

Introduction

One of the benefits of next-generation discovery systems is the ability to integrate article-level records for metasearching (OCLC, 2010b). Specifically, the inclusion of records from PubMed allows biomedical article resources to be searched along with traditional library catalog records. Since many users seem to prefer single-box keyword searches (Judkins, 2010), appropriate for use in WorldCat Local, this study sought to investigate whether busy clinicians conducting keyword searches were likely to find the materials they needed.

Methods

Several studies comparing PubMed with other databases or comparing different interfaces for PubMed and Medline were examined for this study, in search of a reproducible method that could build on previous research. Anders and Evans (2010) compared PubMed and Google Scholar by using cited literature from a Cochrane Collaboration systematic review as a benchmark for the search results. Falagas, Ntziora, Makris, Malietzis, & Rafailidis (2009) gave investigators case reports to diagnose and compared results of their PubMed and Google searches. Gall and Brahmi (2004) compared Medline searches in EndNote to direct searching in PubMed, using four search strings. Walters (2009) compared twelve databases using a single search string, judging recall and precision based on a pre-identified set of 155 documents.

Vanhecke, Barnes, Zimmerman, & Shoichet (2007) compared the ability of PubMed and HighWire Press to locate specific articles using a list developed by Ioannidis (2005). Ioannidis created this list of the 49 most highly cited clinical studies published between 1990 and 2003 in order to identify those with results that were contradicted or found less effective in later studies.

relevanc

References

Anders, M. E., & Evans, D. P. (2010). Comparison of PubMed and Google Scholar literature searches. *Respiratory Care*, 55

Ioannidis, J. P. (2005). Contradicted and initially stronger effects in highly cited clinical research. *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, 294(2), 218-28.

Spring, H. (2010). Health professionals of the future: Teaching information skills to the Google generation. *Health Information and Libraries Journal*, 27(2), 158-162.

Table 1

Keyword Searches

Search #	Keyword search	No. keywords	Item found	Item found
----------	----------------	-----------------	------------	------------

Figure 1

Results of keyword searches as presented in WorldCat Local

