**Lawrence, J. C. (2007).** [**Techniques for searching the CINAHL Database using the EBSCO interface.**](../Documents/NOVA/DCTE%20750/Techniques%20for%20Searching.pdf) ***AORN Journal,* 85 (4), 779-791.**

Keywords: Information retrieval, nursing students, retrieval training, retrieval process steps

 The steps for performing a search using the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL) are detailed with many steps being transposable to other interfaces. The first step is to understand that a specialist that links the article to specific subject headings indexes all articles in this database. The subject headings are the searchable words not the entire article and keywords as in other databases. Each subject heading is further broken into sub-headings that are readily accessible in the database’s search engine. Clicking on a simple key assists in exploding this subject heading to its broadest search capability to include not only the subject heading, but also all of the sub-headings that may be related to the topic. Steps to limit the search to specific filters such as dates, peer reviewed or full text are outlined.

 The key points of conducting, combining and saving searches could also be used to teach details regarding information retrieval from research databases. Each interface may have some nuances that may need to be refined, but the general steps could be incorporated into any search engine. Learning the uniqueness of research interfaces is an important skill for the novice as well as the experienced researcher.