



**Writing 109HP**  
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**HELP BY SUBJECT: MEDICINE**

<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/subjects/biology/medi.html>

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

For quick, reliable background information on your topic, check subject encyclopedias. These are also a good way to discover keywords for your topic. Examples:

- Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine SEL Ref RC 41.G35 2006
- Gale Encyclopedia of Mental Disorders SEL Ref RC 437 .G35 2003
- Oxford Companion to the Body <http://uclibs.org/PID/44245>
- Oxford Illustrated Companion to Medicine SEL Ref R 121.O884 2001

Medical handbooks and manuals are a good source of information for disease mechanisms, diagnosis and treatment. Examples:

- Harrison's Manual of Medicine <http://tinyurl.com/2gtx99>
- Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy SEL Ref Desk RC 55.M4 1999
- Metabolic & Molecular Bases of Inherited Disease SEL Ref RC 627.8.M47 2001

**FINDING BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS**

- *Pegasus* is the online catalog for UCSB: <http://pegasus.library.ucsb.edu/F>
- *Melvyl* is the online catalog for all the UC libraries: <http://melvyl.cdlib.org/>
- If you don't know the exact subject terms for your topic, start with a keyword search. This will look for your words in the title, author name, publisher information, and other parts of the catalog record.
- Keyword searches will scan book chapters, which can be great resources for your paper!
- Subject searches require exact wording, but the results will be much more precise.
- Using the \* symbol will pick up alternate endings to a word, so that therap\* will find catalog records that contain the word therapy, therapies, therapeutic, therapeutics, etc.
- Keyword examples:

severe acute respiratory syndrome	congestive heart failure	diabetes and treatment*
human papillomavirus vaccine	autism and encyclopedia	eating disorder*

**FINDING JOURNAL ARTICLES**

To find journal articles, use an index or database. PubMed is the best database for doing research in medicine. If you are doing research from off-campus, remember to sign in to the proxy server before trying to access electronic resources.

**PubMed:** <http://uclibs.org/PID/11596>

- Useful keywords to combine with the name of your disease/disorder:

<i>Etiology</i>	<i>Diagnosis</i>	<i>Therapy</i>	<i>Drug therapy</i>
<i>Risk factors</i>	<i>Epidemiology</i>	<i>Prevalence</i>	<i>Prevention and control</i>
- Use the Limits tab to narrow down your search. Some helpful limits:  
Type of article – *Review* (summary article); *Practice Guideline* (recommended treatment); *Clinical trial* (good for finding drug studies and other treatment research)
- Display your results in Citation view to find subjects you can use to focus your search (MeSH headings)

- Not all articles will be online. Use [UC-eLinks](#) to track down the article: it may be available online from another source. If it's not, write down the call number and citation to find the print version in the library. Don't forget to write down the citation of the article so you know which volume and issue to get!
- You can use Interlibrary Loan to get articles that UCSB doesn't have access to in print or online.

#### Other databases useful for research in medicine:

- BIOSIS Previews – comprehensive life sciences database: <http://uclibs.org/PID/11596>
- PsycInfo - psychology, behavioral science and related disciplines: <http://uclibs.org/PID/20972>
- Expanded Academic ASAP – popular and scholarly journals in all subject areas: <http://uclibs.org/PID/16600>

#### IMAGES

- AccuNet/AP Multimedia Archive <http://accuweather.ap.org/cgi-bin/aplaunch.pl>
- MedlinePlus Encyclopedia <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/encyclopedia.html>
- Google Images. <http://images.google.com/>

#### RESEARCHING GRAD SCHOOLS

##### Try searching Pegasus using the following subjects:

Universities and colleges -- Graduate work -- United States      Medical colleges -- United States.  
Dental schools -- United States      Nursing schools -- United States

Examples:

- 2008-2009 Medical School Admission Requirements      SEL Desk R 745.M42 2008/2009
- ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools      SEL Ref RK91 .A5
- Allied Health Professions: Opportunities for Minority Students  
<http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS11828>
- America's Best Graduate Schools (US News & World Report) Main Ref Index Table LB 2371.4.A64  
<http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/beyond/bcrank.htm>
- Directory of American Medical Education      SEL Ref R712.A1 A8 2006/2007
- Graduate Programs in the Health Professions      SEL Ref R 745.G695 2003
- Health Professions Career and Education Directory      SEL Ref R 847.D57 2007/2008
- Minority Student Opportunities in US Med. Schools      SEL Ref R745.M64 2005
- Official Guide to Undergrad. & Grad. Nursing Schools      SEL Ref RT79 .O34
- Peterson's Graduate Programs in the Biological Sciences      Main Ref Index Table L901 .P4574

##### Professional associations are great resources for information on professions:

- American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy <http://www.aacp.org/>
- American Assoc. for Pharmacology & Experimental Therap. <http://www.aspet.org/>
- American Dental Association <http://www.ada.org>
- American Medical Association <http://www.ama-assn.org/>
- Association of American Medical Colleges <http://www.aamc.org/start.htm>
- California Board of Registered Nursing <http://www.rn.ca.gov/schools/schools.htm>
- National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission <http://www.nlnac.org/home.htm>

##### Other useful sites:

- UCSB Career Services: [http://career.ucsb.edu/students/grad\\_school\\_options/researching\\_programs.html](http://career.ucsb.edu/students/grad_school_options/researching_programs.html)
- Careers in Healthcare and Medicine: <http://www.training.nih.gov/careers/careercenter/caroptsmed.html>
- Health Occupations: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthoccupations.html>
- US Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

#### ADDITIONAL HELP

- Stop by the info desk, email us, call us, or chat with us: <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/help/ask/index.html>
- Contact Becky Lasswell directly at [rlasswell@library.ucsb.edu](mailto:rlasswell@library.ucsb.edu) or (805) 893-2689