



Mastering Google for Physiotherapists – Google “Cheat Sheet”

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In this handout, I would like give you a touch-and-feel on what you can do with a general search engine – Google, when you are looking for reliable and free health information on the Web. For more tips and up-to-date coverage of physiotherapy informatics please visit our **UBC Physio Info-Blog** @ <http://weblogs.elearning.ubc.ca/physio/>

“ ”

Putting quotes around a phrase - two words or more - improves your precision as it limits results to an exact phrase. Example - [["common cold" "vitamin c"](#)]

allintitle:

Using this command you restrict Google results to those containing all the query terms you specify in the title of the document. Example - [[allintitle:common cold vitamin c](#)]

author:

Used only in Google Groups and Google Scholar, this command will restrict your Google Groups results to include newsgroup articles by the author you specify. Example - [[author:giustini](#)]

bphonebook:

With this command Google shows business white page listings for the query terms you specify. For example, [[bphonebook:smith john new york](#)] will show the phonebook listing for all John Smiths who live in New York (doesn't work for Canada yet)

cache:

This command will have Google to display Google's cached (historical) version of a web page, instead of the current version of the page. Example - [[cache:ubc.ca](#)]

define:

While using this command Google will show you definitions from pages on the web for the appropriate term(s). This advanced search operator is very useful for finding definitions of words, phrases, and acronyms. Example - [[define:electroconvulsive therapy](#)]

filetype:

Including filetype:suffix in your query, will make Google to restrict the results to pages whose names end in suffix, for instance PDF files (pdf) or MS Word documents (doc). Example - [["common cold" "vitamin c" filetype:pdf OR filetype:doc](#)]. Useful suffices - pdf (Adobe Acrobat), doc (MS Word), ppt (MS PowerPoint), and jpeg (Web images)

info:

This query will present some information about the corresponding web page. Example - [[info:ubc.ca](#)]

intitle:

This command will result Google to retrieve documents containing the requested terms in their title. Example - [[intitle:"common cold"](#)]. Note that putting intitle: in front of every word in your query is equivalent to putting allintitle: at the front of your query

inurl:

Using this command in your query will restrict Google results to documents containing requested word(s) in the document's url. Example - [[inurl:"common cold"](#)]

link:

This powerful command shows pages that point to a particular URL. For example, this query will present all pages that link to UBC Library homepage - [link.www.library.ubc.ca], more than 5,000 of these!

related:

Being one of the most capable Google commands it will list web pages that are similar to the web page you specify. Example - [related.www.library.ubc.ca]. Similar to PubMed "Relates Articles" command, you can also find similar pages from the "Similar pages" link on Google's main results page, and from the similar selector in the Advanced Search page.

site:

When you will use this command Google will restrict your search results to the site or domain you specify. For example the following query - [["common cold" "vitamin c" site:.edu OR site:.gov](http://\)] - will retrieve Web results only from US universities (.edu) and US government websites (.gov). Useful domains - .edu (US universities), .gov (US government), .ca (Canadian content), .ac.uk (UK universities), .org (mostly NGO's). You can also restrict your results to a site or domain through the domains selector on the Advanced Search page.

source:

When including source: in your query, Google News will restrict your search to articles from the news source with the ID you specify. For example, [Vioxx source:new_york_times] will return all results with the word "Vioxx" that have appeared in the New York Times.

stocks:

Starting your query with stocks: will make Google to interpret the rest of the query terms as stock ticker symbols, and will link to a page showing stock information for the symbols you specify. Example - [stocks:QLTI]. Alternatively, you could just type the stock ticker into the Google search box

Combining operators together - You may use many of the basic operators and search operators with each other. However, there are some that must be used by themselves and others that you should be careful about using together. For instance the following operators cannot be combined:

- All the search operators whose names begin with "allin," e.g., allinanchor:, allintext:, allintitle:, and allinurl:.
- Syntaxes that request special information, e.g., define:, phonebook, bphonebook, rphonebook, stocks:.
- Page-specific search operators, e.g., cache:, info:, related:.

For more information on using Google, PubMed, PEDro, Scirus, Google Scholar and much-much more, please visit our **UBC Physio Info-Blog** @ <http://weblogs.elearning.ubc.ca/physio/> or contact me at:

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