FIS 2135 Search Assignment 1

Worth: 15%
Due: Wednesday February 11th, 2004 (Class 6)

Resource to be used: OVID MEDLINE

You are given the following scenario to use as the basis for your search. Below the scenario are the details of what you need to hand into the instructors. Your search will be assessed for appropriateness of search terms, search strategy development, use of system features and end result.

Scenario

I (a clinician) would like to use the following drug _____ for the treatment of __________. Before prescribing the drug, I need to explain the condition to the patient, and I need to know some background about the drug to answer any patient questions. Specifically, I am interested in knowing the following:

- A definition of the condition from a medical dictionary (Be sure to cite the dictionary used) and translate the definition into layman's English for me
- All the possible names of the drug
- When did articles discussing this drug first appear in medical journals?
- Are there any reported side effects for the drug?
- Are there any reported contraindications?
- Are there any evaluative studies on the use of this drug?
- Are there any evaluative studies on the use of this drug in middle-aged females?

Write-up – 2-3 pages, double spaced, maximum

You should include the following elements in your report:

List your original set of search terms

Show how you would combine these different terms to create a search strategy

Discuss your search strategy using these points as guides:
- Did you have to change your initial search terms?
- How did you find new search terms to use?
- Why did you choose to use the search terms listed in your strategy?
- Were there other terms you could have used for searching? Why did you choose not to use them?

Include the following with your write-up:

1. A copy of your search strategy
2. Citations, abstracts, and MeSH terms for a maximum of 4-5 evaluative studies. If there are none, then provide a printout with 4-5 citations, abstracts and MeSH terms for references reporting side effects or contraindications.