Search Strategy

1.) Begin with a research question or thesis statement:

Are children who drink sugary sodas at risk of developing type 2 diabetes?

2.) Identify the key terms/concepts:

children   sugary sodas   type 2 diabetes

3.) Make a list of synonymous terms for each key terms/subjects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>children</th>
<th>sugary sodas</th>
<th>type 2 diabetes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• adolescent</td>
<td>• soft drink</td>
<td>• diabetes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• teen</td>
<td>• carbonated beverages</td>
<td>• diabetes mellitus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• pediatric</td>
<td>• dietary sucrose</td>
<td>• type 1 diabetes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• juvenile</td>
<td>• sugar</td>
<td>• blood glucose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• sucrose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: In addition to listing synonymous terms, consider terms that broaden your search. For example, diabetes is a general term, whereas type II is a narrow term. Also, you can narrow your search by selecting a specific population, location, or gender. For example, searching male or female with adolescent narrows your search statement.

TIPS

• Use Boolean Operators (AND, OR, NOT) to join key terms/concepts together:
  
  AND = Narrows
  OR = Broadens
  NOT = Excludes

• Use the Truncation symbol * to search a root word for all forms of the word:
  Use Educat* to find (Educate, Educator, Education, & Educating)

• Use quotation marks around phrases, this instructs the database to search for all words in an exact order: “carbonated beverages”

Sample Search Statements

adolescent AND “carbonated beverages” AND diabetes

juvenile AND “type 2 diabetes”

male AND adolescent AND “carbonated beverages”