

ScienceDirect e-Journals: Introduction and Orientation

Meyer Library Reference & Government Information Department ScienceDirect

Part of the e-journal collections from Missouri State University Libraries, ScienceDirect provides over 150 full-text journals published by Elsevier Science which are subscribed to by Missouri State University Libraries. The majority of journal titles are from the natural and applied science areas of biology, botany, medicine, chemistry, mathematics, computer sciences, etc. but social science titles such as from business, psychology, library science, economics, and history are also part of the collection. From the ScienceDirect home page as a licensed user through SMSU Libraries you can: browse the table of contents of over 1,700 journals, search across all information available in the database, view abstracts of over 3 million articles, and view the full-text of articles in those journals subscribed to by SMSU Libraries.

Access

From the Library website <http://www.library.missouristate.edu>

- Click on *Indexes and Databases*
- Select *By Title* scroll down the alphabetical listing to ScienceDirect
- You can also reach ScienceDirect at this address
<http://purl.missouristate.edu/library/databases/SCIENCEDIRECT>
- If you are off campus you will prompted to type in a proxy login that consists of your University e-mail user name and password. Login assistance can be found at <http://library.missouristate.edu/info/troubleshooting.htm>.

Quick Search:

Quick Search looks at the abstract, title, author, and keyword fields of a record. You may enter abstract terms, titles, authors and keywords in this field. If you enter multiple terms Quick Search will connect these terms with AND as a connector. The range of search is dependent upon where you are within ScienceDirect.

From the journals browse page the options from the drop-down list are:

**all journals*

**all full text sources*

Journal home page drop-down:

**this journal*

**all journals*

**all full text sources*

Journal issue or article drop-down:

**this issue*

**this journal*

**all journals*

**all full text sources*

Articles in Press

**these articles in press*

**this journal*

**all journals*

**all full text*

For an exact phrase search enclose the phrase in quotations: **“cat scratch fever”**

When searching remember to use terms closely related to the topic of interest.

Renal failure OR kidney disease

Avoid broad or general terms i.e. **“cell”**

Stop words such as “the” and “it” are ignored and the system is *not* case sensitive

Connectors:

Use AND when all terms must appear and may be far apart in the record

Attention deficit AND hyperactivity

Use OR when searching terms closely related to topic of interest bearing in mind “or”

always broadens a search and can bring up too many records

Renal failure OR kidney disease

Use AND NOT to exclude specific terms

Ganglia OR tumor AND NOT malignant

Wildcard & Truncation:

Singular word form: In *quick search* using the singular word form will automatically retrieve the singular, plural and possessive forms of most words. However it will *not* work on words that end in “us” or “is” and other irregular plural forms.

So *city* will find *cities*, but *child* will not find *children*.

Use ! to find a root word plus all the words made by adding letters to the end of it.

behav! Would find behave, behavior, behavioral

Use an asterisk (*) to replace characters in a word, except the first character.

Use one asterisk for each character you want to replace.

Examples:

Wom*n finds woman and women

Berstn** finds both ei and ie spellings of Berstein

Basic and Advanced Search

From the search tab on the home page you may choose basic or advanced searching.

You can choose basic or advanced searching for **All Sources, Journals, Abstract**

Searching from this page allows you to further narrow your search. You may narrow by subject, date range, source, etc. You also may use the search history option to recall your search.

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If you already have a citation, and you wish to find the specific article, you can click on the:

Journals tab then use the boxes at the bottom of the page to enter the citation information. Note: you must enter at least one search term.

Abstract Databases allow you to search MEDLINE and the results are only citations and abstracts. You can limit your search by *Search Fields*, *Publication Type*, *Gender and Population*, and by *Date*.

Scirus will search for scientific information on the Web such as scientist homepages, Patents, conferences, job postings, and more.

Search Tips-will bring up the help window

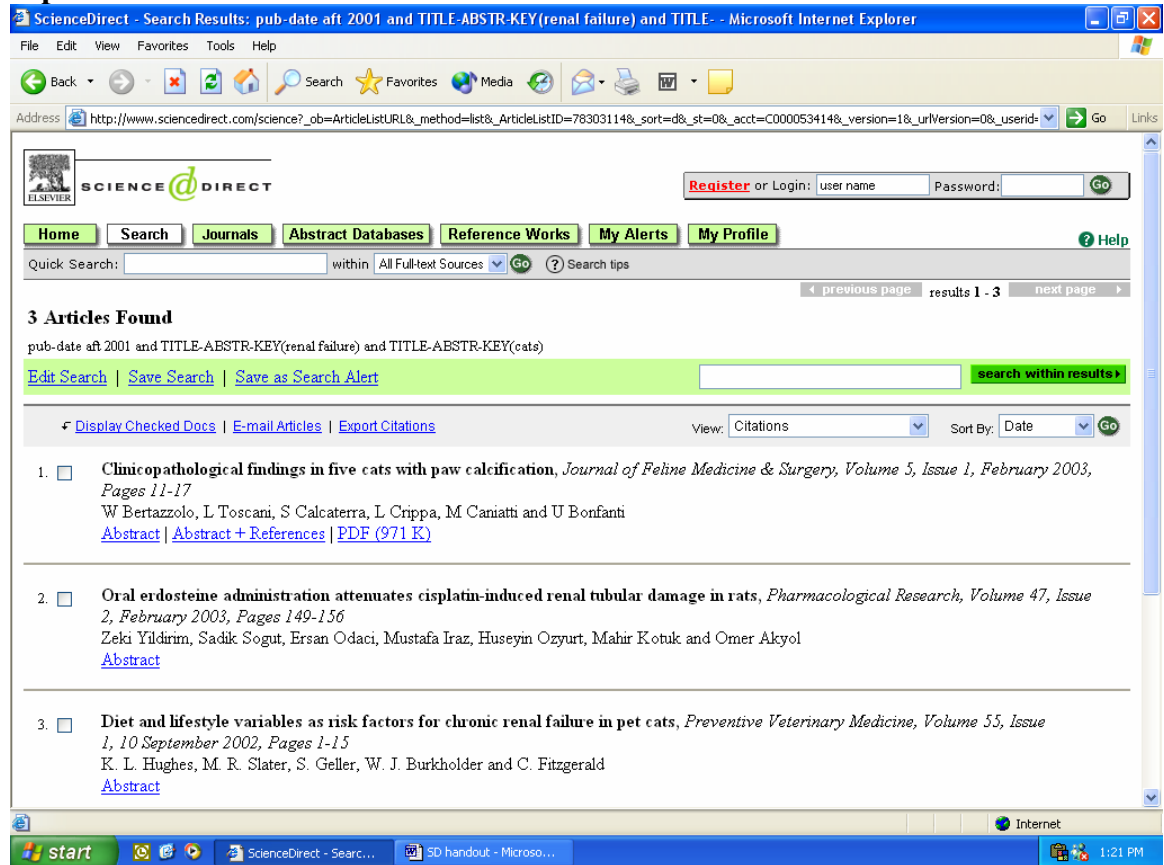
Displaying and printing records

- Records may include an Abstract, SummaryPlus, Abstract + References, or Full Text (HTML or PDF)
- Select the box at the beginning of each record for the records you wish to mark or select for printing, e-mail, or saving to diskette.
- Click on **Display Checked Docs** found at the top of the records listing to view the selected records. Some records may include links to other ScienceDirect articles,

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database records or links to other associated publishers' databases. Each abstract gives the option of searching for **(Cite by)** citations of the article in other sources. The record may also be saved as a **Citation Alert**, sent as **E-mail**, and they may be exported to a citation management program like EndNote. Just click on the **export citations link**



Profile and Alerts

You may set up a personal profile that will allow you to:

- Save Searches
- Create Search Alerts, Journal Issue Alerts and Citation Alerts
- Create a Favorite Journal List which you can browse and search

Just click on **My Profile** then click on **Add/Remove Favorite Journals** which will take you to the registration/log in page. Then just follow the directions to set up your personal account.