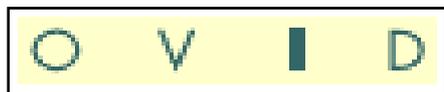


NEWSLINE



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ADELAIDE LIBRARY

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Free trial of Ovid biomedical databases with full-text online articles

Starting on 19 July, and continuing for at least four weeks, the database access provider, Ovid, is making available a free trial of some of its databases for staff and students of The University of Adelaide. The following databases will be involved: *Biological Abstracts*, *CINAHL*, *Evidence Based Medicine* [including *Cochrane's Database of Systematic Reviews*], *Journals@Ovid*, *Medline*, and *PsycInfo*.

If you are a user of *Current Contents* you will already be familiar with some aspects of the Ovid software; this trial will give you a chance to compare the Ovid software with the SilverPlatter system which we currently use for these important databases.

All of the above databases — or close equivalents — are currently available through the Library using SilverPlatter (ERL) software, except for the *Cochrane Library* which is available through Update Software. During the Ovid trial you can use one part of the *Cochrane Library* — the *Database of Systematic Reviews* — as part of Ovid's *Evidence Based Medicine* databases.

You will also have access to all of the Ovid online journals through *Journals@Ovid*. This means that whenever a search of a database finds an article from one of the 350+ online Ovid journal titles, the full text of the article will be available with a single mouse click. Some of the references in these online journal titles will also be available in full text with a single click. Note that the Library currently subscribes to around 50% of these titles in printed paper format.

The Library is interested in your opinion of the Ovid versions, compared with the existing SilverPlatter (ERL) and *Cochrane Library* versions, of these databases. We also want to know what you think of the online journals. Please take advantage of the opportunity to use the system as often as you can during the trial period.

If you are a *Medline* user we'd also be interested in your assessment of PubMed, the National Library of Medicine's own [free] version of the database.

The Library must soon decide whether to continue to use the SilverPlatter and Update Software forms of these databases or to change over to Ovid. We know of some advantages and disadvantages already, but we want to know what you think.

When you've finished using the databases you'll be asked to complete an evaluation form. We hope you'll use the databases several times during the trial. You can tell us what you think of the Ovid system as many times as you like.

Access the Ovid trial databases from <http://www.library.adelaide.edu.au/edb/trials/>

NEWSLINE is also on the Library's Web site: <http://www.library.adelaide.edu.au/ual/publ/Newsline/>





Expanded Academic Index — new interface, important new search features

The Library's popular Expanded Academic Index [EAI] is an interdisciplinary index to over 1,500 scholarly and general-interest journals. Coverage is very broad [from *Journal of Biological Chemistry* to *Popular Mechanics*] and includes most areas of academic enquiry, as well as many areas of popular culture. The full text of articles is available for over 900 of the journals indexed.

The new search interface to EAI offers greater search functionality and introduces an important new feature, InfoMarks, a built-in utility that allows you to save searches as easily as you would bookmark a Web page. These stored searches can be subject-based and bring up a page of references, or can point to a specific full-text article, or indeed to an entire journal. Like bookmarked pages, they can be reloaded, saved in e-mail or word processing documents or embedded in Intranet pages or in the Library catalogue. Any page within EAI bearing the InfoMark symbol  can be bookmarked in this way.

Note that EAI now requires that your Web browser is configured to accept Cookies.

Find the new EAI at <http://www.library.adelaide.edu.au/cgi-bin/director?id=EAI>



ABI/Inform's upgraded search interface

ABI/Inform is another of the Library's major full-text journal index databases. It provides citations and abstracts to over 1,500 international journals in business and management. Full text of about one half of these is included in the database.

ProQuest, the Web-based search interface to ABI/Inform, is now in version 3 and offers:

- complete MLA (Modern Language Association)-required citation for each document appearing on the Results List screen in response to user's requests for convenient citation reference.
- phrase searching capability allows users to easily look for phrases longer than two words — for example, type "The King and I" — and ProQuest searches the database for the exact phrase.
- new drop-down menu for Search by Word (Basic screen). This screen gives you more search options and makes it even easier to find specific information. Quickly look for reference material and archives prior to 1986 with subscriptions to these databases.
- article type and publication type drop-down menus are now available on the Advanced Search screen. This enables you to more exactly define and extract the specific kinds of requested articles — for example, editorials, reviews, and interviews — from newspapers, magazines, and/or reference books.
- the choice of viewing the articles in an issue in table of content order (as they appear in the issue) or in alphabetical order (previous display method) from the Search for Publication screen. This enables you to know which articles appear on the first page.

In August access to ABI/Inform will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Find the new ABI/Inform at <http://www.library.adelaide.edu.au/cgi-bin/director?id=ABI>

NEWSLINE is also on the Library's Web site: <http://www.library.adelaide.edu.au/ual/publ/Newsline/>