

Leeds University Library Training Materials

Popline database

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Popline database

This database enables you to search for journal articles, books and unpublished reports in the fields of reproductive health, population studies, family planning, HIV/AIDS and related health issues, particularly in a developing country context. Popline includes links to the full text of free online documents and has strong coverage of documents produced in developing countries.

Aims

This workbook contains a number of tasks and activities which will introduce you to the Popline database. By the end of this workbook you will be able to:

- Log in to Popline
- Understand how Popline works and how it differs from other databases
- Select references for printing or saving

About this workbook

- Things that you need to type are displayed in **Courier New bold** font
- Instructions assume that you are using the Internet Explorer browser (the ISS supported web browser). But you can use any web browser.

1. Logging in to Popline

Exercise 1

Start Internet Explorer and go to:

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/library>

From the **Use Library e-resources** Section at the bottom of the middle (light blue) part of the screen, type **Popline** into the Search by title box and click on Go

At the next (Library catalogue) screen, click on **Popline: Population database - - Free Databases** (inside the **Electronic holdings details:** box)

The main search page will be displayed (may take a few seconds).

2. Explaining the main page

The main search page will look similar to this:


The screenshot shows the Popline search interface. The browser window title is "POPLINE@--Search the world's largest bibliographic database on population, family planning, and - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The address bar shows "http://db.jhuccp.org/jics-wpd/popweb/". The page layout includes a search form with fields for "SUBJECT:" and "AUTHOR:", a "SEARCH" button, and a checkbox for "Check the box to search only peer reviewed journals.". On the left, there are "Search Tips" and "Pre-arranged searches on common topics." with a list of topics like "Adolescent Pregnancy" and "AIDS and Men". On the right, there are "Two New INFO Publications on Vasectomy" and "HOT Topic" sections. Annotations include "Step 1: Type your search terms in the subject box" pointing to the subject field and "Step 2: Click here to start the search" pointing to the search button.

You can either enter search words in the subject box to find references on a specific topic of your choice. Or you can look at the instant searches listed on the left hand side of the screen – this means that the search has already been done for you and you can look at the results immediately.

Exercise 2: Instant searches

Click on a topic of interest listed on the left hand side of the above screen e.g. **Antiretroviral therapy**

At the top of the resulting screen, you will see how many records (references) have been found in the database

Click on the Back  button to return to the previous page

You could also look at the rolling Current Research and News feed in the bottom right hand corner of the Popline home page – this gives you a “feel” for the sorts of topics covered by Popline.

3. Searching for articles on a topic: Basic Search

For the purposes of this workbook, we will search Popline for articles on the topic of:

The traditional birth attendant's role in the safe motherhood initiative

As with any topic, start by breaking it down into its main constituent parts - in this case

Traditional birth attendants

Safe motherhood

Unlike other databases (e.g. advanced searching in Global Health etc), it is not possible to do separate searches for each word and then combine them. In Basic Search, combining of words has to be done immediately

3a Combining search words with AND (&)

Because you are looking for references which discuss both the subject of traditional birth attendants and the subject of safe motherhood, you combine these two topics with AND

In Popline, **do not type the word AND. Instead use the & symbol** (Shift-7 on your keyboard)

You can use **truncation**. In Popline, this is the asterisk (*)

Exercise 3a: Combining with &

From the main search page, type the following in the **SUBJECT:** box

traditional birth attendant* & safe motherhood

Click on the  button

The next screen will show you how many results have been found and will display the first 50

4. Displaying results

The results of your search are automatically displayed in a short format which shows:

Unique number for the reference

Author(s). **Title of article.** [Type of reference] Journal title. Year. Volume (part) number: page numbers
e.g.

3. [304714](#) [View full record]

Blum LS; Sharmin T; Ronsmans C. **Attending home vs. clinic-based deliveries: perspectives of skilled birth attendants in Matlab, Bangladesh.** Reproductive Health Matters. 2006 May; 14 (27) :51-60.

4a [View full record]

If you click on this, you do not see the full text of the article. Instead you are shown a long display giving further details e.g. an abstract and the keywords which have been used to index the article e.g.

3.
Peer Reviewed

Title: Attending home vs. clinic-based deliveries: perspectives of skilled birth attendants in Matlab, Bangladesh.
Author: Blum LS; Sharmin T; Ronsmans C
Source: Reproductive Health Matters. 2006 May;14(27):51-60.
Abstract: In an effort to make skilled attendance at birth more accessible, some countries in Asia have begun major initiatives to promote the option of home delivery with a midwife. Yet there is little empirical evidence from the region to suggest that home-based care is as safe or effective as care in medical facilities. Qualitative research involving key informant and in-depth interviews and group discussions was carried out in 2003 and 2004 in Matlab, a rural area of Bangladesh, to examine the feasibility of home- vs. facility-based delivery from the perspective of 13 skilled birth attendants. The findings illuminate major constraints encountered during home deliveries, including poor transportation, inappropriate environment for delivery, insufficient supplies and equipment, lack of security, and inadequate training and medical supervision, which may prevent the provision of skilled care. Most difficult was the pressure by families to adhere to traditional childbirth norms and convincing families to accept the need for referral. The advantages highlighted of attending births in a health facility were the safe, clean environment, availability of supplies, ability to accommodate other work activities and make quick referrals, and higher coverage. The study illuminates practical, cultural and medical issues that need to be taken into consideration when choosing between home- and facility-based strategies and designing safe motherhood interventions. (author's)
Language: English
Keywords:
[BANGLADESH](#) | [RESEARCH REPORT](#) | [QUALITATIVE RESEARCH](#) | [PREGNANT WOMEN](#) | [TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANTS](#) | [HOME CARE](#) | [MIDWIVES AND MIDWIFERY](#) | [CHILDBIRTH](#) | [PROMOTION](#) | [SAFE MOTHERHOOD](#) | [MATERNAL HEALTH](#) | [PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY](#) | [Asia, Southern](#) | [Asia](#) | [Developing Countries](#) | [Research Methodology](#) | [Population Characteristics](#) | [Demographic Factors](#) | [Population](#) | [Health Personnel](#) | [Delivery of Health Care](#) | [Health](#) | [Care and Support](#) | [Health Services](#) | [Pregnancy Outcomes](#) | [Pregnancy](#) | [Reproduction](#) | [Marketing](#) | [Economic Factors](#) | [Program Evaluation](#) | [Programs](#) | [Organization and Administration](#)
Document Number: 304714

To return to the list of references, close the long display window down by clicking on ☒ in the top right hand corner of the window.

Exercise 4: Displaying results

Using the results of the search you did in Exercise 3a, have a look at the references found.


For articles which look interesting, click on the blue underlined number to view the full record

To return to the list of references (short record display) close the long display window down by clicking on ☒ in the top right hand corner of the window.

5. Viewing the full text

Popline sometimes provides a link to the full text of a document or to an appropriate web page e.g.

An article in an open access (free) journal

 Fronczak N; Arifeen SE; Moran AC; Caulfield LE; Baqui AH. **Delivery practices of traditional birth attendants in Dhaka slums, Bangladesh.** Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition. 2007 Dec; 25 (4) :479-487.

A pdf document:

World Health Organization [WHO]; International Confederation of Midwives; International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics [FIGO]. **Making pregnancy safer: the critical role of the skilled attendant. A joint statement by WHO, ICM and FIGO.** Geneva, Switzerland, WHO, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, 2004. [23] p. http://www.who.int/reproductive-health/publications/2004/skilled_attendant.pdf

A web site:

4. [290984](#) [View full record]
Population Council. Safe motherhood. Maternal health education needed in Pakistan. **Population Briefs.** 2005 Jan; 11 (1) :[5] p.. [http://www.popcouncil.org/publications/popbriefs/pb11\(1\)_4.html](http://www.popcouncil.org/publications/popbriefs/pb11(1)_4.html)

Article in a paid-for journal -

Many journals are not available free of charge but if Leeds University Library has paid for a subscription, you, as a Leeds student, will be able to view the fulltext without cost to you.

NB: if you are using Popline from a PC off campus, you will be asked to prove you are a member of Leeds University by entering your ISS username and password.

1. [319404](#) [View full record] 
Fortney JA. Editor's Comment; Lessons and accomplishments 20 years after the Safe Motherhood Conference in Nairobi. **International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics.** 2007 Sep; 98 (2) :269-270.

Exercise 5: Viewing the full text

Using the results of the search you did in Exercise 3a, have a look at the references found.

If there is a link to the full text of a document or to a web site, click on the appropriate button or link to read the document.

If a direct link to the full text is not available, you will have to check the Library catalogue to see if you have access to the journal/document concerned (see Exercise 6)

6. Combining search words with OR (/)

Sometimes, you might need to expand your search to include words that have a similar meaning (immunisation / vaccination) or abbreviations (tuberculosis / TB).

These need to be combined with OR.

In Popline, **do not type the word OR. Instead use the / (slash) sign**

Exercise 6: Combining search words with OR

Use the Back  button to return to the original search screen

As well as searching for traditional birth attendants, you also want to search for the acronym/abbreviation TBAs

Re-type your search so that it looks like this:


(traditional birth attendant* / TBA*) & safe motherhood

Remember to enclose the terms you are combining with OR (/) in round brackets ()

7. Checking the Library catalogue

Unlike databases such Global Health, there is no direct link between the Popline and the Library catalogue. So, if you find a reference to a journal article and you want to check whether the Library has the journals (in printed or electronic format), you will have to do a separate search on the catalogue. The easiest way to do this is to open up another web window for the catalogue and to switch between Popline and the Library catalogue.

Exercise 7: Checking the Library catalogue

Minimise the Popline database window by clicking on the  button in the top right hand corner of the screen. The screen will be saved as a bar right at the bottom of the screen labelled **Inmagic DB/...**

You should now see the opening desktop screen that you get when you log on

Double click on the **Library services** icon which will open the Library home page

Minimise this screen as above. It will be saved as a further bar at the bottom of the screen, labelled **Leeds Universi...**

By clicking on the appropriate bar at the bottom of your screen, you can now "switch" between the Popline database and the Library home page

You can highlight a piece of text from Popline (e.g. the title of a book or journal you want to look up on the catalogue), click on Edit on the top toolbar, click on copy.

Then switch to the Library home page:

- If the item is a book, simply paste the book title into the search box by clicking on Edit > Paste and the title will appear in the box. Change the left hand drop down menu to TITLE and click on the Go button to see if the Library has the book
- If the item is a journal, select Journals/Periodicals from the right hand drop down menu and paste the journal title into the search box by clicking on Edit > Paste and the journal title will appear in the box. Click on the Go button to see if the Library has the journal. Check: there may be an electronic version in which case you could read the article on line immediately.

8. Selecting references for printing or saving

In order to do this, you first need to change the display format of the references you have found in your search

Exercise 8a: Printing

Change the display to either **Checkbox_Abstract** or **Checkbox_Citation** by using the pull-down menu in the top left hand corner of the screen (depending whether or not you want to include the abstract when you save the reference).

Click in the box to the left of each of the references you want to keep

Click on the **SUBMIT** button right at the bottom of the screen

This will show you your selected references in full format

Click on the print button at the top of the screen to print the references out

Exercise 8b: Saving to a file

Change the display to either **Checkbox_Abstract** or **Checkbox_Citation** by using the pull-down menu in the top left hand corner of the screen (depending whether or not you want to include the abstract when you save the reference).

Click in the box to the left of each of the references you want to keep

Click on the **SUBMIT** button right at the bottom of the screen

This will show you your selected references in full format

To save these, click on **File > Save as**

In the **Save as type:** box, select Text File (*.txt)

In the **File name** box, give the file a name e.g. tba1.txt

Select which directory / folder you want to save the references in

Click on the **Save** button

In Popline, click on the Back button until you get back to the display of the first 50 references.

If you want to see the next 50, click on the **NEXT 50 Records** button and repeat above steps