

# CHOOSING BETWEEN OVID AND PUBMED

The MEDLINE database is your key to finding articles in the medical and life sciences. It contains over 18 million article citations and abstracts from more than 5,500 journals. MEDLINE may be accessed in a variety of ways; Ovid and PubMed are the most popular interfaces at UT Southwestern. **When accessed from the Library's Web site, both Ovid and PubMed provide links to full-text articles the Library owns.** Both also offer a Google-like interface for searching with keywords as well as a more structured interface for searching with Medical Subject Headings (MeSH). However, there are a number of differences between the two interfaces.

To help you choose which interface you should use, **five key differences** are outlined below:

	Ovid MEDLINE	PubMed
<b>REMOTE ACCESS</b>	Remote access to Ovid and the Library's journals is only available to UT Southwestern staff, faculty, and students using VPN or EZProxy.	PubMed is freely available from any computer, but only the customized version available from the Library's Web site links to the Library's full-text journals. Remote access to the Library's journals is only available to UT Southwestern staff, faculty, and students using VPN or EZProxy.
<b>FULL-TEXT</b>	Each Ovid MEDLINE entry may be able to provide a direct link to the full-text article by using the "Find It @ Library!" button. A link may also be provided to full-text if it is available in Ovid.	If accessed from the Library home page, each PubMed entry has a "Find It @ Library!" button that may link to the full-text. A link may also be provided to publicly accessible full-text if it is available in PubMed Central.
<b>CONTENT</b>	Ovid separates the MEDLINE database from the Ovid OLDMEDLINE (1946-1965) and Ovid MEDLINE In-Process databases, although there is a significant amount of overlap among the databases.	PubMed combines into a single database in-process articles, citations from some journals before they were selected for MEDLINE coverage, old citations that have not been converted to MEDLINE status, and out-of-scope materials from MEDLINE journals.
<b>SEARCHING DIFFERENCES</b>	Users can search MEDLINE and other available Ovid databases at the same time. MeSH searching is the default method, but Ovid also offers Google-like searching and advanced search features that give you more control over your search than PubMed.	PubMed has a default Google-like interface, but it also offers a more structured MeSH database search option. A number of third-party tools such as PubGet and Zotero have been created to modify searching or help you organize your search results in PubMed.
<b>SAVING SEARCHES</b>	Users with a personal login can save searches and have new search results sent to them via email or RSS feed.	Users with a free My NCBI login can save searches and have new search results sent to them via email or RSS feed.