Searching for osteopathy resources in PubMed - video transcript

In this video we are going to look at the database PubMed.

Look at how to use it to search for information and then how to refine. We will do a bit on page navigation to show you around and how it works and how to get there from the library catalogue.

We are going to research ‘spinal manipulation’ with neck or back pain and we will refine that down to some useful resources.

The first step is to the database PubMed. Now we do this by using the Databases A-Z link which is in the find menu on the library page.

As we know the name of the database we can browse for it alphabetically, ‘P’ for PubMed, scroll down to the bottom to number 29, Pub Med. A final click here and were in (clicks on “Connect to PubMed)

If you’re at home you will need to enter in your VU username and library pin to get through.

This is PubMed page, it looks much like the other databases page you would have seen. There are a few more tools around you can get PubMed on your mobile, there are some searching guides and over here we have links to the MeSH (Medical subject headings) databases. We will look at these (MeSH) in a different video as they are quite useful for more advanced searching.

Like with all searches we do we will use the advanced search as we can break it up a little more.

We will start typing in our terms, so we want spinal manipulation. The next thing we are looking at is back OR neck pain (Typing back OR neck into one search box and Pain into another search box). And finally we want make sure we get treatments for it.

There we go “spinal manipulation”, back OR neck AND pain AND treatment and we will see what the database gives us.

So you can see here in the results that we have 307 articles returned with these search terms. You will notice that these are narrowed to the last five (5) years only. When you do your search you will probably have to narrow by publication date yourself.

This will stay on future searches. So we have 307 that meet our terms within the last 5 years. We also want to make sure we have access to the full text. So if we click on text availability and then full text, this will narrow it down again. So now we have access to the full text articles, the final refinement we can do with PubMed is too narrow by article type, clinical trial or review or others so here we will look for clinical trials. Now we are down to 71 articles that will meet our initial search terms in the last five years, be available in full text and will be a clinical trial.

That is how you search with PubMed. You can save this search, you can add more terms to it to refine it even further. So with your assignment topics and questions start going through and having a look. Good luck!