

## Discussion Prompt

**Goal:** To learn effective methods of searching PubMed MEDLINE to locate scholarly evidence.

**Learning objectives:**

1. Access PubMed through the Medical Sciences Library (MSL) website to connect to the library's full text subscriptions.
2. Apply MeSH subheadings, search filters, and keywords to get more relevant results.
3. Use a generativeAI Large Language Model (LLM) such as ChatGPT, Copilot, or Bard to suggest PubMed MeSH search terms, critique the results, and share insights with peers.

Refer to this tip sheet to guide you - <filename>

or the PubMed Searching slides - <filename>

For **full credit**, post before the deadline, do not use diabetes as the disease, and respond to all 6 prompts. Be sure to include screenshots when prompted.

The process below can help with Outline A (summary of a disease).

1. Select any disease, **except diabetes**. Access PubMed through the Medical Sciences Library website - <https://msl.library.tamu.edu/> . Clear any filters, and search for this disease with a keyword in the search box. Using search filters, limit to **Review** articles published in the **last 5 years**. Post the disease you chose, the number of results returned, and your thoughts on the relevance of the first few articles.
2. Clear all filters. **Find a MeSH term for the disease**. You may select the "MESH Major Topic" textbox if desired, and then search. Limit to **Reviews, last 5 years**. Post the MeSH term and definition you used and your thoughts on the relevance of the new results.

The process below can help with the basic/translational science aspect for Outline B (for example, experiments with the genetics of a disease may be useful to diagnose or treat the disease).

Clear all filters again.

3. New search – bring up the MeSH term for the disease again. Select **ONE sub-heading that represents a basic sciences aspect of your disease, like genetics, microbiology, etc.** and then search. **DO NOT limit by article type, DO limit to the last 5 years**. Post the sub-heading you added for the disease and your thoughts on the relevance of the new results.

Now to give AI a try...

4. Choose a large language model (LLM) and experiment with asking for MeSH terms or a MeSH search for the same basic sciences aspect you just tried yourself. Post the name of the LLM you used and **insert a screenshot of the conversation or an export of the chat**. Please note that you may opt to NOT experiment with one of these tools, but tell us **WHY** you made this choice on question #5. You should still also respond to #6.

**5.** Critique the response from the LLM. Here are a few guiding questions for this portion of the post. If you check the terms against the MeSH database, are they “real” MeSH terms? If it gave you a search string, did you try it and did the search work? How did the results compare to your own process using subheadings? Other thoughts?

**6.** Discuss in your post how (or if) you think you will use LLMs going forward for help with literature searching in PubMed.

While not required for this assignment, we encourage you to help each other with the search process and these tools. Once you’ve posted your response, view others’ responses, give constructive feedback and learn from each other.

If you forget to include something in your post, you cannot edit it. Simply “reply” to your own post to add additional content.