



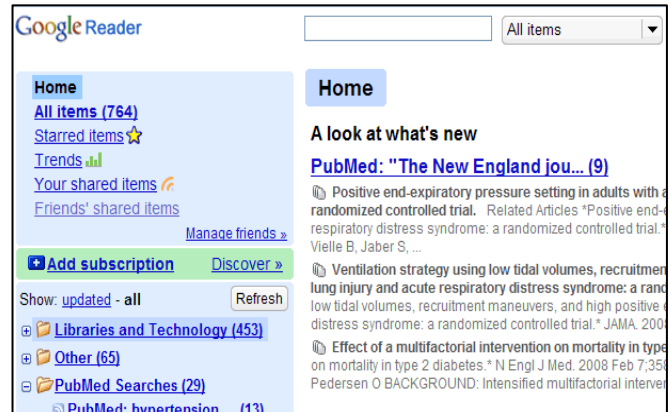
Duke University Medical Center Library

Using RSS Feeds for Current Awareness

RSS, which stands for Really Simple Syndication, can help you keep up with the literature without having to visit multiple journal sites or repeatedly conduct the same database search. Simply sign up for a feed reader and then subscribe to RSS feeds for journal tables of contents or for your PubMed searches. The feeds will automatically send the latest information to your reader so you can view it at your convenience.

Sign up for a feed reader

A feed reader aggregates all the RSS feeds you subscribe to in one place, allowing you to browse new search results, tables of contents, news items, etc. without having to go to the databases or Websites from which the content is pulled. There are many free readers available, including two popular Web-based readers: Google Reader and Bloglines. These types of readers allow you to access feeds from any computer. Since many people already have Google accounts (for Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Docs or iGoogle), this handout uses Google Reader as an example.



To set up Google Reader, visit <http://www.google.com/reader> and sign in or create an account if you don't have one.

Create feeds for your reader using PubMed

Save a PubMed topic search as an RSS feed

1. Run your search. From the results page, use the **Send to** drop down menu and select **Send to RSS feed**.
2. On the next page, review your search and rename it with a more concise name (the default is your search strategy). Click the **Create Feed** button.
3. PubMed will generate an orange **XML** button. Right click on this button and select **Copy Shortcut** (for Internet Explorer) or **Copy Link Location** (for Firefox).
4. Go to your Google Reader (Sign in at <http://www.google.com/reader> if it's not open).
5. Click on **Add Subscription** and paste the shortcut/link location address into the box provided using Ctrl-V or Edit > Paste in your browser. Click the **Add** button.
6. The feed will then appear in the list of subscriptions on the left hand side. You can organize your feeds by clicking on the **Manage subscriptions** link, which appears below your feeds.

Create a journal table of contents RSS feed

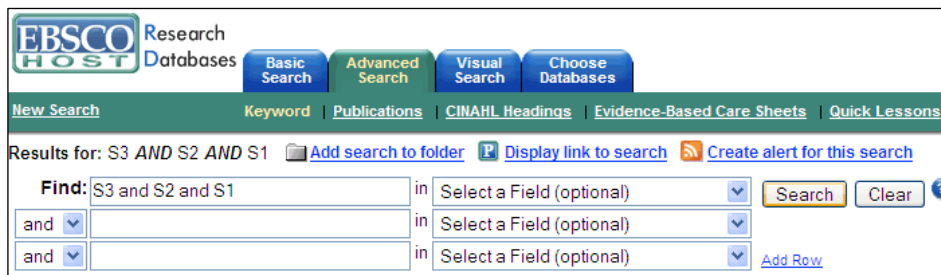
1. Click on the **limits** tab. Click on **Add Journal** next to the **Search by Journal** option.
2. Type the journal name in the box (or select the full name from the drop down list). Click **Go**.
3. From the results page, use the **Send to** drop down menu to select **Send to RSS feed**.
4. On the next page, review your search and click the **Create Feed** button.
5. PubMed will generate an orange **XML** button. Right click on this button and select **Copy Shortcut** (for Internet Explorer) or **Copy Link Location** (for Firefox).
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Note: In your feed reader, PubMed citations will show the publisher buttons and not the DUMCL Online, DUMCL Stacks, or Get it at Duke buttons. This is because PubMed is sending the information directly to your feed reader, instead of going through the PubMed link to our collections. To see the DUMCL and Get it at Duke buttons in PubMed, you must first open PubMed through our Website and then click through the article titles in your feed reader. You will not be able to see the DUMCL and Get it at Duke buttons on the citations in the reader itself.

Create feeds for your reader using CINAHL and other EBSCO databases

Save a CINAHL topic search as an RSS feed


1. Run your search.
2. Click on **Create alert for this search**, which appears above the search boxes on the Advanced Search results screen. (Note: You can also create an alert for a search from the Search History page.)



The screenshot shows the EBSCO Research Databases search interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Basic Search', 'Advanced Search', 'Visual Search', and 'Choose Databases'. Below these, there are search filters for 'New Search', 'Keyword', 'Publications', 'CINAHL Headings', 'Evidence-Based Care Sheets', and 'Quick Lessons'. The search results are for 'S3 AND S2 AND S1'. There are three search boxes with 'and' operators. A 'Search' button and a 'Clear' button are visible. A 'Create alert for this search' button is highlighted in orange.

3. A box will appear with information about your search alert. Right-click on the URL that appears as the syndication feed and select **Copy Shortcut** (for Internet Explorer) or **Copy Link Location** (for Firefox).
4. Open your Google Reader (Sign in at <http://www.google.com/reader> if it's not open).
5. Click on **Add Subscription** and paste the shortcut/link location address into the box provided using Ctrl-V or Edit > Paste in your browser. Click **Add**.
6. The feed will then appear in the list of subscriptions on the left hand side. You can organize your feeds by clicking on the **Manage subscriptions** link, which appears below your feeds.

Look for other RSS feeds of interest

Many news organizations, associations, and others make RSS feeds of their content available. Just look for the orange  **RSS** or **XML** button. You can add these feeds by copying the shortcut/link location and then pasting it into your Google Reader. You can also search for new feeds by clicking on **Add Subscription** in your Google Reader and searching by keyword.

Other feeds that may be of interest include:

- **Medical Center Library News:** *news, tips, and tricks for library resources*
<http://www.mclibrary.duke.edu/blog/rss.xml>
- **Medical Center Library New Books:** *descriptions of new books in our collection*
<http://www.mclibrary.duke.edu/newbooks/rss.xml>
- **Duke Med News:** *latest news from the Medical Center News Office*
<http://www.dukemednews.org/news/rss.php>
- **NIH News Releases:** *news and events from the National Institutes of Health*
<http://www.nih.gov/news/feed.xml>
- **Reuters Health:** *health stories from news headlines*
<http://feeds.reuters.com/reuters/healthNews?format=sxml>

