Subject Searching Definitions: CINAHL example

- **Article index/database**
  A tool for locating journal article, book, or thesis citation on a subject.

- **Database record**
  Descriptive information about an item, arranged in fields. In an article index the fields include citation details such as title, author, date as well as additional information such as abstract, subject headings, date added etc.

Example from CINAHL

Wii-habilitation as balance therapy for children with acquired brain injury.

Authors: Tatla, Sandy K.; Radomski, Anna; Cheung, Jessica; Morin, Melissa; Jarus, Tai
Affiliation: Acute Rehabilitation Team, Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children, 3644 Slocan Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5M 3E8, Canada
Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Source: Developmental Neurorehabilitation (DEV NEUROREHABIL), 2014 Feb; 17 (1): 1-16.
Publication Type: journal article - randomized controlled trial, research, tables/charts
Language: English
Major Subjects: Brain Injuries -- Therapy -- In Adolescence
  Video Games
  Balance Training, Physical
  Balance, Postural
  Pediatric Care
Minor Subjects: Human, Randomized Controlled Trials, Scales, Adolescence, Male, Female, Descriptive Statistics, Pilot Studies; Funding Source
Abstract: Purpose: To evaluate the effectiveness of the Nintendo Wii compared to traditional balance therapy in improving balance, motivation, and functional ability in children undergoing acute rehabilitation after brain injury. Methods: A non-concurrent, randomized multiple baseline single-subject research design was used with three participants. Data were analyzed by visual inspection of trend lines. Results: Daily Wii balance training was equally motivating to traditional balance therapy for two participants and more motivating for one participant. While improvements in dynamic balance were observed, the results for static balance remain inconclusive. All participants demonstrated improvements in functional ability. Conclusion: Wii balance therapy is a safe, feasible, and motivating intervention for children undergoing acute rehabilitation after an acquired brain injury. Further research to examine the effectiveness of Wii balance therapy in this population is warranted.
Journal Subset: Biomedical; Europe; Peer Reviewed; UK & Ireland
Special Interest: Pediatric Care
Instrumentation: Modified Functional Reach Test (mFRT)
  Timed Up and Go (TUG) Test
  Pediatric Rancho Los Amigos Level of Consciousness Scale
  Pediatric Motivation Scale (PMS)

- **Keywords**
  Any combination of characters that are searched as free text within the record, citation and abstract (or sometimes the fulltext). There is no meaning attached to keywords; searches can pick up irrelevant results. E.g. Searching *carpal tunnel syndrome* as keyword will retrieve “The study excluded *carpal tunnel syndrome*”. A keyword search does not include author or publisher supplied keywords. Use truncation and wildcard symbols for variant endings.
- **Subject headings** (also called MeSH, Cinahl headings, Emtree, thesaurus)
  Known as controlled vocabulary these words are added to records to describe what is covered in the article. They standardize synonyms and variant spellings to provide consistency. The hierarchical organization in the **tree structures** assists with developing the search strategy and reducing or extending the search.

- **Tree**
  The ordered list of subject headings arranged in a hierarchy from broader to narrower terms. Indexers use the most specific appropriate term.

- **Subheading**
  Qualifying words which can be added to make subject headings more specific (for example, the subheading rehabilitation can be added to the MeSH heading Carpal Tunnel Syndrome to pick up only those articles on rehabilitative therapy)

- **Boolean operators**
  Connectors used to combine search terms to retrieve relevant results
  
  A AND B
  
  ![A AND B Diagram](image)

  A OR B (mORE)
  
  ![A OR B Diagram](image)

- **Search strategy**
  List of search commands. E.g. CINAHL search strategy

- **Systematic Reviews**
  Find systematic reviews in databases such as CINAHL, Pubmed, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, DARE. IMPORTANT: Get the full text of Cochrane Systematic Reviews from Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews and by clicking on the Full Text Review link.