What is CINAHL?

CINAHL stands for the Cumulative Index of Nursing and Allied Health Literature and is the largest and most in-depth nursing research database.

Searching in CINAHL

Creating an Advanced Search

1. On the Advanced Search Screen, type search words or phrases in the boxes to conduct a search. Use Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT) to combine search terms.

2. (Optional) Choose the field(s) you want to search from the “Select a Field” boxes.

3. (Optional) Use Limiters, located below the search boxes, to narrow your search to the date, scholarly/peer reviewed, or publication type.
   For example:
   - Published Date – Limit search results to specific date ranges.
   - Publication – Limit search results to records from a specific title.
   - Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals or Research Article – Limit results to scholarly sources, as illustrated below.
   - Publication Type – Limit results to source types such as Clinical Trial, Evidence-Based Care Sheet, Meta Analysis, Meta Synthesis, Nursing Diagnoses, Nursing Interventions, Questionnaire/Scale, Randomized Controlled Trial, Research, etc. Scroll down in the box to see the full list of types. You can select multiple items either by holding down the control key (Ctrl) on a PC, or the Apple button on a Mac.
   - Any Author is Nurse or First Author is Nurse – Limit results to documents with nurses as the authors.