

Searching the Cochrane Library

The Basics

What is the Cochrane Collaboration (CC)?

- An independent, international, not-for-profit organization funded by a variety of sources including governments, universities, hospital trusts, charities, and personal donations, whose goal is to help healthcare providers, policy makers, patients, and their advocates, make well-informed decisions about health care by preparing, updating and promoting the accessibility of Cochrane Reviews and other systematic reviews
- There is no one place or office that is 'The Cochrane Collaboration'. The contributors are based all around the world, and the majority of the work is carried out online.
- They do not accept commercial or controversial funding in order that they may create authoritative and reliable information, produced by people who can work without the influence of commercial and financial interests.
- The *Cochrane Library* is the work of the Cochrane Collaboration (CC).

(<http://www.cochrane.org/about-us>)

What is a Cochrane Review?

What is a Systematic Review?

- A **Cochrane Review** is the same as a **systematic review**.
- A **systematic review**:
 - Summarizes large bodies of evidence
 - Helps to explain differences among studies on the same question
 - Applies scientific strategies that limit bias in the selection, critical appraisal and synthesis of all pertinent studies that address a specific clinical question
(Cook, Mulrow, Haynes, 1997)
 - May include a meta analysis which is a statistical synthesis of the results of the included studies
- The Cochrane Reviews are written by members of the CC and are relevant to everyone interested in the effects of health care.
- They are based on the best available evidence.
- To remain current and relevant, they are revised about every two years.

Databases within the Cochrane Library

- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews – Contains systematic reviews written by the Cochrane Collaboration
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects – Contains systematic reviews written by people outside of the Cochrane Collaboration
- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials – Contains clinical trials
- Cochrane Methodology Register – Contains methods used for conducting controlled trials
- Health Technology Assessment Database - Contains details of projects and publications on healthcare technology
- NHS Economic Evaluation Database – Contains abstracts of articles describing economic evaluations of health care interventions

Cochrane Library

Basic Searching

This tutorial will cover:

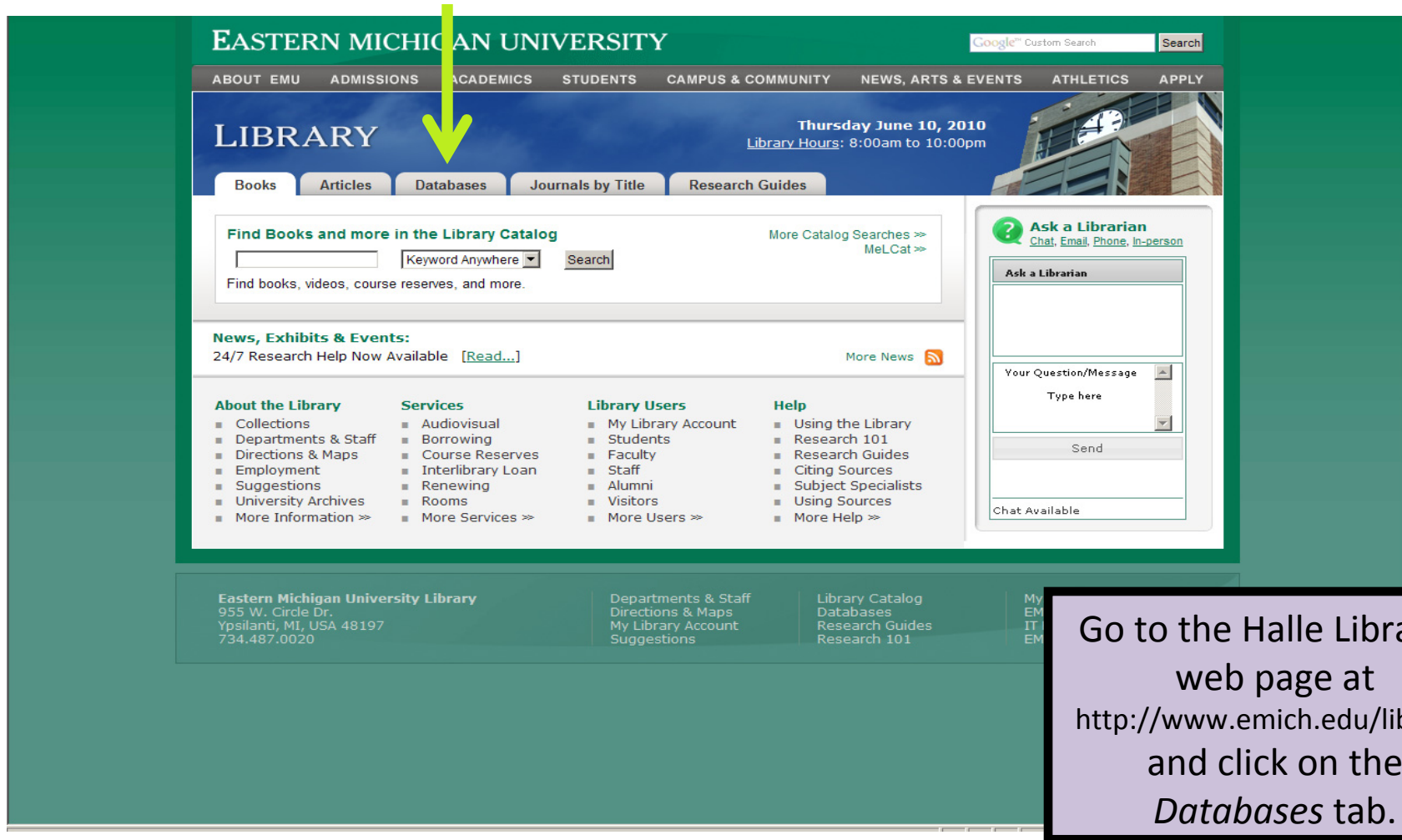
- How to run a basic search in the *Cochrane Library*
- Specifically, the following searches will be demonstrated:
 - Keyword searching
 - Using a wildcard or truncation mark
 - Using quotation marks to search for a phrase
 - Narrowing a search
- How to view the full-text of the article or record you find in the *Cochrane Library*

Cochrane Library

Important Things to Know

- Because this is a paid subscription database, if you are searching from anywhere off-campus, you must have your **my.emich** username and password available to log into the *Cochrane Library* through Halle Library's main page.
- The records in the Cochrane Reviews (CR) are tagged as:
 - Review – this is a full Cochrane (systematic) Review
 - Protocol – this indicates that a CR is currently being written on this topic, and this temporary *Protocol* is a place-holder record
- To view the full-text of a CR, open up the record, look on the left frame, and under *PDF* at the top, click on *Full* or *Standard*.

Accessing the Cochrane Library from the Halle Library Homepage



The screenshot shows the Eastern Michigan University Library homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for ABOUT EMU, ADMISSIONS, ACADEMICS, STUDENTS, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY, NEWS, ARTS & EVENTS, ATHLETICS, and APPLY. Below this is a banner for the LIBRARY with the date Thursday June 10, 2010 and Library Hours: 8:00am to 10:00pm. A yellow arrow points to the 'Databases' tab in the navigation menu. The main content area includes a search box for finding books and more in the library catalog, with a dropdown menu set to 'Keyword Anywhere' and a 'Search' button. Below the search box is a section for 'News, Exhibits & Events' with a link to '24/7 Research Help Now Available'. The footer contains contact information for the Eastern Michigan University Library and a list of services and resources.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY


ABOUT EMU ADMISSIONS ACADEMICS STUDENTS CAMPUS & COMMUNITY NEWS, ARTS & EVENTS ATHLETICS APPLY

LIBRARY Thursday June 10, 2010
Library Hours: 8:00am to 10:00pm

Books Articles **Databases** Journals by Title Research Guides

Find Books and more in the Library Catalog More Catalog Searches >>
 Keyword Anywhere MeLCat >>

Find books, videos, course reserves, and more.

News, Exhibits & Events: More News 
24/7 Research Help Now Available [\[Read...\]](#)

About the Library <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Collections■ Departments & Staff■ Directions & Maps■ Employment■ Suggestions■ University Archives■ More Information >>	Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Audiovisual■ Borrowing■ Course Reserves■ Interlibrary Loan■ Renewing■ Rooms■ More Services >>	Library Users <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ My Library Account■ Students■ Faculty■ Staff■ Alumni■ Visitors■ More Users >>	Help <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Using the Library■ Research 101■ Research Guides■ Citing Sources■ Subject Specialists■ Using Sources■ More Help >>
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Ask a Librarian
Chat, Email, Phone, In-person

Ask a Librarian

Your Question/Message
Type here

Chat Available

Eastern Michigan University Library
955 W. Circle Dr.
Ypsilanti, MI, USA 48197
734.487.0020

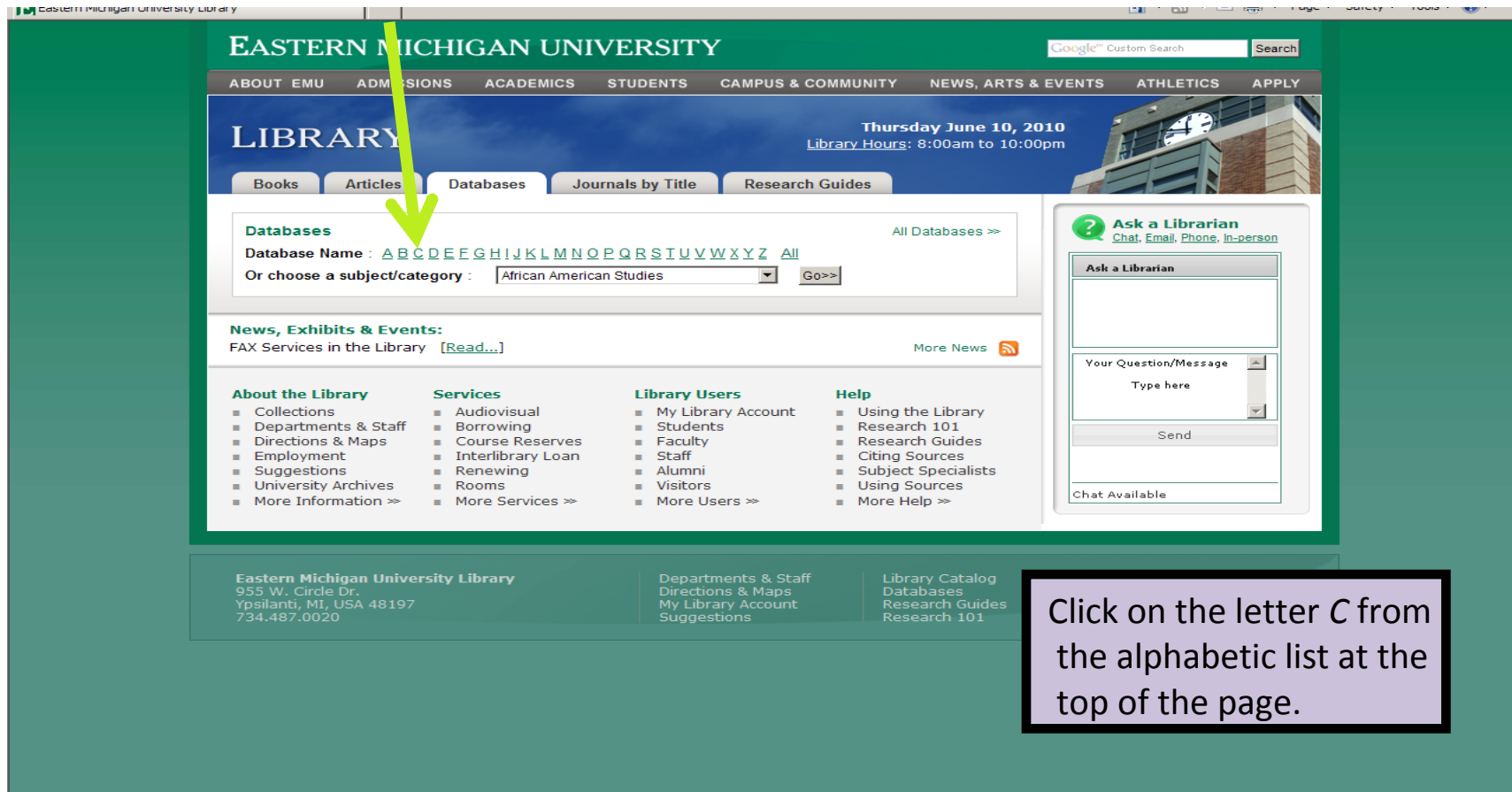
Departments & Staff
Directions & Maps
My Library Account
Suggestions

Library Catalog
Databases
Research Guides
Research 101

My
EM
IT
EM

Go to the Halle Library's web page at <http://www.emich.edu/library/> and click on the *Databases* tab.

Accessing the Cochrane Library from the Halle Library Homepage



The screenshot shows the Eastern Michigan University Library homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for ABOUT EMU, ADMISSIONS, ACADEMICS, STUDENTS, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY, NEWS, ARTS & EVENTS, ATHLETICS, and APPLY. Below this is a search bar and a date display for Thursday June 10, 2010. The main content area features a 'LIBRARY' header and a navigation menu with tabs for Books, Articles, Databases, Journals by Title, and Research Guides. A green arrow points to the letter 'C' in the 'Database Name' list. Below the list is a dropdown menu for 'Or choose a subject/category' with 'African American Studies' selected. The page also includes sections for 'News, Exhibits & Events', 'About the Library', 'Services', 'Library Users', and 'Help'. A 'Ask a Librarian' chat box is visible on the right side.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Google™ Custom Search Search

ABOUT EMU ADMISSIONS ACADEMICS STUDENTS CAMPUS & COMMUNITY NEWS, ARTS & EVENTS ATHLETICS APPLY

LIBRARY Thursday June 10, 2010
Library Hours: 8:00am to 10:00pm

Books Articles **Databases** Journals by Title Research Guides

Databases All Databases >>

Database Name : **A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z** All

Or choose a subject/category : African American Studies Go>>

News, Exhibits & Events: More News

FAX Services in the Library [Read...]

About the Library

- Collections
- Departments & Staff
- Directions & Maps
- Employment
- Suggestions
- University Archives
- More Information >>

Services

- Audiovisual
- Borrowing
- Course Reserves
- Interlibrary Loan
- Renewing
- Rooms
- More Services >>

Library Users

- My Library Account
- Students
- Faculty
- Staff
- Alumni
- Visitors
- More Users >>

Help

- Using the Library
- Research 101
- Research Guides
- Citing Sources
- Subject Specialists
- Using Sources
- More Help >>

Ask a Librarian
Chat, Email, Phone, In-person

Ask a Librarian

Your Question/Message
Type here

Send

Chat Available

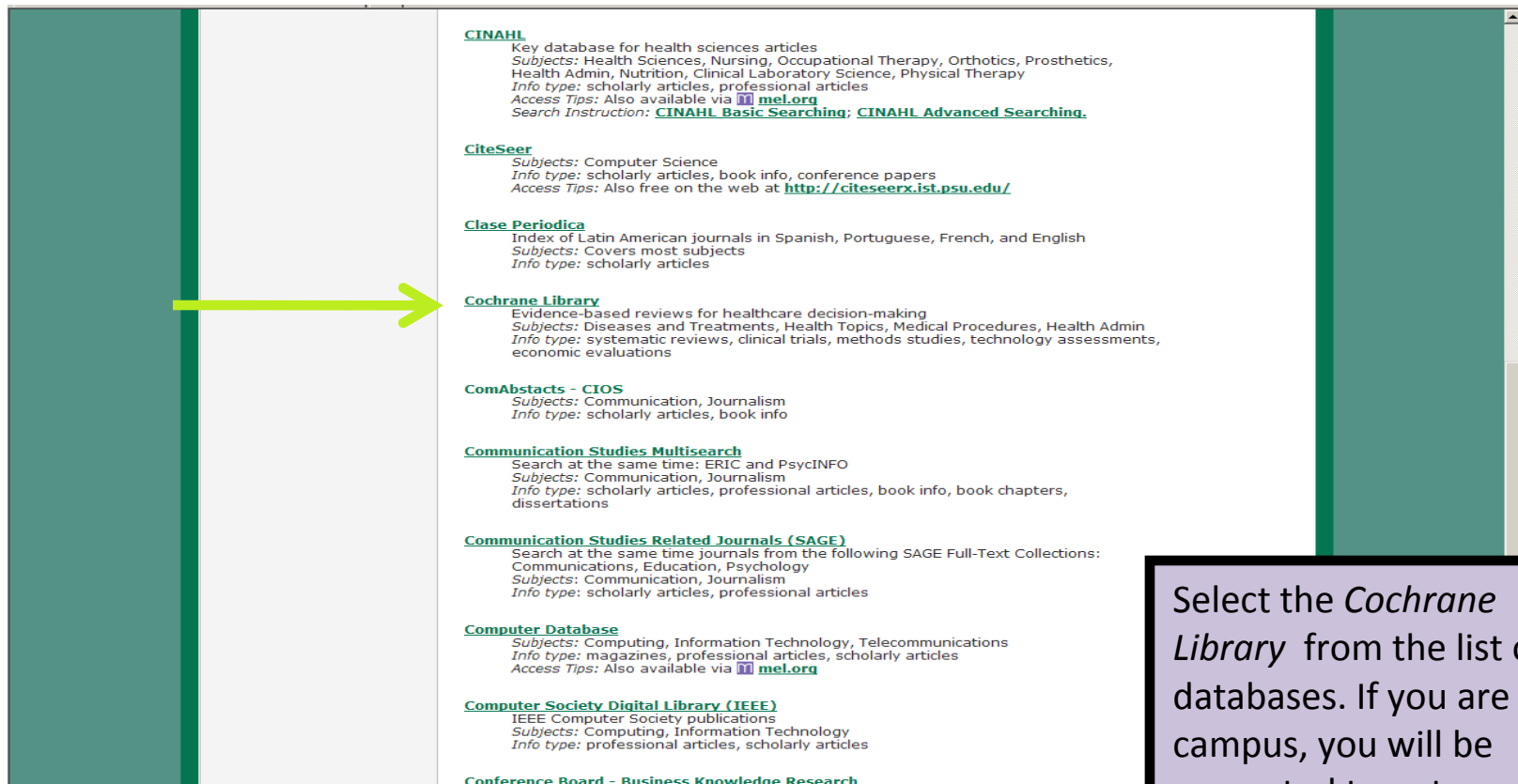
Eastern Michigan University Library
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Departments & Staff
Directions & Maps
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Suggestions

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Databases
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Research 101

Click on the letter C from the alphabetic list at the top of the page.

Finding the Cochrane Library on the List of Databases



The image shows a screenshot of a web page listing various databases. A green arrow points from the left margin to the 'Cochrane Library' entry. The list includes:

- CINAHL**
Key database for health sciences articles
Subjects: Health Sciences, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Orthotics, Prosthetics, Health Admin, Nutrition, Clinical Laboratory Science, Physical Therapy
Info type: scholarly articles, professional articles
Access Tips: Also available via mel.org
Search Instruction: [CINAHL Basic Searching](#); [CINAHL Advanced Searching](#).
- CiteSeer**
Subjects: Computer Science
Info type: scholarly articles, book info, conference papers
Access Tips: Also free on the web at <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/>
- Clase Periodica**
Index of Latin American journals in Spanish, Portuguese, French, and English
Subjects: Covers most subjects
Info type: scholarly articles
- Cochrane Library**
Evidence-based reviews for healthcare decision-making
Subjects: Diseases and Treatments, Health Topics, Medical Procedures, Health Admin
Info type: systematic reviews, clinical trials, methods studies, technology assessments, economic evaluations
- ComAbstracts - CIOS**
Subjects: Communication, Journalism
Info type: scholarly articles, book info
- Communication Studies Multisearch**
Search at the same time: ERIC and PsycINFO
Subjects: Communication, Journalism
Info type: scholarly articles, professional articles, book info, book chapters, dissertations
- Communication Studies Related Journals (SAGE)**
Search at the same time journals from the following SAGE Full-Text Collections:
Communications, Education, Psychology
Subjects: Communication, Journalism
Info type: scholarly articles, professional articles
- Computer Database**
Subjects: Computing, Information Technology, Telecommunications
Info type: magazines, professional articles, scholarly articles
Access Tips: Also available via mel.org
- Computer Society Digital Library (IEEE)**
IEEE Computer Society publications
Subjects: Computing, Information Technology
Info type: professional articles, scholarly articles
- Conference Board - Business Knowledge Research**

Select the *Cochrane Library* from the list of databases. If you are off-campus, you will be prompted to enter your my.emich username and password.

Cochrane Library Main Screen

The screenshot shows the Cochrane Library main screen with several key features highlighted by callouts:

- Links for browsing the library:** A callout box points to the top navigation bar containing links like "Wiley InterScience home", "The Cochrane Library home", and "My Profile".
- Basic search box:** A callout box points to the search input field and the "Go" button.
- These are the main boxes from which you will run your searches:** A callout box points to the main search form area, including the "Search For:" and "In:" sections.
- Limiting the search by databases with the library:** A callout box points to the "Restrict Search by Product" section, which lists various databases like "Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews".
- Ways to narrow The search:** A callout box points to the "Restrict Search by Record Status" section, which includes options like "All", "New", and "Commented".

The main search form includes a "SEARCH" section with a text input field, a dropdown menu for search scope (set to "Title, Abstract or Keywords"), and a "Go" button. Below this are links for "Advanced Search", "MeSH Search", "Search History", and "Saved Searches".

The "Restrict Search by Product" section has a checked box for "All of The Cochrane Library" and several unchecked boxes for specific databases. The "Restrict Search by Record Status" section has a checked box for "All" and several unchecked boxes for other statuses.

On the right side, there is a "SEARCH TIPS" section with several numbered tips and examples of search terms.

Searching with Keywords & Using Truncation/Wildcard Marks

The screenshot shows the Cochrane Library search page. The search box contains the text "acupunctur*". A green arrow points to this text. The search criteria are set to "Search All Text". Another green arrow points to this dropdown menu. Below the search box, there are options to restrict the search by product and record status. The "Restrict Search by Product" section has "All of The Cochrane Library" selected. The "Restrict Search by Record Status" section has "All" selected. A small example of truncation is shown on the right: "Example: 'clodronate therapy' matches that exact term".

Type your topic into the first search box.

The * is a truncation/wildcard mark placed after a word root to retrieve all forms of that word root.

In this case, the computer will retrieve *acupuncture*, *acupunctures*, *acupuncturist*, and *acupuncturists*.

This box is set to *Search All Text*. This means the computer will look for the occurrence of this word or phrase anywhere in the citation. This is also called *keyword searching*.

Using Quotation Marks to Search for a Phrase

The screenshot shows the search interface of The Cochrane Library. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links to 'Wiley InterScience home', 'The Cochrane Library home', and 'Systems Maintenance, Saturday, 19th June 2010'. The main header features the Cochrane Library logo and the tagline 'Independent high-quality evidence for health care decision making'. Below this, there are sections for 'BROWSE' and 'SEARCH'. The 'SEARCH' section includes a search input field with the text 'low back pain*' and a dropdown menu set to 'Title, Abstract or Keywords'. A green arrow points from the callout box to the asterisk in the search term. The callout box contains the following text: 'Placing quotation marks around a string of words or a phrase, tells the computer to find these words exactly in this order. In this case, the computer will retrieve the phrase "low back pain*". The * was also used to retrieve all forms of the word pain.'

SEARCH TIPS
Tip No. 1:
Boolean operators AND, OR, and

Search For:
To search using field labels (e.g. heart:ti) use the [Search History](#) page.

Search term: "low back pain*" In: Search All Text

AND [] Record Title

AND [] Author

AND [] Abstract

AND [] Keyword

Search [] Go directly to Search History

Restrict Search by Product

- All of The Cochrane Library
- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (Cochrane Reviews)
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (Other Reviews)
- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (Clinical Trials)
- Cochrane Methodology Register (Methods Studies)
- Health Technology Assessment Database (Technology Assessments)
- NHS Economic Evaluation Database (Economic Evaluations)
- About The Cochrane Collaboration (Cochrane Groups)

Restrict Search by Record Status

- All
- New
- Conclusions Changed
- Commented
- New Search
- Major Change
- Withdrawn
- Commented

Narrowing a Search

The screenshot shows the Cochrane Library search page. The search form includes a search box with the text "acupunctur*", a dropdown menu set to "Search All Text", and a "Search" button. Below the search form are sections for "Restrict Search by Product" and "Restrict Search by Record Status".

Annotations:

- A callout box with a green arrow pointing to the search box says: "Narrow the search by adding another term in the box below the previous term(s)."
- A callout box with a green arrow pointing to the dropdown menu says: "Change the drop-down menu to *Search All Text*."
- A callout box with a green arrow pointing to the restriction checkboxes says: "The search can also be restricted by checking any of these boxes."

Search Form Details:

Search For:	In:
acupunctur*	Search All Text
AND smok*	Search All Text
AND Enter search term 3	Author
AND Enter search term 4	Abstract
AND Enter search term 5	Keywords

Restrict Search by Product:

- All of The Cochrane Library
- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (Cochrane Reviews)
- Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects (Other Reviews)
- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (Clinical Trials)
- Cochrane Methodology Register (Methods Studies)
- Health Technology Assessment Database (Technology Assessments)
- NHS Economic Evaluation Database (Economic Evaluations)
- About The Cochrane Collaboration (Cochrane Groups)

Restrict Search by Record Status:

- All
- New
- New Search
- Commented
- Conclusions Changed
- Major Change
- Withdrawn

To see the full review, click on the link for the title. Once the record is on the screen, click on *Full* or *Standard* off the left frame.

Viewing Results

The results of the search are separated out across the top of the page, segregated by the database within the *Cochrane Library* from which it was retrieved. Click on the link of the set to view the results.

The screenshot shows the Cochrane Library search results page. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Wiley InterScience home' and 'The Cochrane Library home'. The main header includes 'COCHRANE' and 'high-quality evidence'. Below this, there are links for 'BROWSE', 'Cochrane Reviews: By Topic', and 'Other Resources: Other Reviews'. A search bar is present with the text 'Enter search term' and 'Title, Abstract or Keywords', along with a 'Go' button and links for 'Advanced Search', 'MeSH Search', 'Search History', and 'Saved Searches'. The search results are displayed in a list format, with a total of 261 results out of 6191 records for the search term 'acupuncture'. The results are categorized by database: Cochrane Reviews [261], Other Reviews [221], Clinical Trials [4936], Methods Studies [64], Technology Assessments [33], Economic Evaluations [31], and Cochrane Groups [16]. The results list includes titles, authors, and dates. Annotations with arrows point to various elements: 'Cochrane reviews' points to the 'Cochrane Reviews' link; 'Other systematic reviews' points to the 'Other Reviews' link; 'Clinical trials' points to the 'Clinical Trials' link; 'Method studies' points to the 'Methods Studies' link; 'Technology assessments' points to the 'Technology Assessments' link; 'Economic evaluations' points to the 'Economic Evaluations' link; 'Cochrane reviews' points to the 'Cochrane Reviews' link in the results list; 'Other systematic reviews' points to the 'Other Reviews' link in the results list; 'Clinical trials' points to the 'Clinical Trials' link in the results list; 'Method studies' points to the 'Methods Studies' link in the results list; 'Technology assessments' points to the 'Technology Assessments' link in the results list; 'Economic evaluations' points to the 'Economic Evaluations' link in the results list; 'Cochrane reviews' points to the 'Cochrane Reviews' link in the results list; 'Other systematic reviews' points to the 'Other Reviews' link in the results list; 'Clinical trials' points to the 'Clinical Trials' link in the results list; 'Method studies' points to the 'Methods Studies' link in the results list; 'Technology assessments' points to the 'Technology Assessments' link in the results list; 'Economic evaluations' points to the 'Economic Evaluations' link in the results list.

Record Information

- [Acupuncture and assisted conception](#)
Ying C Cheong, Ernest Hung Yu Ng, William L Ledger
January 2009
Review
- [Acupuncture and dry-needling for low back pain](#)
Andrea D Furlan, Maurits W van Tulder, Hiroshi Tsukayama, L...
June 2010
Review
- [Acupuncture and related interventions for smoking ces...](#)
Adrian R White, Hagen Rampes, John Campbell
October 2008
Review
- [Acupuncture for acute management and rehabilitation o...](#)
Virginia Wong, Daniel KL Cheuk, Simon Lee, Vanessa Chu
April 2009
Protocol
- [Acupuncture for acute stroke](#)
Shihong Zhang, Ming Liu, Kjell Asplund, Lin Li
October 2008
Review
- [Acupuncture for Bell's palsy](#)
Li He, Muke Zhou, Dong Zhou, Bin Wu, N Li, SY Kong, Dongping...
January 2009
Review
- [Acupuncture for chronic asthma](#)
Robert W McCartney, Benno Brinkhaus, Toby J Lasserson, Klau...
July 2009
Review

The dark blue *Review* oval indicates a full Cochrane Review.

A light blue *Protocol* oval indicates that a review is being written. This is a very brief record that acts as a placeholder.

To see the full review, click on the link for the title.

Viewing Results Cochrane Reviews

The screenshot shows the Cochrane Library search results page. The search term is 'acupuncture'. The results list several reviews, with the second one, 'Acupuncture and dry-needling for low back pain', highlighted by a green arrow. A callout box labeled '#1' points to the title link of this review.

#1 - To see the full review, click on the link for the title.

The screenshot shows the full review page for 'Acupuncture and dry-needling for low back pain'. The left sidebar contains a list of links: PDF, Summary (59 K), Standard (1006 K), Full (1521 K), Abstract, Plain language summary, Quick links, and What's new. Green arrows point from the 'Full' link to the callout box. The main content area shows the title, authors, and abstract. A callout box labeled '#2' points to the 'Full' link in the sidebar.

#2 - Then, click on Full or Standard off the left frame.

Viewing Results

Other (Systematic) Reviews

- Follow this link to watch a video that shows how to use the *Find Text+* button, including how to order material the Halle Library does not own through the ILLiad interlibrary loan system.

<http://brand.emich.edu/video/thelibrary/findtext/>

- Follow this link to see a print explanation on how to use the *Find Text+* button and ILLiad.

<http://www.emich.edu/library/help/findtext.php>

Need More Help?

Click on this link to point you to ways to ask a librarian for further help.

<http://www.emich.edu/library/help/ask.php>