

EBSCO User Guide

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A: Accessing EBSCO Databases and Creating a Personal Account

1. Accessing EBSCO Databases

To view all the available database provider platforms accessible with your NHS Athens go to [my.openathens](https://my.openathens.net) login and search your A-Z list of resources.

The **EBSCO** platform provides access to:

- **CINAHL**
- **HBE**
- **MEDLINE**
- **Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection**

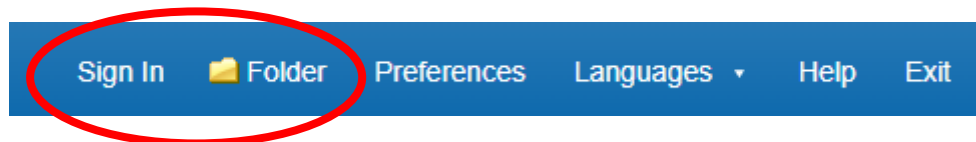
Select **EBSCOhost databases** and then the database you want to search, for instance **MEDLINE**. Then click '**Continue**'

We recommend searching one database at a time

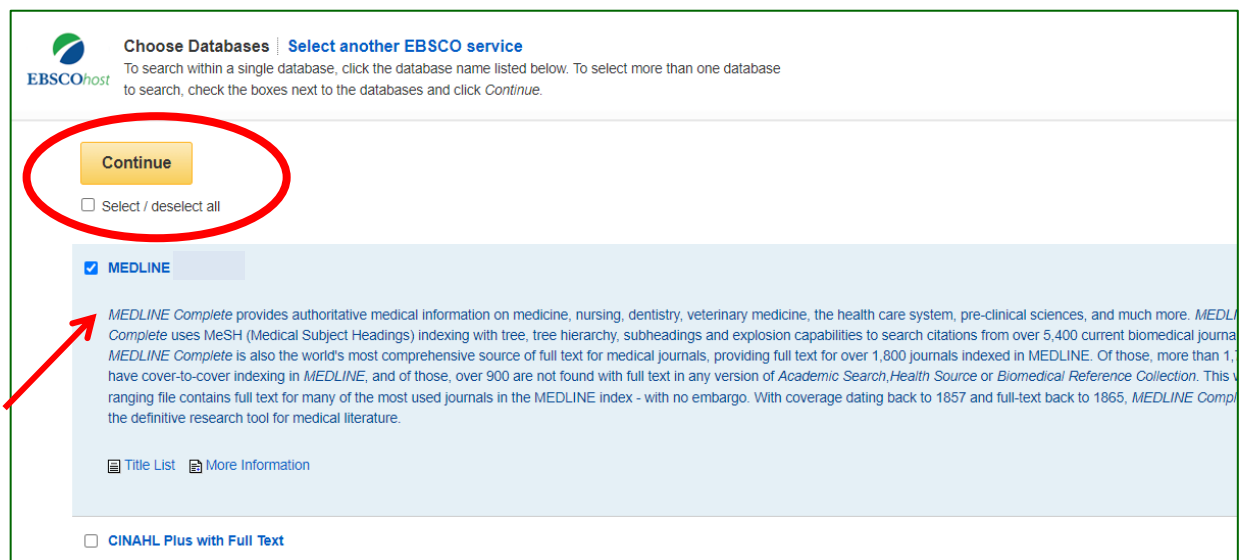
NB. The NHS Knowledge & Library Hub nhs-knowledge-and-library-hub/ contains database links which are allocated to one provider platform only eg.

- **CINAHL & HBE – EBSCO**
- **MEDLINE, EMBASE, EMCARE, AMED, HMIC & Social Policy & Practice – OVID**
- **BNI & PsycInfo – ProQuest**

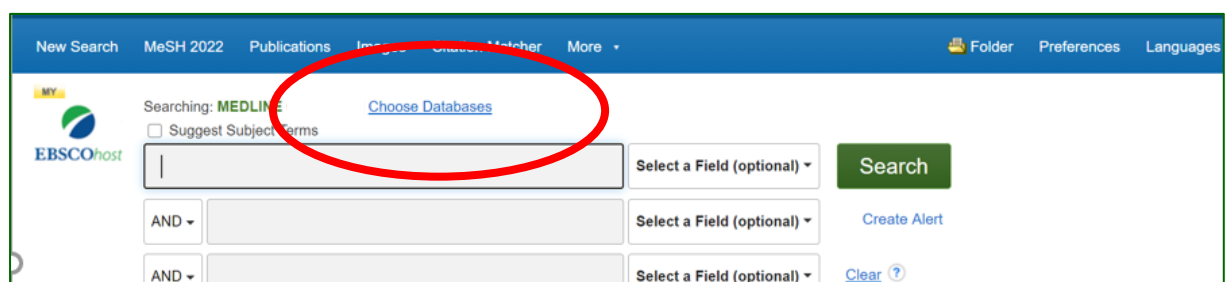
- To enable full functionality (save searches and results) and allow access to your **Folder** (previous searches etc.), click the **Sign In** link on the top bar



- Select the database you want to search, for instance **MEDLINE**. Then click **'continue'**. *We recommend searching one database at a time:*



- If you would like to change your database, from the menu above the search bar you will see the database you are currently searching, and here you can change the database by clicking on **'Choose Databases'**:



5. Once you have selected a database, you can begin searching. If the screen displayed is not shown, click the **New Search** button in the top left

B: Searching for Terms

6. To start a search, ensure 'Advanced Search' is selected:

You can now start entering your search terms in the fields.

7. To select which fields you would like to search, use the drop-down menus. You can choose to search all text in an item's record, or narrow your search down to specific fields:

8. If you want to search more than one specific field, for example, Title and Abstract, you need to search for these on separate rows using 'OR'. **Once you've entered your search term, select 'Search':**

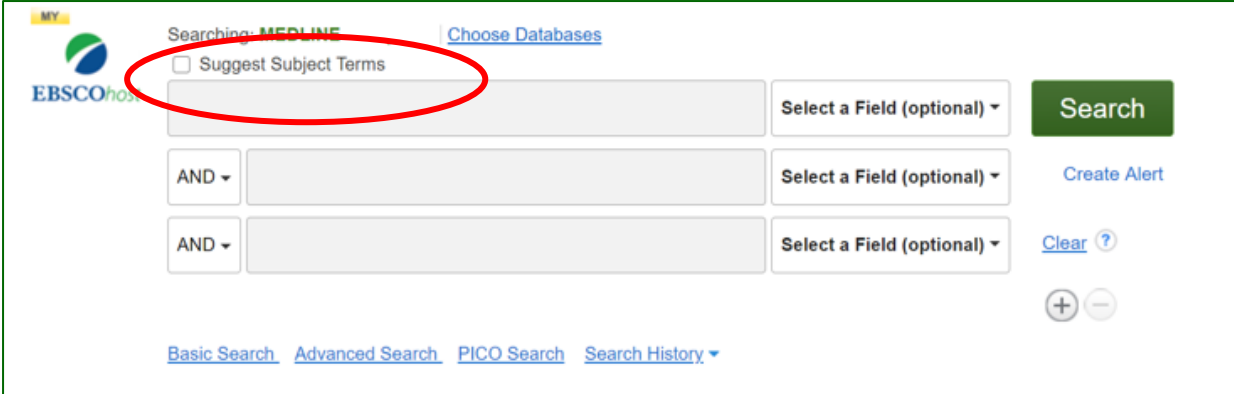
Note that EBSCO will suggest similar concepts which may be useful as you type. These can be selected by clicking on them:

9. This will generate a results line for your search concept:

Repeat steps 7 & 8 for all keyword concepts

C: Searching for Subject Terms (MeSH Headings)

10. To search for Subject Headings, tick 'Suggest Subject Terms':



MY **EBSCOhost** Searching: **MEDLINE** [Choose Databases](#)

☐ Suggest Subject Terms

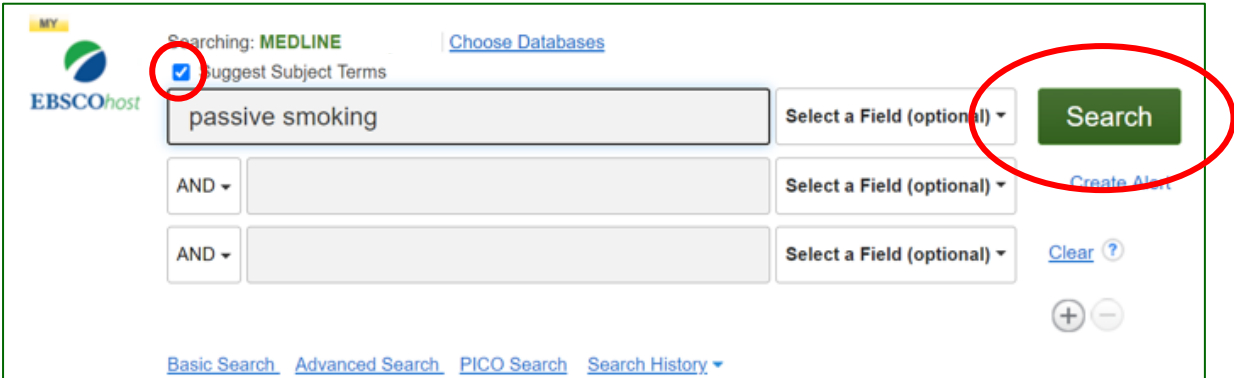
Select a Field (optional) **Search**

AND Select a Field (optional) [Create Alert](#)

AND Select a Field (optional) [Clear](#) ?

[Basic Search](#) [Advanced Search](#) [PICO Search](#) [Search History](#) ▼

11. Type in what subject headings you want to search for and click 'Search':



MY **EBSCOhost** Searching: **MEDLINE** [Choose Databases](#)

☒ Suggest Subject Terms

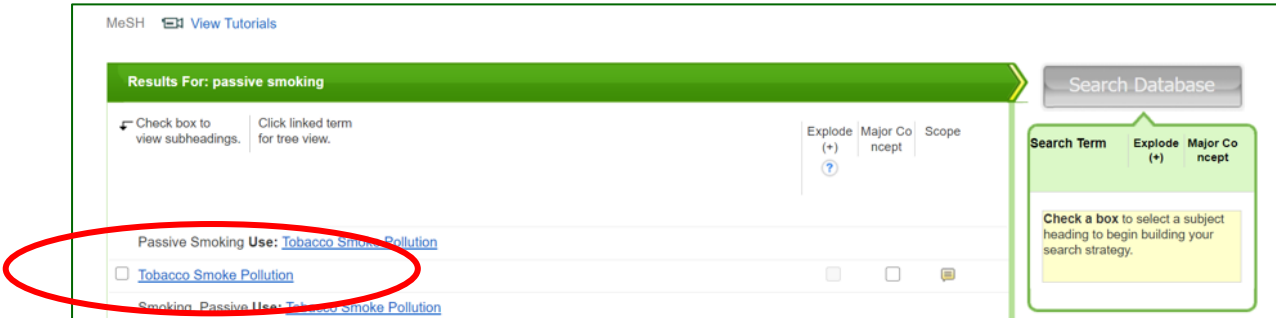
passive smoking Select a Field (optional) **Search**

AND Select a Field (optional) [Create Alert](#)

AND Select a Field (optional) [Clear](#) ?

[Basic Search](#) [Advanced Search](#) [PICO Search](#) [Search History](#) ▼

12. The Thesaurus may have exactly what you're looking for, or offer suggestions to other subjects – have a go at searching for alternative terms too. **Click on the relevant heading if there is one:**



MeSH [View Tutorials](#)

Results For: passive smoking [Search Database](#)

Check box to view subheadings. Click linked term for tree view.

Explode (+) Major Concept Scope

Passive Smoking Use: [Tobacco Smoke Pollution](#)

☐ [Tobacco Smoke Pollution](#)

Smoking Passive Use: [Tobacco Smoke Pollution](#)

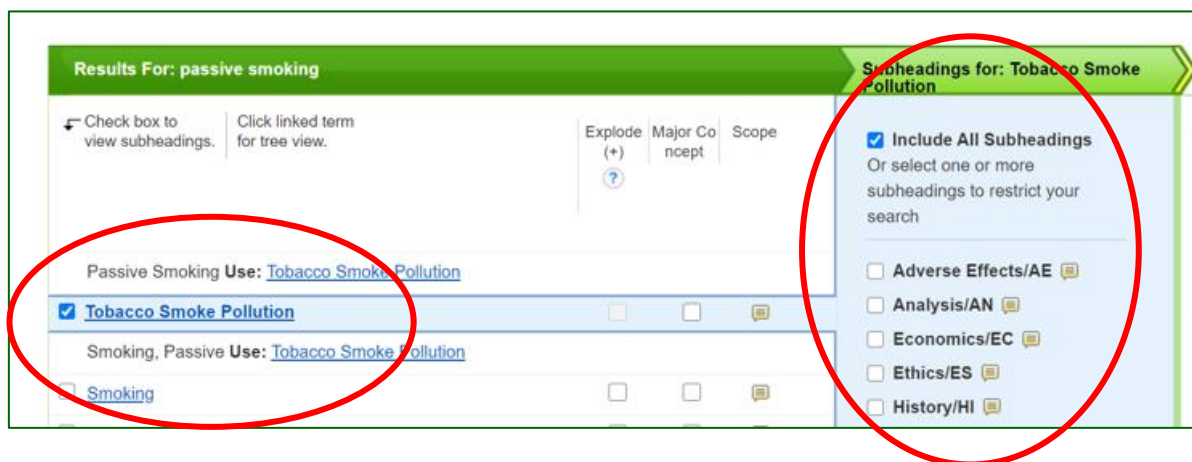
Search Term Explode (+) Major Concept

Check a box to select a subject heading to begin building your search strategy.

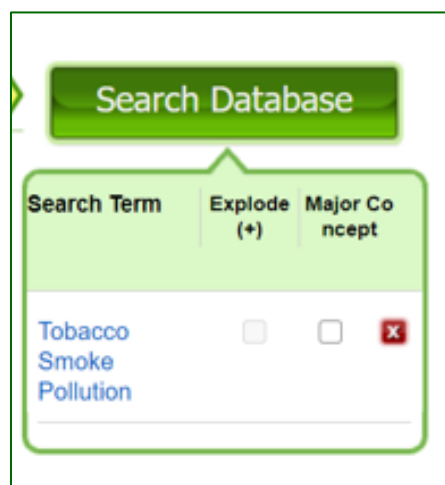
13. Tick the term(s) you want to use, and it will appear on the right hand side.

The database will also give you options to apply **Explode** or **Major concept** to the term selected, or to apply **subheadings** to the term; these options can widen or narrow the search.

To find out more about each term, **click on the Scope icon:**



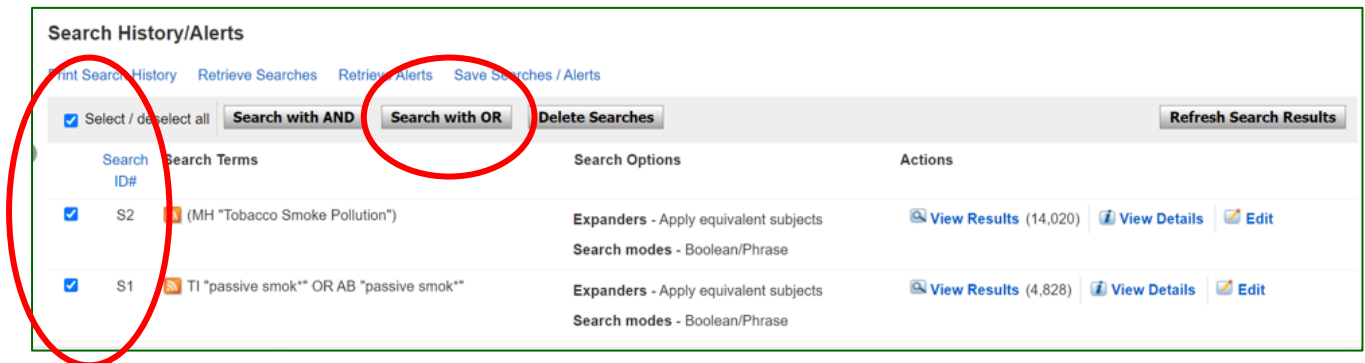
14. Click 'Search Database' to search for the subject heading:



Repeat steps 10-14 for all subject headings

D: Combining Search Terms and Subject Headings

15. Combine your search terms and subject headings by selecting the line numbers you want to combine Then click ‘Search with OR’:



Search History/Alerts

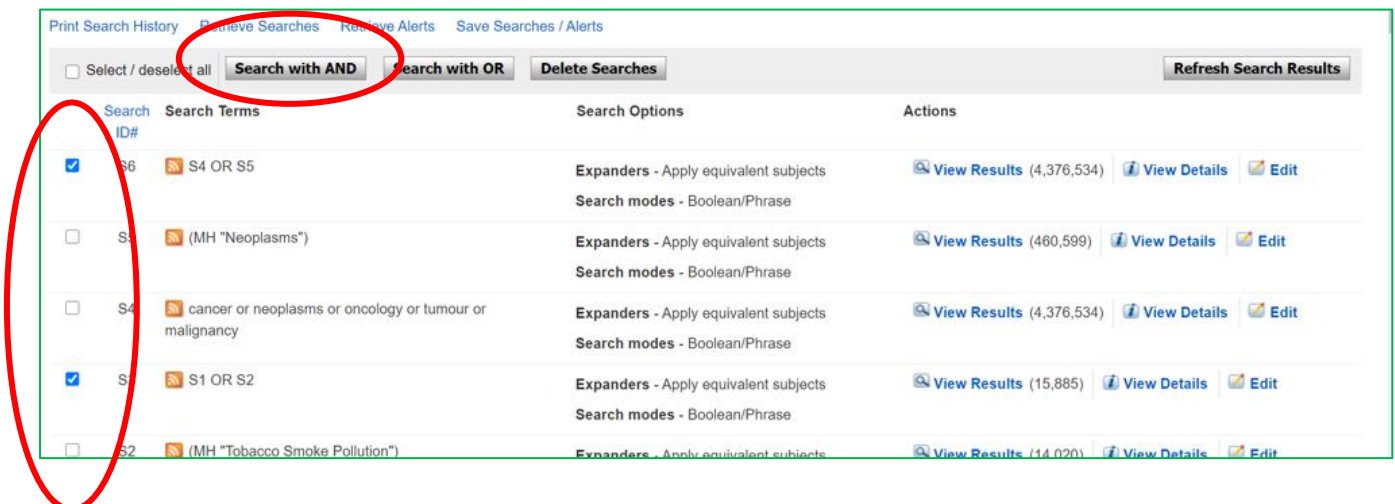
Print Search History Retrieve Searches Retrieve Alerts Save Searches / Alerts

☒ Select / deselect all **Search with AND** **Search with OR** Delete Searches Refresh Search Results

Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	Actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S2	(MH "Tobacco Smoke Pollution")	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (14,020) View Details Edit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S1	TI "passive smok*" OR AB "passive smok"	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (4,828) View Details Edit

Repeat steps 6 - 15 to search for the rest of your concepts

16. In the below example, line S3 combines the results for one concept (passive smoking) and line S6 for the second concept (cancer). Once you have searched all your concepts, combine them using “Search with AND”:



Print Search History Retrieve Searches Retrieve Alerts Save Searches / Alerts

☐ Select / deselect all **Search with AND** **Search with OR** Delete Searches Refresh Search Results

Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	Actions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S6	S4 OR S5	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (4,376,534) View Details Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> S1	(MH "Neoplasms")	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (460,599) View Details Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> S4	cancer or neoplasms or oncology or tumour or malignancy	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (4,376,534) View Details Edit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S3	S1 OR S2	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (15,885) View Details Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> S2	(MH "Tobacco Smoke Pollution")	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects	View Results (14,020) View Details Edit

E: Filtering and Saving Results

17. To filter or limit your results you will need to click **view results**:

<input type="checkbox"/> Select / deselect all Search with AND Search with OR Delete Searches Refresh Search Results			
Search ID#	Search Terms	Search Options	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> S7	S3 AND S6	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (3,001) View Details Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> S6	S4 OR S5	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (4,376,534) View Details Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> S5	(MH "Neoplasms")	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	View Results (460,599) View Details Edit
<input type="checkbox"/> S4	cancer or neoplasms or oncology or tumour or	Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects	View Results (4,376,534) View Details Edit

18. On the results page, **you can filter down or limit your results** by publication date, language, gender etc. on the left-hand side options bar:

Refine Results

Current Search

Boolean/Phrase:
S3 AND S6

Expanders
Apply equivalent subjects

Limit To

☐ Full Text
☐ Abstract Available
☐ English Language

From: 1970 To: 2022
Publication Date

Show More

Source Types

Search Results: 1 - 50 of 3,001

Date Newest Page Options Share

EBSCO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) HEALTHCARE RESOURCES

DynaMed COVID-19 Topic
EBSCO COVID-19 Healthcare Resource Center
COVID-19 Portal

1. High-resolution metabolomics of exposure to tobacco **smoke** during pregnancy and adverse birth outcomes in the Atlanta African American maternal-child cohort.

Academic Journal

(English) ; Abstract available. By: Tan Y; Barr DB; Ryan PB; Fedirko V; Sarnat JA; Gaskins AJ; Chang CJ; Tang Z; Marsit CJ; Corwin EJ; Jones DP; Dunlop AL; Liang D, Environmental pollution (Barking, Essex : 1987) [Environ Pollut]. ISSN: 1873-6424, 2022 Jan 01; Vol. 292 (Pt A), pp. 118361; Publisher: Elsevier Applied Science Publishers; PMID: 34655695

Subjects: Premature Birth; Tobacco **Smoke** Pollution analysis; African Americans; Cotinine analysis; Humans; Infant, Newborn; Maternal Exposure; Metabolomics; Placenta chemistry; Pregnancy; Tobacco

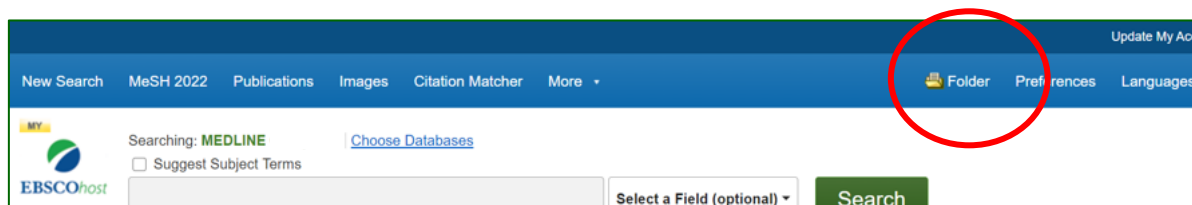
Request this item through interlibrary loan

19. You can save individual results by **clicking the folder icon**. The database will display folders to which you can save the result; **My Folder** is the default option. **Click this link** and the item(s) selected will be saved:



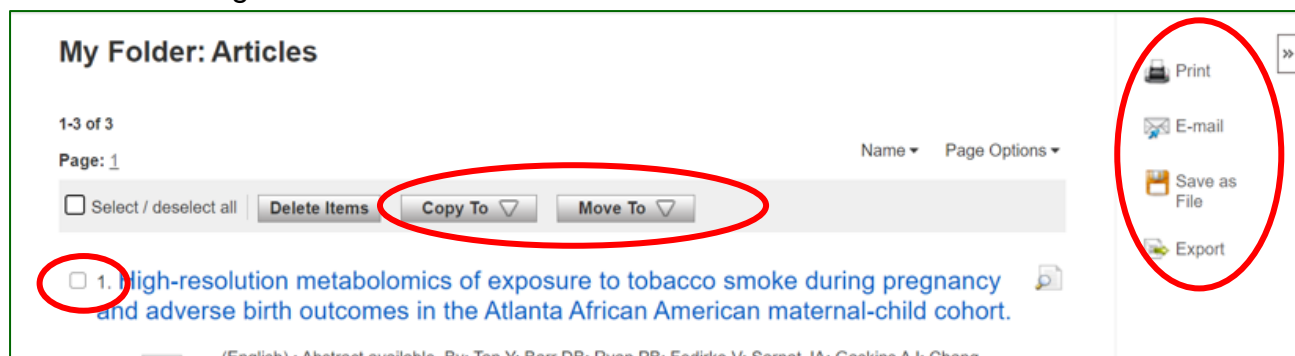
Should you wish to keep the results long term or do multiple search queries we would suggest that you set up individual folders.

20. To export results, click on Folder:

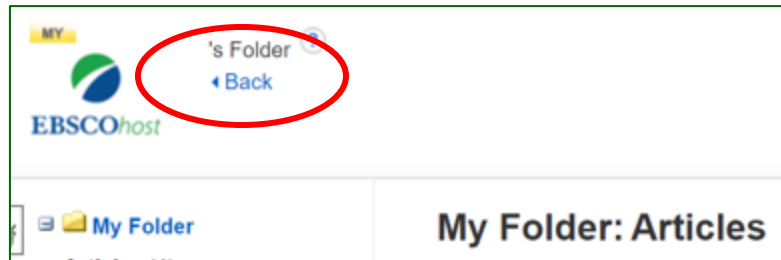


21. Select the results you would like to export and click on the output format / action

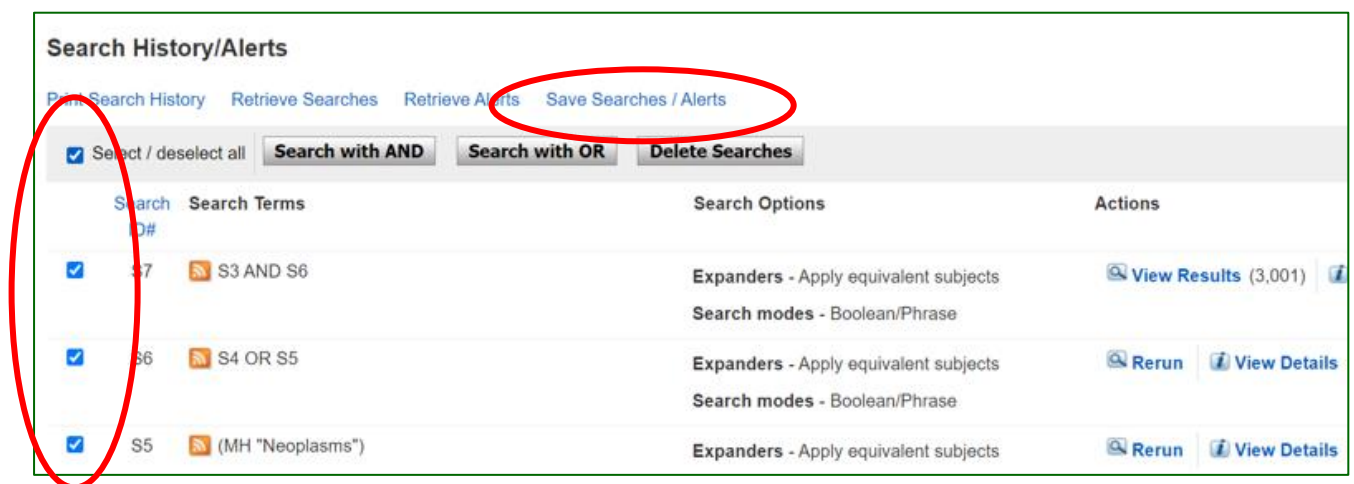
From here you can print or save your results as a file, send them via email, export to reference management software:



22. As well as saving the results, **we highly recommend saving your search**. To view your search, **head back to your Recent Search by clicking the 'Back' option**:



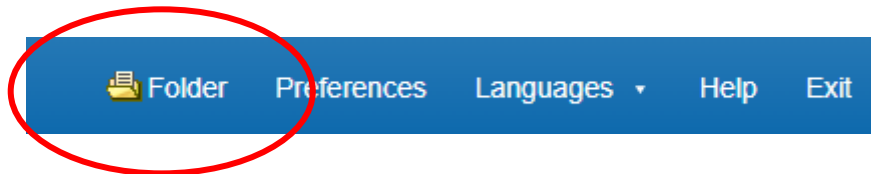
23. Select the search lines and click 'Save Searches / Alerts':



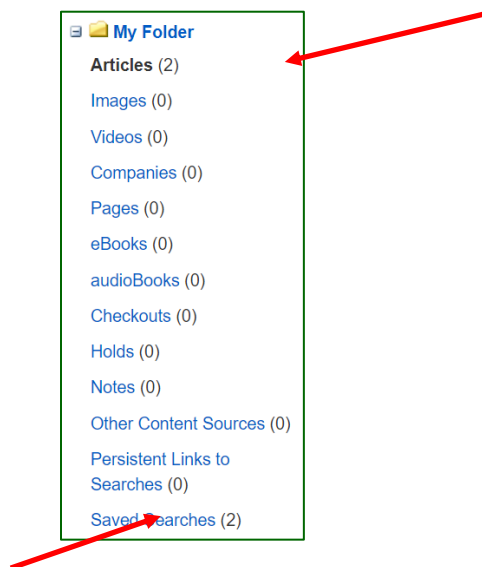
24. Give your search strategy a name and add a description if you wish. Click 'Save':

A screenshot of the 'Folder List' dialog box. The 'Name of Search/Alert' field is circled in red. Below it, there is a 'Description' field. The 'Date Created' is 1/11/2022. The 'Databases' list includes MEDLINE, CINAHL, Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection, and eBook Collection (EBSCOhost). The 'Search Strategy' is S3 AND S6. The 'Interface' is EBSCOhost. The 'Save Search As' options are Saved Search (Permanent), Saved Search (Temporary, 24 hours), and Alert. The 'Save' button is circled in red.

25. You can access your saved searches and saved results from your Folder:



Select your articles of saved searches from the bar on the left:



More questions?

Book a training session with one of our experts:
contact us at library.esh@nhs.net