The Advanced Search option in the OVID Nursing database allows you to find articles in a specific and targeted way. This method of searching uses a controlled vocabulary, so rather than finding articles that may only mention your search term, you can find articles that are focused on your topic.

Anyone may come to the library in-person and use OVID Nursing Full Text Plus.

To use the OVID database from outside of the library building, you will need to be an “authorized user.” An authorized user is a current New Jersey State employee or a Thomas Edison State College staff member, student or mentor with a New Jersey State Library card. You will need the barcode number on the library card to gain access to the database. Authorized users may request a card online here:  http://www.njstatelib.org/research_library/get_a_library_card/

Locate OVID Nursing Full Text Plus

Go to the New Jersey State Library main page:  http://www.njstatelib.org/

Select the Research Tools tab and then select Databases.

Use the By Title drop down box and select the letter “O.”

Scroll down and select the link for OVID Nursing Full Text Plus. [Authorized Users: You will need to enter your barcode number at this point]

The database will open on the Basic Search page. Select the Advanced Search link.
Note: Be sure that “Map Term to Subject Heading” box is checked. This will ensure that the search will look for the controlled vocabulary terms necessary for an Advanced Search. 
[Note: At this point you can select any Limits you wish to use.] 

Search example: pertussis

The next screen tells us that the subject heading for Pertussis is “Whooping Cough.”

Notice that the “Auto Explode” box is checked. When this is checked, any narrower terms for the term you chose will also be included in the search.

See term mapped to thesaurus term

Select Subject Heading Auto Explode

- Whooping Cough
- pertussis.mp. search as Keyword

Hints:
- Click on a Subject Heading to view its thesaurus-related terms that are more general and more specific.
- Select the Explode box if you wish to retrieve results using the selected term and all of its more specific terms.
- If your search did not map to a desirable subject heading, select the box Search as Keyword.
- If you select more than one term, you can combine them using a boolean operator (AND or OR).
- If you wish to see the scope note for any term or heading, click on the information icon, when available.
Clicking on the subject heading will show you any broader, narrower, or related terms.

In this example, **Whooping Cough** has no narrower terms.

Click on the **Continue button** to perform the search.
Scroll down to see results of the search.

To add another concept to the search, go back to the search box at the top and conduct a search for the new term.

For this example, we will add the search concept of vaccination.
Note that “vaccination” maps to the Subject Heading, “Immunization.”

Click Continue to perform the search.

To combine the 2 searches, use the Search History. Click to expand the Search History section. From the search history, you can combine any of your previous searches.
Select the searches you want to combine and then choose the **Boolean operator**, **AND**.

Scroll down to see the results.

Questions? Contact Martha Sullivan, New Jersey State Library, 609-278-2640 x103 or msullivan@njstatelib.org