**PubMed Article Type Filters Video Transcript**

During this video I will demonstrate how to apply article type filters to your search in PubMed.

Narrowing your results by particular publication orarticle types can be a useful technique for identifying quality results based on their study design.

Although PubMed is freely available, start at the library’s homepage and use the Library’s customized link to access PubMed so you will be able to access the full text articles that the library purchases.

On the library’s homepage, there is a link to PubMed in the “popular resources” section on the left.

The PubMed homepage appears. To access the article type filters, we must first run a search in PubMed.

I’m going to search for articles about the effectiveness of melatonin in treating jet lag. I entered the search terms **melatonin AND jet lag**. Now I’ll click he **search button**. Our search results appear.

Before I apply any filters to my search results, I want to see how PubMed translated my search. So to view the search details, we would go to the **advanced search screen**.

Now I’m going to **scroll down** to see the search details area and **expand** **the details**.

The search details section shows you what is going on in the background during a search of PubMed. Sometimes you will want to make edits to your search based on how PubMed is translating it. Best practice for PubMed searching is to use a combination of keywords and MeSH terms, the controlled vocabulary that PubMed uses in your search.

In the translations area below, you can see that melatonin was searched as a MeSH term (medical subject heading) as well as a keyword term.

Our search term jet lag was mapped to the MeSH term “jet lag syndrome” and also searched as a keyword.

Since PubMed mapped our search to the appropriate MeSH terms, let’s leave the search as it is and return to the results page. I’ll select the number of search results **(388)** to return to our results.

PubMed has a filters sidebar that appears on the left side of the screen of your search results. Since this is a clinical question, let’s try to limit our search to studies that are high on the hierarchy of evidence.

This is the traditional hierarchy of evidence for answering clinical questions. As you move up the pyramid, the studies have a more rigorous methodology and there is less room for bias.

Let’s try limiting our search results to systematic reviews and meta-analysis studies, those secondary studies that appear at the top of the pyramid. Now let’s return to our PubMed search results.

PubMed offers many filters on the left sidebar. I’m scrolling down until we see the Article type filters. I’m going to **select meta-analysis**. Next, I’ll **select the check box for systematic reviews**.

We have narrowed our results to 10 citations. Any filters you add will remain activated during subsequent searches until you clear them. I’m going to select **clear all** to deselect the two article types that I had selected.

Let’s say after reviewing secondary studies, I wanted to look at primary research studies, such as randomized controlled trials, I would select the check box for randomized controlled trial and now we have filtered our results to 20. I’m going to **clear all** again.

There are additional article type filters available that do not appear as default options. Let’s say I want to look for available practice guidelines on my topic, I would select the **additional filters button**.

A popup window appears with the additional options for article type are displayed. I’m going to scroll down and **select the checkbox for practice guideline.** Next, I’ll **click show**.

Now practice guideline is available on the left sidebar for me to select. So finally, I need to activate it by selecting the check box. So I select the checkbox for practice guideline and we narrowed our results to two.

During this video we reviewed how to apply article type filters to focus our PubMed search results to a particular study type.