


## Literature searching

Our sessions on how to carry out a literature search usually include the following aspects:

- choosing bibliographic databases
- developing a comprehensive search strategy
- performing your search efficiently and effectively
- limiting your search
- expanding your search
- exporting results
- using referencing software

We can tailor sessions to your specific interests upon request.

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 Chris Hart "A core transferable skill for all researchers is the ability to search the literature efficiently and effectively." (Doing a literature search, 2001)

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## Resources

For a quick overview of the topic we have updated our [6-step guide \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/hsmc-library/guide/6-steps-literature-search.pdf\)](/Documents/college-social-sciences/social-policy/hsmc-library/guide/6-steps-literature-search.pdf) to a successful literature search.

We have also prepared a more [comprehensive introduction \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/hsmc-library/help-and-training/activity/1-introduction.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/hsmc-library/help-and-training/activity/1-introduction.aspx) to the principles governing the search process.

For those working within the NHS we provide training sessions specifically for using **NHS Evidence**. For a quick overview on how to search this database look [here. \(http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/search-and-browse\)](http://www.evidence.nhs.uk/search-and-browse)

Finally, the SchARR Library in Sheffield produced the **video** below on how to develop a search strategy which is worth having a look at.

Adobe Flash Player or QuickTime is required for video playback. [Get the latest Flash Player](#) [Get the latest version of QuickTime](#)