

This guide gives brief information on the most popular databases available to LSHTM staff and students. More details can be found on the Library Databases webpages at: <http://bit.ly/gd9M1K>. This includes information on where and how to logon.

This is not a comprehensive list of all databases available. There may be other, specialist resources in your subject area. You will find more details on the Library website, or ask a member of Library staff.

	Subject coverage	Advantages	Disadvantages
PubMed or Medline	Biomedicine and clinical medicine. Veterinary medicine.	Free Good N. American coverage Links to some full-text	Only covers journal articles North American bias
EMBASE	Biomedicine and clinical medicine	Very good for pharmaceutical information Good European coverage	Only covers journal articles European bias
Cochrane Library	Clinical interventions only	Full text systematic reviews Comprehensive RCT listings Free in many countries	Only covers interventions.
Global Health	International public health The best coverage of public health issues	Excellent international coverage Information available from 1910 to present. Contains details of journal articles, books, conference proceedings and grey literature.	Thesaurus/subject headings not as comprehensive as other databases



	Subject coverage	Advantages	Disadvantages
Web of Science	Science, social sciences, arts & humanities General coverage of most academic disciplines.	Can search reference lists and see who has cited articles of interest. Contains details of citation rates, H-index and other statistics.	Not as in-depth as the more subject specific resources. No subject headings/thesaurus searching available. Interface does not cope with very long, complex search strategies.
CAB Abstracts	Applied life sciences: agriculture, animal sciences, nutrition etc.	Good international coverage Contains details of some books and conference proceedings	Thesaurus/Subject headings not as comprehensive as other databases
CINAHL Plus	Nursing, midwifery and allied health information The nursing equivalent of Medline.	Indexes a wide variety of information types. Contains grey literature. Links to over 200 full-text journals and 60 e-books.	Search interface not particularly user-friendly.
Popline	Demography, population studies, reproductive health	Contains journal articles, reports, books and unpublished materials.	Can be very unreliable. If your search results look unexpected, try searching again later.
Global Health Libraries	Health issues from across the WHO regional centres.	Focuses on information produced and published within the WHO regions.	Many items are published in the local language, so may need to be translated. Basic search interface.
NHS Evidence	Portals of high-quality evidence across a range of clinical specialities and health management topics.	Information appraised for quality. Most items are available for free in full-text.	Aimed at NHS health professionals so some items may not be applicable outside the UK.