

Supplementary File 3: Tools and techniques for search strategy

Technique	Command	Example
All known synonyms and acronyms of keyword		<i>socioeconomic position may include socioeconomic status, income, SES, SEP etc.</i>
Truncation – used to find variant word endings	“root word”*	<i>depriv* includes deprivation and deprived</i>
Wildcard – used to replace a character within a word to enable alternative spellings to be included	?	<i>marginali?ed includes marginalised and marginalised</i>
Boolean operators – to combine keywords and subject headings within a key concept, and to combine different key concepts	“OR” “AND”	<i>social position OR social status will identify articles containing either of these terms; social capital AND health status disparities will identify articles with both terms</i>
Searching title, abstract and keyword fields – this will also include current articles to be retrieved that do not yet have MeSH terms assigned	(free-text word search string).ti,ab,kw.	<i>(health inequ* or health status dispar*).ti,ab.kw.</i>