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# Supplementary searches of PubMed to improve currency of MEDLINE and MEDLINE In-Process searches via Ovid. Evidence from practice

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# Conflict of Interest



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I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation.

# Objective



PubMed contains an increasing number of ahead-of-print (non-indexed) citations, but is not easy to search with precision.

Assessed the added value of a supplementary search of PubMed in addition to the main MEDLINE (Ovid) search at the end of the search process

- Does it retrieve unique studies that are included in the review?
- Can it be conducted quickly and easily?

# Methods



Searched PubMed using simplified translation of Ovid MEDLINE search strategies for eight reviews conducted by KSR on a range of topics

Searches were limited to records not in MEDLINE, using the following limit:

**(pubstatusaheadofprint OR publisher[sb]  
OR pubmednotmedline[sb])**

# Results



- PubMed search found additional included studies in all but one of these reviews (7/8)
- None of the included studies were available on Ovid MEDLINE / In Process when searches were conducted
- PubMed search and reviewer screening were not time-consuming

# Conclusions



- Records on PubMed can take months to appear on Ovid Medline / In Process
- Adding a simple PubMed search can improve the timeliness of the final review without adding greatly to Information Specialist or Reviewer workload
- It may also be worth establishing search alerts in PubMed until final publication