

What is Scopus?

Scopus covers over 18,000 titles, which include mostly peer-reviewed journals, books series, and conference proceedings that feature scientific, medical, technical and social science topics. Scopus does not use a controlled vocabulary, like MeSH to search. This database also contains over 23 million patent records and Scirus a scientific web page search. Scopus provides users the option to access article reference citations and to perform cited reference searching.

The Basics of Scopus Searching

You're interested in researching the current practices for workplace breast feeding accommodations.

Enter in the search box: *breast feeding workplace*

- Note the default setting searches the abstract, article title, author, keywords
- It is optional to include the Boolean operator "AND" as it is automatically included. Literally this search reads: breast feeding AND workplace

Results: 43 citations.

- This is a small retrieval. Note that Scopus does not utilize a controlled vocabulary so it is necessary to include synonyms.

Enter in the search box: (Breast feeding OR breast feeding OR lactation) AND workplace

- OR must be inserted between terms to be understood.

Results: 156 citations.

- Although this is a larger retrieval it is probably not all there is on breast feeding and workplace.

Enter in the search box: (breastfeed* OR breast feed* OR lactate*) AND workplace*

- "*" is the truncation symbol in Scopus, which searches for alternate endings of your search terms.
- For example: lactat*=lactation, lactates, lactating, etc.

Results: 158 citations.

Refine your search by using the "Refine Results" box, which enables refining by:

- Subject Areas
- Authors
- Publication Year
- Language
- Note just below "refine" is a search box to search within current results.

Scopus: Tips and Hints for Searching

When searching:

- Access Scopus via Lane Library's homepage: <http://lane.stanford.edu>.
- Utilize the refine search options to target your search
- Remember searching takes practice, time and patience.
- If frustrated contact Lauren at lmaggio@stanford.edu

The Boolean Operator AND:

- Narrows a search so that retrieved citations contain information about both search terms. For example, asthma AND "air pollution" retrieves information about both asthma AND air pollution.
- AND is automatically inserted between search terms.

The Boolean Operator OR:

- Broadens searches so retrieved citations contain information about either search terms. For example, "smog OR air pollution" retrieves information about either smog or air pollution.
- This is a good technique to use for searching with synonyms.
- OR must be inserted between terms

Reference Searching:

- Cited reference searching enables the expansion of a search by providing links to citations that have already cited your article of interest
- References for the majority of Scopus' citations include links to the citations that the original author cited.

Author Search:

- Allows for pinpointing authors and their works to determine the number of times that they have been cited.
- Provides insight into field leaders and potential collaborators.
- Once an author is selected, their citations are grouped using the Be aware that this feature may not always be reliable in terms of capturing an author's complete citation record.

Scopus Analytics:

- Enables viewing journal trends, including number of articles published per year and average times articles cited,