How to check if a journal is indexed in MEDLINE

**Step 1**
Open up a web browser and go to PubMed. Under the More Resources column, click on the link Journals in NCBI Databases.

**Step 2**
The link will resolve to the National Library of Medicine (NLM) Catalog where you can search by journal title, abbreviation or ISSN. Please note that you are now searching within the NLM Catalog, not in the PubMed database. After typing in the title of the journal hit the search button.

**Step 3**
The NLM’s catalog includes journal entries for titles that are indexed, selectively indexed and not currently indexed for MEDLINE. Many journals have similar titles. You can also confirm the correct entry by publisher name and ISSN.

If the entry states “Currently indexed for MEDLINE” then the title is indexed, cover-to-cover, in MEDLINE.

If your search retrieves no matching title, then the journal is not held nor indexed by the NLM.

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Note: Journal titles that are selectively indexed only include citations for articles where the manuscript is deposited in PubMed Central (PMC) in compliance with public access policies. A publisher will not deposit a paper into PMC unless the author states during the submission process that the work is associated with sponsored research.

Step 4

Click on the title of the journal for the full NLM cataloging record. The entry will provide additional information about the journal including the beginning year and volume for indexing within MEDLINE, PubMed, and PMC.

Need further help?

E-mail the WMed Librarians at Ask.Librarian@med.wmich.edu

MEDLINE Fact Sheet: FAQ

MEDLINE, PubMed, and PMC (PubMed Central): How are they different? FAQ

Journal Selection for MEDLINE Indexing at NLM: FAQ

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