**Patient literature search (PubMed)**

For most PubMed searches, it is best to:

* **Be specific** (the more terms you enter, the narrower your search will be and the fewer irrelevant results you will retrieve).
* **Use no punctuation** (e.g., no quotation marks). PubMed will find phrases for you.
* **Use no operators** (e.g., AND). PubMed will add AND between concepts.

When PubMed finds a match in the MeSH vocabulary, it automatically searches the more specific terms underneath that heading (if there are any) in the MeSH hierarchy.

**MeSH terms [Mesh]**

MeSH is the acronym for "Medical Subject Headings." and is the authority list of the vocabulary terms used for subject analysis of biomedical literature at NLM (National Library of Medicine, US). MeSH vocabulary is used for indexing journal articles for MEDLINE.

**Major MeSH terms [Majr]**

* Patients

**MeSh terms**

* [Patient Navigation](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D062526)
* [Patients](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010361)
* [Patient Preference](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D057240)
* [Patient Education as Topic](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010353)
* [Patient Satisfaction](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D017060)
* [Patient Advocacy](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010344)
* [Patient Reported Outcome Measures](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D000071066)
* [Patient Participation](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010358)
* Consumer participation
* [Physician-Patient Relations](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010817)
* [Patient Outcome Assessment](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D063868)
* [Patient-Centered Care](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D018802)
* [Professional-Patient Relations](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D011369)
* [Caregivers](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D017028)
* [Parenting](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D016487)
* [Parent-Child Relations](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010287)
* [Parents](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010290)
* [Attitude to Health](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010287)
* [Attitude to Death](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D010287)
* Health Status
* Health communication
* Health Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice
* Quality of Life
* Self Care
* Self Concept
* Self-Help Groups
* Activities of daily living
* Focus Groups
* Community-Based Participatory Research
* Community Networks
* Social Support
* Social Welfare
* Emotions
* Consumer satisfaction
* Needs assessment
* Personal Autonomy

**Title / Abstract terms [tiab]**

* patient perspective\*
* patient’s perspective\*
* patient desire\*
* patient’s desire\*
* “patient’s desires”
* patient view\*
* patient’s view\*
* patient expression\*
* patient’s expression\*
* patient attitude\*
* patient’s attitude\*
* patient involvement\*
* patient’s involvement\*
* patient decision\*
* patient’s decision\*
* patient activation\*
* patient’s activation\*
* patients activation
* patient empowerment
* patient participation
* patient’s participation
* patients participation
* patient collaboration
* patient’s collaboration
* patients collaboration
* expert patient\*
* consumer participation
* consumer perspective
* consumer involvement
* patient-focused
* patient-centered
* patient-centred
* patient needs
* self-management
* self-perception

**LOOK FOR SPECIFIC MESH TERMS THAT MAY BE RELEVANT FOR YOUR SEARCH e.g.**

**Search ‘health’ – any fragment -** Examples might come up as:

[Child Health](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D000067576)  
[Women's Health](https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/#/record/ui?ui=D016387)  
Adolescent Health  
Urban Health  
Family Health

Search **(((Patient Participation[Mesh] OR consumer participation[Mesh] OR Professional-Patient Relations[Mesh] OR Patient-Centered Care[Mesh] OR Patient Preference[Mesh] OR Patient Satisfaction[Majr] OR Patient Education as Topic[Mesh] OR Attitude to Health[Mesh] OR Patient Acceptance of Health Care[Mesh] OR Health Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice[Mesh] OR Focus Groups[Mesh] OR Quality of Life[Majr] OR Self Care[mh:noexp] OR Self Concept[Mesh] OR Cooperative Behavior[Mesh] OR Adaptation, Psychological[Mesh] OR Self-Help Groups[Mesh] OR Community Networks[Mesh] OR Emotions[Mesh] OR Consumer Satisfaction[Mesh] OR Needs Assessment[Mesh] OR Personal Autonomy[Mesh] OR Patient Advocacy[Mesh] OR Patient Reported Outcome Measures[Mesh] OR Patient Participation[Mesh] OR Consumer Participation[Mesh] OR Caregivers[Mesh] OR Social Support[Mesh] OR Attitude to Health[Mesh] OR Health Status[Mesh] OR Community-based Participatory Research[Mesh] OR Life Change Events[Mesh]) OR (patient perspective\*[tiab] OR patient's perspective\*[tiab] OR patient desire\*[tiab] OR patient's desire\*[tiab] OR "patient's desires"[tiab] OR patient view\*[tiab] OR patient's view\*[tiab] OR patient expression\*[tiab] OR patient's expression\*[tiab] OR patient attitude\*[tiab] OR patient's attitude\*[tiab] OR patient involvement\*[tiab] OR patient's involvement\*[tiab] OR patient decision\*[tiab] OR patient's decision\*[tiab] OR patient activation[tiab] OR patient's activation[tiab] OR patients activation[tiab] OR patient empowerment[tiab] OR patient participation[tiab] OR patient's participation[tiab] OR patients participation[tiab] OR patient collaboration[tiab] OR patient's collaboration[tiab] OR patients collaboration[tiab] OR expert patient\*[tiab] OR consumer participation[tiab] OR consumer perspective[tiab] OR consumers perspective[tiab] OR consumer's perspective[tiab] OR consumer involvement[tiab] OR patient-focused[tiab] OR patient-centred[tiab] OR patient needs[tiab] OR self-management[ti] OR self-perception[tiab]) OR (Patients[Majr] AND (Communication[MeSH Terms] OR Decision Making[Mesh]))))**