KEYWORD SEARCHING TIPS

Here are a few things to try when you are searching by keyword to increase your retrieval.

**Acronyms and full spellings**
Example: MRI OR Magnetic Resonance Imaging

**British & American Spelling**
Example: Anesthesia OR Anaesthesia

**Generic and Brand Drug Names**
Example: Oxytocin (generic) OR Pitocin, Syntocinon (brand)

**Medical term and layman’s term**
Example: Heart attack OR Myocardial infarction

**Truncation**
Example: Prevent$
Searches for: Prevent, Prevention, Preventive, Prevents, Preventable, Preventative, Prevented, Preventing, etc.

Truncation symbols vary from database to database.

PubMed and the National Guideline Clearinghouse use * for truncation.

Ovid uses $ for truncation.

USC School of Medicine Library