
  - Journals
  - Author Index
- Phrase searching
  - Population health
  - Heart attack
PubMed =s

- Medline
  - > 12 million citations
  - 1966 on
  - 4,600 journals
  - 76% with abstracts

- Old Medline
  - 1.7 million
  - 1951-65

- History of Medicine
- Bioethics
- Health Services Research
- CancerLit etc

Pubmed vs. Medline

- Internet 2
- Most current
- “Google” like engine
- Link Out
- Out of scope citations:
  - In process or newly arrived
  - Partially indexed
  - Citations that precede journals inclusion date
  - PubMed Central journals not in Medline
May be useful:

- MeSH
- Related Articles
- Details
- Link Out
- Single citation matcher
- Clinical queries
  - Systematic reviews

Phrase searching

- “population health"
- Population health [tw]
- Population health*
- Population-health

Limits