

A Basic Guide to Searching SPORTDiscus on EBSCO

I. Scope of the database

- SPORTDiscus is a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary, international bibliographic database featuring journal articles, books, book chapters, conference proceedings, dissertations, Web sites, book reviews and more dating back to 1800.
- Includes more than 650,000 citations on sport science and medicine, exercise physiology, fitness, physical education, recreation, kinesiology, biomechanics, coaching, athletic training, physical therapy, occupational therapy, psychology, sociology, history, management, facilities and equipment and other related disciplines.

II. Simple searching

- A free text search finds words anywhere in the record. For instance:

Database: SPORTDiscus

[Database Help](#)

Find:

- Over 100 records are retrieved.
- If the SIRCThesaurus (see below) is consulted, a search on body type suggests using the descriptor SOMATOTYPE. A search on SOMATOTYPE results in over 1100 records (a difference of more than 1000 records!).

III. SIRCThesaurus

- Click on the *Thesaurus* tab to access the SIRCThesaurus to find descriptors or subject headings to focus and/or refine the subject search. The thesaurus can be searched or browsed alphabetically.

IV. Using Boolean strategy and truncation / wildcard

- *And* - combines search terms so that each citation contains *all* of the terms. Search **soccer and injury** to find only articles that contain *both* terms.
- *Or* - combines search terms so that each citation contains *at least one* of the terms. Search **injury or risk** to find results that contain either term.
- *Not* - excludes terms so that each result *does not contain* the term that follows the *not* operator. Search **injury not risk** to find results that contain the term **injury** but not the term **risk**.
- *Parentheses* – when parentheses are used with the Boolean operators, the terms within the parentheses are searched first as a phrase. Search **(soccer and injury) not risk** to find citations that contain both **soccer** and **injury** but excluding citations that contain **risk**.
- *Truncation* - Add * at the end of a word to search for alternate endings. e.g. **owl*** finds owl, owls, bowling, bowler, bowlers.
- Add ? within a word to search for alternate spelling. e.g. **wom?n** finds woman, women, womyn

Caution: truncating terms may pull in unrelated terms. For example the term **dog* finds the plural **dogs**, but also the unrelated term **dogma**.

V. Refine search: limiters and expanders

- To make a search more precise, select a limiter:

<i>Full text</i>	<i>English abstract available</i>	<i>Level of difficulty</i>
<i>Year published</i>	<i>Language</i>	<i>Publication Type</i>
<i>Source/Magazine</i>	<i>Country of publication</i>	<i>Database Subset</i>

- Expanders will broaden the scope of a search:

Also search within the full text of the articles:

Searches keywords within the full text of articles, abstract and citation information.


Include all search terms by default:


Searches for all terms entered in any order within the text.

Also search for related words:

Expands results to include synonyms and plurals of your terms.






- Click the **Reset** button to reset limits.
- When you have entered your search terms and selected limiters, click **Search**.
- Results are displayed as brief records:

Searched: SPORTDiscus for *somatotype*  [Add](#)
[Database Help](#)

Find:  [Folder is empty.](#)
[Search Tips](#)

✓ Limiters set

[Refine Search](#) [Results](#) To print, e-mail, or save an article or citation, add it to your folder.

◀ 1 to 10 (of 94) ▶	Pages: 1 2 3 4 5 ▶	Sort by: <input type="text" value="Date"/> ▼	 Add (1-10)
1. Anthropometric and somatotype characteristics of HIV+ lipodystrophic individuals undergoing 'HAART' therapy. (Abstract) Doran, D.A.; Journal of sports sciences (London), Apr 2003: 21 (4). p. 297			 Add
2. Anthropometric characteristics of rugby sevens players: an evaluation during two consecutive international events. (Abstract) Rienzi, E.; Journal of sports sciences (London), Apr 2003: 21 (4). p. 304-305			 Add
3. Predicting the scale of rackets from body dimensions to optimize striking. Gagen, L.M.; Dissertation abstracts international. A, the humanities and social sciences (Ann Arbor, Mich.), Aug 2002: 63 (2-A). p. 538			 Add
4. Anthropometry in team sports. (Abstract) Carter, J.E.L.; In 12th Commonwealth International Sport conference, 19-23 July 2002, Manchester, United Kingdom: abstract book, London, Association of Commonwealth Universities, 2002, p.139.			 Add
5. Anthropometric and somatotype characteristics of HIV+ lipodystrophic individuals undergoing 'HAART'			

VI. Output options

- In order to select only the record(s) of interest from the results list, click on the **Add** button on the right hand side to add results to a customized result list. To display this list, click on **Folder has items**.
- Print, Email** or **Save to Disk** are available as output options. Follow the directions as provided.

VII. SIRCEExpress

- Articles can be obtained through SIRCEExpress, via mail, fax, courier and ARIEL electronic transmission or through the Internet for libraries.
- Click on the **SIRCEExpress Order #** link. Follow the directions as provided.