

Guide to Using Consumer Health Complete

What is Consumer Health Complete? Consumer Health Complete is a full text EBSCOhost database which provides health and medical information.

What's in Consumer Health Complete? In this database, you can access articles from more than 170 medical encyclopedias and reference books. Also, you can access evidence-based health reports, health pamphlets, health news, fact sheets, drug and herb information, alternative health sources, medical images, diagrams, videos and animations. The encyclopedias and reference books provide detailed information about conditions, procedures, and treatments. Evidence-based health reports contain information about diseases, treatments, and other information. Health pamphlets and fact sheets provide medical and health information. The health news feature gives you quick access to news about current medical research. The drug and herb information feature allows you to view information about prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs, and herbs. Alternative health sources provide information about alternative medicine. The medical images and diagrams are detailed, color images of organs and other medical images. The videos and animations help you better understand diagnostics, diseases, conditions, and procedures.

How do I access Consumer Health Complete? To access this database, go to the "Articles & More – By Subject" Web page at <http://www.deltastate.edu/pages/676.asp>. On this Web page, click the "Quick jump to a database" drop-down menu. In this menu, select Consumer Health Complete. To access this database from off campus, refer to the "Guide to Accessing Databases Off Campus," that is available in Roberts-LaForge Library and online at <http://www.deltastate.edu/docs/library/offcampusdbs.pdf>.

Using Consumer Health Complete



Figure 1: Database Home Page

The image on the left is the home page of the Consumer Health Complete database. From the home page, you can perform a basic search, select certain types of health-related resources, browse popular health-related resources, search for resources by topic, access the advanced search screen, and access a medical dictionary. Also, you can select from various languages in the language drop-down menu in the upper right corner of the database home page (see Figure 1).

Performing a Basic Search

To perform a basic search in this database, type your keyword or phrase into the “**Find:**” search box at the top of the home page (See Figure 1). Then click the “Search” link to view your search results. For example, if you needed to find health-related resources about diabetes, you would type the word “diabetes” into the “**Find:**” box and click “Search.”

Performing an Advanced Search

To access the advanced search screen, click on the “Advanced Search” link at the top of the home page (see Figure 1). Then you will be on the advanced search screen, which is illustrated in Figure 2 on the right. On the advanced search screen, you have three search boxes into which you can type search terms. Also, you have three search option drop-down menus which allow you to specify what type of search you wish to perform. These are the drop-down menus containing the words “Select a Field” (See Figure 2). In these menus, you can do a keyword search by selecting “TX All Text”, an author search by selecting “AU Author”, a title search by selecting “TI Title”, or a subject search by selecting “SU Subject Terms.” Other search options are also available in these menus.

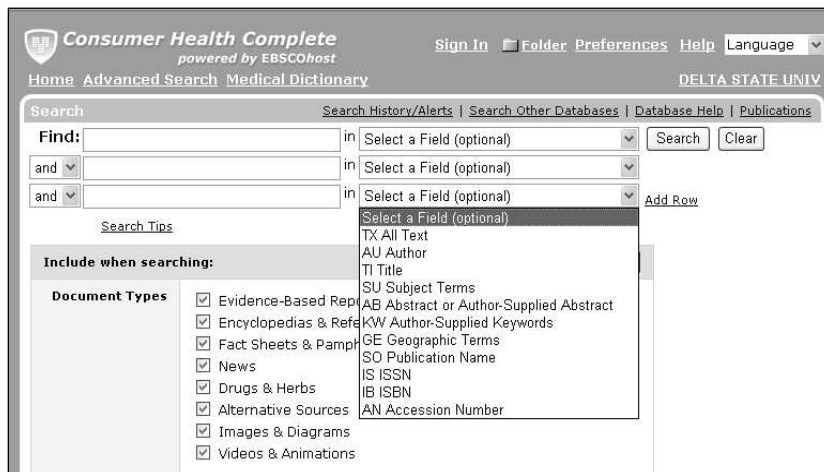


Figure 2: Advanced Search Screen



Figure 3: Boolean Operators

Boolean operators are the words **and**, **or**, and **not**. Clicking on a drop-down menu containing the word “and” will display the Boolean operators (See Figure 3 on the left). See the Boolean Operator table below for an explanation of Boolean operators.

Boolean Operator	Explanation (using search terms obesity and heart disease)
obesity and heart disease	To find resources about obesity and heart disease
obesity or heart disease	To find resources about obesity, resources about heart disease, and resources about both topics
obesity not heart disease	To find resources about obesity only

Other Features on the Advanced Search Screen

Selecting Document Types

Below the search boxes on the advanced search screen, you will see the list of document types. The types of documents available in Consumer Health Complete include evidence-based reports, encyclopedias, reference books, fact sheets, pamphlets, news, drug and herb information, alternative sources, images, diagrams, videos, and animations. All types of resources have checked boxes on the advanced search screen. Checked resources are the types of resources you will retrieve in your search results. If you wish to exclude any type of resource, click on its box to remove the check.

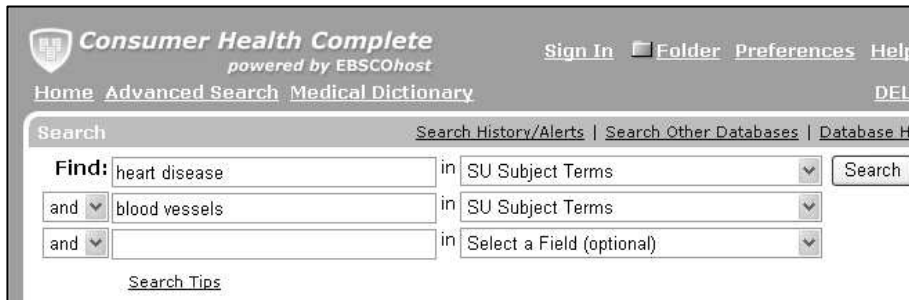
Search Limiters

On the advanced search screen, you'll find search limiters under the list of document types. You can limit your search results by the following criteria: full text, journal, publication date, publication type (e.g. evidence-based health reports), document type (e.g. article), page length, cover stories, and PDF full text.

Search Expanders

Below the search limiters, you'll find search expanders. You can expand your search to search for related words in addition to the terms you typed in, search for the search terms within the full text of the articles, and select "And" as the Boolean operator.

Example of a Search



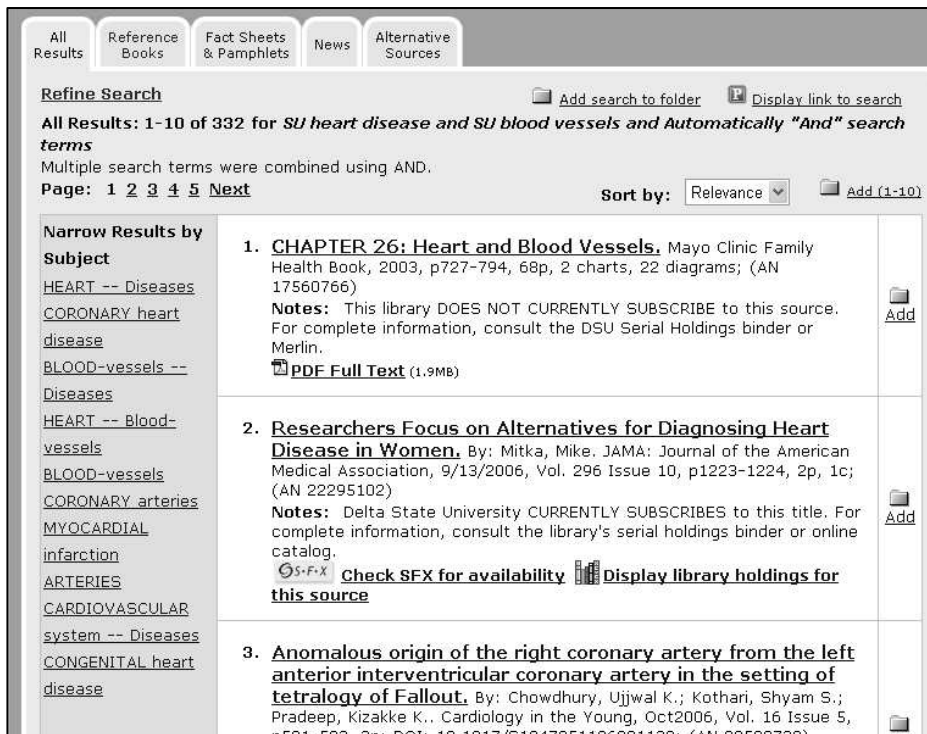
The screenshot shows the 'Consumer Health Complete' search interface. The search bar contains the terms 'heart disease' and 'blood vessels' with 'and' as the Boolean operator. The search field is set to 'SU Subject Terms'. There are additional search options for 'Search History/Alerts', 'Search Other Databases', and 'Database He'. A 'Search' button is visible.

Figure 4: Example of a search

Suppose you were searching for health-related resources about heart disease and blood vessels. You would perform a subject search for resources on these topics, either on the basic or advanced search screen. Figure 4 on the left is an illustration of these search terms entered on the advanced search screen.

The "SU Subject Terms" search option must be selected in order to perform a subject search. The subject search option (SU Subject Terms) is preferable to the keyword search option (TX All Text) when searching for resources about particular topics, since a subject search will retrieve resources that are relevant to your topics, not all resources which happen to contain the search terms you typed in.

Understanding the Search Results



The screenshot shows the search results page for the query 'SU heart disease and SU blood vessels and Automatically "And" search terms'. The results are sorted by Relevance. The first result is 'CHAPTER 26: Heart and Blood Vessels' from the Mayo Clinic Family Health Book, 2003. The second result is 'Researchers Focus on Alternatives for Diagnosing Heart Disease in Women' from JAMA: Journal of the American Medical Association, 9/13/2006. The third result is 'Anomalous origin of the right coronary artery from the left anterior interventricular coronary artery in the setting of tetralogy of Fallot' from Cardiology in the Young, Oct2006.

Figure 5: Search results

Type in your search terms on the search screen and click "Search" (see Figure 4). Then you will be able to view your search results (see Figure 5 on the left). The search results are citations to resources. If the full text of a resource is available in Consumer Health Complete, there will be an [HTML Full Text](#) link or a [PDF Full Text](#) link in its citation (see search result # 1). If the full text of the article or document can be found in the Roberts-LaForge Library, the **Notes:** portion of the citation will read "Delta State University CURRENTLY SUBSCRIBES..." (see search result # 2).

How do I limit these search results to a particular type of resource? The search results in Figure 5 include various types of resources available on the topics. If you wish to limit to one type of resource, then click on the tab for that resource. For example, you would click the “Reference Books” tab at the top of the screen to limit your search results to information from reference books (see Figure 5).

What if the full text of a needed article or document is not available in Consumer Health Complete or the library?

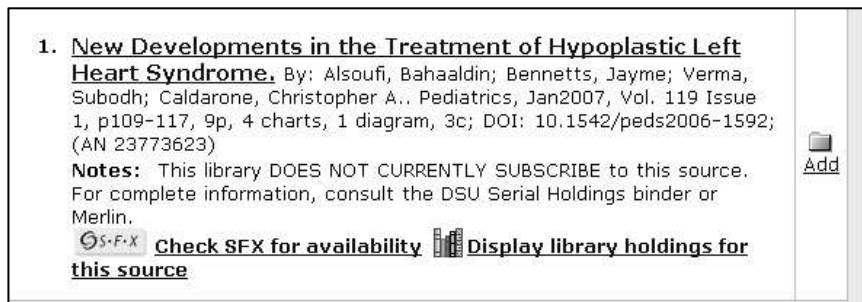


Figure 6: Example of a search result

If full text is not available in Consumer Health Complete or the library, then the full text may be available in another database. For example, suppose you needed the article “New Developments in the Treatment of Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome”, which is cited in Figure 6. You would click the [Check SFX for availability](#) link in the

citation (see Figure 6). After clicking on the [Check SFX for availability](#) link, the Ex Libris/SFX pop-up window will appear on your computer screen (see Figure 7 below).



Figure 7: Ex Libris/SFX screen

In this example illustrated in Figure 7, you would click the round “GO” link for “EBSCOhost Health Source Consumer Edition” to access the full article. If the full text is not available in any database or the library, then you would click on the [Check SFX for availability](#) link (see Figure 6) and click the round “GO” link for “Interlibrary Loan” to request it from another library (see Figure 7).

Quick Find and Search by Topic

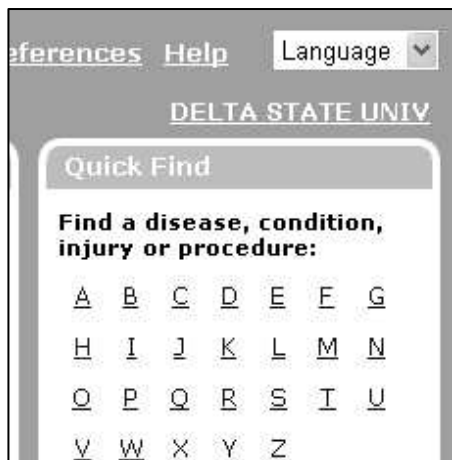


Figure 8: Quick Find

The Quick Find search option allows you to click a letter (See Figure 8 on the left) to browse a list of health-related topics. For example, if you need information about heart attacks, you would click the [H](#) link and click the [Heart Attack](#) link on the next screen.

Figure 9: Search by Topic

The Search by Topic search option allows you to browse by subject for information on health-related topics. For example, you can click the [Children's Health](#) link to access resources on that topic (see Figure 9 on the right). The "Search by Topic" list of subjects is located on the lower right corner of the home page of the database.



Printing, Emailing, and Saving Search Results

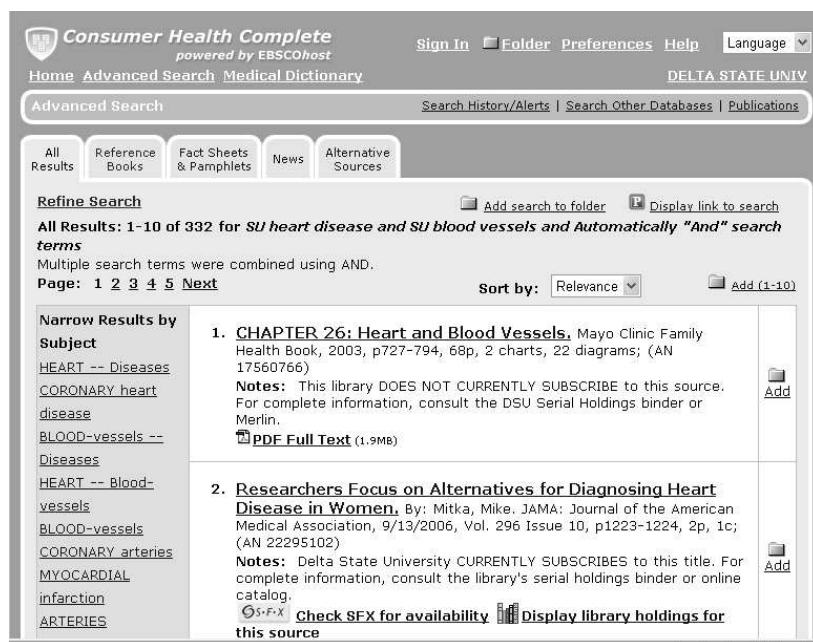


Figure 10: Search results

You can select the search results you wish to print, email, or save to a disk. For example, suppose you wanted to print search result # 1 (see Figure 10 on the left). First, you would click the [Add](#) link to the right of the citation. Second, you would click the [Folder](#) link at the top of the screen. Then you would select one of three options: print, email, or save. When HTML full text is available, you can print, email, or save the full text article or document. When PDF full text is available, you can email the full text article or document. If you wish to save or print a PDF full text document or article, you must use Adobe Acrobat Reader and use the save or print icon in the tool bar of the PDF document or article.

Searching Tips

- **What if I have too many search results?**
 - Make your search term/s more specific. For example "health" would be very broad and would probably need to be changed to a narrower topic.
 - If you're doing a keyword search, change your search option to a subject search.
 - Add another search term to your search.
- **What if I don't have enough search results?**
 - Search for synonyms of your search term/s and use those as search terms. This may help you find resources on the same topic that you did not find with the previous term/s.
 - If your focus is very narrow, you may want to broaden the topic.
- **What if I have no search results?**
 - Check to see if any search terms are misspelled.
 - If you typed in a sentence or long phrase, this could be the reason for having no search results. Only type in short search terms, such as **heart disease** or **diabetes**.

Have a Question? Ask a Librarian.