



Supplemental content to J Med Libr Assoc. Apr;108(2):dx.doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2020.834 www.jmla.mlanet.org © Clark, Sanders, Carter, Honeyman, Cleo, Auld, Booth, Condron, Dalais, Bateup, Linthwaite, May, Munn, Ramsay, Rickett, Rutter, Smith, Sondergeld, Wallin, Jones, Beller 2020

Improving the translation of search strategies using the Polyglot Search Translator: a randomized controlled trial

Justin Michael Clark; Sharon Sanders; Matthew Carter; David Honeyman; Gina Cleo; Yvonne Auld; Debbie Booth; Patrick Condron; Christine Dalais; Sarah Bateup; Bronwyn Linthwaite; Nikki May; Jo Munn; Lindy Ramsay; Kirsty Rickett; Cameron Rutter; Angela Smith; Peter Sondergeld; Margie Wallin; Mark Jones; Elaine Beller

APPENDIX A

Description of how the Polyglot Search Translator (PST) (intervention) works

The Polyglot Search Translator (PST) is not designed to replace the need to understand how the database works: it is designed to help those with that knowledge achieve search translations faster. A key component that the PST does not do is to automatically map subject terms such as Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) terms across databases. Users still need to conduct this task themselves by looking up the appropriate thesaurus in each database.

To use the PST, copy and paste either a PubMed or Ovid MEDLINE into the "Your query" box, then click on the arrow next to database name to reveal the translated search string. Copy this search string into the search box of the appropriate database. If the search does not run as expected, you can paste it into a Word document and make any required edits (for instance, if you have not changed over the MeSH subject term to the subject term of the new database). More details on how the PST works can be found from the PST help guide, available at crebp-sra.com/#/help/polyglot.

The PST is a free tool that can be accessed from <u>crebp-sra.com/#/polyglot</u> and is available as MIT-licensed open source software at <u>https://github.com/CREBP/sra-polyglot</u>.

For example, the PST replaces the Ovid MEDLINE adjacency operator "ADJ" with "NEAR" when translating the search string to the Cochrane Library, and the truncation symbol "?" with "*" when translating search strings from Ovid to PubMed (Figure S1 and Figure S2). Thesaurus terms need to be manually translated by the searcher. Search strings can be translated from either, PubMed or Ovid MEDLINE, into the PubMed, Ovid MEDLINE/Ovid Embase/Ovid PsycINFO, Embase.com, Cochrane Library, Web of Science, Scopus, or CINAHL databases.

Figure S1 Screenshot of the Polyglot Search Translator (PST) translating a PubMed search to the Cochrane Library

Your query	0	T -	ei.	2¢	•
"Primary Health Care"[Mesh] OR "Primary care"[tiab] OR "Primary healthcare"[tiab] OR "Family practice"[tiab] OR "General practice"[tiab]					
"Bacterial Infections"[Mesh] OR Bacteria[tiab] OR Bacterial[tiab]					
"Anti-Bacterial Agents"[Mesh] OR Antibiotics[tiab] OR Antibiotic[tiab]					
					_
> PubMed		an	y search	box	en en
> Ovid Medline / Ovid Embase		an	y search	box	e
✓ Cochrane Library	us	e search r	nanager	box	Ø
([mh "Primary Health Care"] OR "Primary care":ti,ab OR "Primary healthcare":ti,ab OR "Family practice":ti,ab OR "General practice":ti,ab) AND ([mh "Bacterial Infections"] OR Bacteria:ti,ab OR Bacterial:ti,ab) AND ([mh "Anti-Bacterial Agents"] OR Antibiotics:ti,ab OR Antibiotic:ti,ab)					





Supplemental content to J Med Libr Assoc. Apr;108(2):dx.doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2020.834 www.jmla.mlanet.org

© Clark, Sanders, Carter, Honeyman, Cleo, Auld, Booth, Condron, Dalais, Bateup, Linthwaite, May, Munn, Ramsay, Rickett, Rutter, Smith, Sondergeld, Wallin, Jones, Beller 2020

Figure S2 Screenshot of the PST translating an Ovid MEDLINE search to Embase.com

Your query	/ X - 🕅 🛪 o
(exp Anv Vulgaris' OR Acne tiab. OR Blackheads.tiab. OR Whiteheads.tiab. OR Pimples.tiab.) AND (exp Photorherapy/ OR Blue light.tiab. OR Phototherapy.tiab. OR Photorediation therapy.tiab. OR Photoradiation Therapies.tiab. OR Light Therapy.tiab. OR Light Therapy.tiab. OR Ught Therapy.tiab. OR Ught Therapy.tiab. OR Ught Therapy.tiab. OR Jon AND (Randomized outrolled trial.pt. OR controlled clinical trial.pt. OR randomized.ti.ab. OR placebo.ti.ab. OR drug therapy.fs. OR randomly.ti.ab. OR trial.ti.ab. OR groups.ti.ab.) NOT (exp Animals' NOT (exp Animals' AND exp Humans/)	
> PubMed	any search box
> Ovid Medline / Ovid Embase	any search box
> Cochrane Library	use search manager box දී
✓ Embase	any search box
((Ante Vulgeris'/eep OR AntetLab OR BlackheadstLab OR WhiteheadstLab OR PinplestLab)) AND ((Photofenergy/eep OR "Slue light"Lab OR "hototherapiestLab OR "Photoradiation therapy".tLab OR "Photoradiation Therapies".tLab OR "Light Therapy".tLab OR "Light Therapy".tLab OR "Light Therapies".tLab) AND (("Randomized controlled trial"):t OR "controlled dinial trial"):t OR randomized.tLab OR placebostLab OR "drug therapy".ink OR randomized.tLab OR trial.tLab OR groupstLab)) NOT (("Antmatizep NOT (Animals'/eep AND Humans'/eep)))	