

## TECHNIQUES FOR KEEPING UP WITH THE VETERINARY LITERATURE: PART 2

**P**reviously, this column discussed the broad considerations for keeping up with the veterinary literature. Let's look at two specific methods—following authors and following articles using tools that are freely available via the internet. In addition to these, there are tools to which you or your employer may subscribe; I'll leave you to discover them.

### Authors

Identify an author you want to follow. It may be that you have a list of authors handy whose work is of interest, or you may be inspired by a specific article to follow a new-to-you author. By following an author's work, you can find new items they publish.

### Articles

There may be classic articles that interest you, or a new article may discuss a novel approach to a situation. Following an article allows you to see other, newer articles that cite it. This is also a sound strategy when there are few articles published about a topic. The idea is that articles that cite it also may be related and of interest to you.

### Tools

Google Scholar, <https://scholar.google.com>, is a specialized search from Google that indexes articles instead of providing more general results. You can sign into it with a Google account or independently. It provides several powerful options for following an author. Search for the author, and see if they



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have set up a Google Scholar profile. Profiles display at the top of the results. Click the author, and then click the "follow" button in the upper right. You will see a choice of following new articles by the author, their citations or work related to theirs. Then enter the email address you want to use to receive updates. Alternately, look for the Create Alerts option on the left side of the screen. If you're an author, consider setting up a Google Scholar profile so others can follow you and your works. For additional assistance, visit <https://scholar.google.com/int/en/scholar/help.html#alerts>.

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items, work or both. It doesn't take long to determine if someone's posts will be of interest. Once you start reading professional tweets, you will see others of interest to follow, and Twitter will suggest new accounts to consider following based on what you follow, like and retweet. If you are comfortable making your Twitter account public, retweet items of interest.

Research Gate, <https://researchgate.net>, requires you to create a free account. You can follow a specific article, author or project. Research Gate provides updates via email and can be a bit assertive in its messaging, so it isn't to everyone's taste.

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Next, we'll talk about following journals and societies.

Thank you to Ashley Tucker for inspiring this topic and to L.M. Rey for consulting about the content and creating the graphic. 

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