Expert Searches and Filters

OvidSP Expert Searches

Ovid’s Expert Search feature allows institutions to make searching faster and more efficient for their users with predefined search strategies created and saved by experts to meet specific needs and interests of specific users and user groups.

Expert Searches are complex searches created by a subject expert and available in the list of Saved Searches accessible by all users at an institution.

Expert Searches allow librarians and information managers to easily share search expertise among all users, or among those who fit into a specific interest group. The Expert Search functionality can also be shared with colleagues in external institutions.

Institution-specific searches are created by site administrators or subject experts for use within a particular institution. Expert Searches are activated and distributed through the Ovid group model, providing site administrators with the flexibility to make Expert Searches available to designated user profiles.

Note: Users must have an Ovid Personal Account in order to access OvidSP Filters and Expert Searches.

Search Filters

The Expert Search option can also be used to create and make available pre-determined search Filters to help users narrow and refine their own searches in a more efficient manner. For example, Filters can be used to help users limit their search results to particular clinical topics or subjects, such as Diagnosis, Etiology, Prognosis, or Therapy.

Setting up Expert Searches is Easy

The library’s Ovid Site Administrator should contact support@ovid.com and provide the name of the Expert User(s) who will be granted the rights to create, modify, or delete Expert Searches.

Once the Expert User has created an Expert Search or Filter it must be saved. To save an Expert Search or Filter, the Expert User must select the Expert Search option in the “Saved Searches” drop-down menu:

All saved Expert Searches will be available for all authorized users at the institution.

To have multiple Expert Searchers for different user profiles or groups (e.g., the medical school, the veterinary school), please provide Ovid’s Support team with details of the specific user groups and how they are authenticated onto OvidSP.
Accessing Expert Searches

To execute an Expert Search, users first click on the Saved Searches/Filters link located in the top right of the screen on the main search page; then, scroll down to the Expert Searches section and select the Expert Search that they’d like to execute, and click on Run.

**Note:** Expert Searches are displayed at the bottom of the Saved Searches list by default. The order of the Saved Searches display can be customized; please contact support@ovid.com for more customization options.

Users can combine (using the AND button) the results of the Expert Search with additional searches. By adding specific terms, users can refine the Expert Search to meet a specific requirement.

This new search—which results from combining an Expert Search with another search strategy—may be saved as a new permanent Saved Search or AutoAlert, which individual users can customize to their own accounts.

Librarians and teaching staff can also create a Jumpstart, a direct-access URL that gives users single-click access to any Saved Search. Jumpstarts can be displayed in any web resource (e.g., a VLE), or sent by email for fast and easy sharing.

Advantages of Using Expert Searches

The following scenarios illustrate the ways Expert Searches can benefit different groups within an institution.

**For Librarians**

As a librarian, you may have complex searches that you want to share with your users. For example, if you want to provide a search that contains all the synonyms for the term “Etiology”, create an Expert Search!

When users access their list of Saved Searches, they will be able to run your Expert Search strategy and combine it with their own term(s).

**For Site Administrators**

Expert Search editing rights can be enabled by group or by a list of individual users. You may want to give Expert Search editing rights to a very small number of subject librarians. Many users will be able to see and run the Expert Searches, but only the selected librarians will have permission to edit them. To set up a specific group with Expert Search editing rights, contact your Ovid Technical Support representative at support@ovid.com.

**For Users**

Expert Searches are complex searches that have been created by a subject expert and that are available under a user’s list of Saved Searches. These allow users to benefit from the advanced searching skills of subject experts and save time they may have otherwise spent devising a search strategy themselves. For example, the Etiology Expert Search mentioned above can be combined with the results of a search executed using a user’s specific disease term(s).

**Note:** Some Expert Searches are applicable only to specific databases.

Contact support@ovid.com now to start using Expert Searches and Filters!