

What is Find Citation?

One of the aspects of the OvidSP platform that librarians often cite as a key benefit for their users is the variety of search modes. All types of users can choose the search mode they need depending on what they're looking for and their preferred style of searching.

Find Citation search mode is effective for locating a specific article, or an article that you may not have the complete information about. Unlike OvidSP's other search modes, it is specifically designed for finding a particular article as opposed to specific information about a subject area.

Find Citation was designed to provide a number of ways to retrieve an article, and as new identifiers emerge, we continue to enhance Find Citation with new ways of locating articles. Find Citation is available in all OvidSP databases except Books@Ovid.

Understanding Find Citation includes sample scenarios of when and how users would use the Find Citation search mode. Screenshots included! Plus, you'll find best practices.

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Who Uses Find Citation?

1. All types of users who want to find quickly a specific journal article indexed in a specific database.

Find Citation is ideal for novice or advanced users who want to do a quick search and avoid the time-consuming command-line search required in Advanced Search. It's a great shortcut if you know merely a couple of data points about a specific article, such as article title, article author, or journal title, and are looking for an easy way to find the full citation.

Example:

A medical librarian receives a user request to locate a specific article by a specific author named Cooperman. In addition to the author, the user remembers that the article was published in 2000 as part of a series about pancreatic cancer, and that the condition '**pancreatic pseudocysts**' appears in the title. A Find Citation search in **Ovid MEDLINE 1950-present** allows the librarian to quickly enter the known criteria and generate a results list that includes the specific article list of few results from the specific symposium journal.

1. From the database selection screen, select **Ovid MEDLINE 1950-present**.
2. Choose the **Find Citation** search mode.
3. Enter the known information: author name, publication year, and keyword.
4. Click **Search**.

Search
Ovid MEDLINE(R) 1950 to February Week 2 2009

Basic Search
Find Citation
Search Tools
Search Fields
Advanced Ovid Search
SilverPlatter Search

Multi-Field Search

? Enter search terms in any field.

Journal Identifier

Article Title:

Journal Name: Truncate Name (adds "*)

Author Surname: Truncate Name (adds "*)

Volume: Issue: Article First Page:

Publication Year: (e.g., "2005")

Unique Identifier:

DOI:

Hint: Use truncation if you don't have the full journal or author names (e.g., using truncation, "Ang" will find "Angiogenesis" and "Angiology"; "Smith G" will find "Smith, Glen" and "Smith, George").

5. A results list is generated that includes multiple available articles, all part of the symposium series that was published in 2000.

Search Aid

Your search

Search terms used:

2001
cooperman
pancreatic
pseudocysts

1. Cooperman AM. **Surgical treatment of pancreatic pseudocysts. [Review] [21 refs]** [Journal Article. Review] *Surgical Clinics of North America*. 81(2):411-9, xii, 2001 Apr. **UI:** 11392428

Authors Full Name
Cooperman, A M.

2. Cooperman AM. **An overview of pancreatic pseudocysts: the emperor's new clothes revisited. [Review] [20 refs]** [Journal Article. Review] *Surgical Clinics of North America*. 81(2):391-7, xii, 2001 Apr. **UI:** 11392425

Authors Full Name
Cooperman, A M.

- Abstract
- Complete Reference
- Full Text
- Library Holdings
- Document Delivery
- Bibliographic Links
- Internet Resources

2. Librarians and users who work with Inter Library Loans (ILL).

In addition to title, author, and journal title you can also search specific articles by Digital Object Identifier (DOI) or Unique Identifier (UI). If you're issuing an ILL request you need to have accurate information for the article title, author, and source. Knowing the DOI and UI helps you quickly validate citation information.

Example:

A university librarian receives a MEDLINE citation—with the Digital Object Identifier attached to it—via Inter Library Loan. A Find Citation search lets the librarian confirm that the DOI corresponds to the specific citation requested.

1. From the database selection screen, select **Ovid MEDLINE 1950-present**.
2. Choose the **Find Citation** search mode.
3. Enter the known Digital Object Identifier (**DOI**).
4. Click **Search**.

The screenshot shows the Ovid MEDLINE search interface. The search mode is set to 'Find Citation'. The search criteria are as follows:

- Journal Identifier: Article Title, Journal Name (with 'Truncate Name' checked), Author Surname (with 'Truncate Name' checked), Volume, Issue, Article First Page, Publication Year (with example '(e.g., "2005")').
- Unique Identifier: 19136134
- DOI: (empty)

A 'Search' button is located at the bottom right of the form. A hint below the fields reads: 'Hint: Use truncation if you don't have the full journal or author names (e.g., using truncation, "Ang" will find "Angiogenesis" and "Angiology"; "Smith G" will find "Smith, Glen" and "Smith, George").'

5. The specific citation appears in the search results list.

The screenshot shows the search results page for the Unique Identifier '19136134'. The results list contains one entry:

1. Howley PM, Livingston DM. **Small DNA tumor viruses: large contributors to biomedical sciences.** [Review] [52 refs] [Journal Article. Review] *Virology*. 384(2):256-9, 2009 Feb 20. UI: 19136134

Below the citation, the authors' full names are listed: 'Howley, Peter M., Livingston, David M.' and there is a 'View Abstract' button. At the bottom of the result block are 'Find Similar' and 'Find Citing Articles' buttons. On the right side, there is a list of links: 'Abstract', 'Complete Reference', 'Library Holdings', 'Document Delivery', 'Bibliographic Links', and 'Internet Resources'. A 'Search Aid' sidebar on the left shows the search terms used: '19136134'.

How do I Use Find Citation?

Find Citation provides a number of criteria which you can use to locate an article, and will restrict its search based on any criteria the user enters. The following Fields are available for searching in Find Citation:

- **Article Title**
- **Journal Name**
- **Author Surname**
- **Volume**
- **Issue**
- **Article First Page**
- **Publication Year**

In addition, Find Citation also includes options to locate an article by a specific identification code that is unique to that article:

Unique Identifier: When it is available in a journal, the Unique Identifier is unique to a given article or record or article; when it is available in a bibliographic database, it is unique to a given record.

Digital Object Identifier (D.O.I.): Where available, the DOI is a unique name that identifies a particular article. words. With these words removed, OvidSP can identify concepts and validated terms to search for.

Best Practices

In general, the more you know about the article you are trying to locate, the better the chances of retrieving the specific article you are interested in.

To make the best use of Find Citation, remember to follow these simple guidelines:

Be precise – Find Citation is used to find specific articles, and as such it is beneficial to type in information as accurately as possible.

Enter as much information as possible – When searching for a specific article, it is important to enter as much information as possible about the article in order to retrieve the desired article.

Use truncation where necessary – OvidSP's Find Citation allows for truncation, which can be helpful if you don't know the exact information for a particular field. Typing fewer than four characters followed by the truncation symbols \$ or * will expand the scope of the search to include terms with various related word endings. For example, type ang\$ into the Title field, and OvidSP retrieves citations with titles that contain the terms Angola, angiostrongylus, angiogenesis, and so on.

Note: Journal name and author surname are defaulted to automatic truncation.