

Searching InfoRetriever on your Handheld Device

InfoRetriever Help

What's Included in InfoRetriever
Search Overview

Types of Searches

Search by any word
Search Five-Minute Clinical Consult
Search by keyword
Search diagnosis only
Drug Info (by name)
Clinical rules and calculators
Practice guidelines
InfoPOEMs by month/year
Photo gallery
Hints for Effective Searching
Boolean Search

Other Features

ICD-9 Code Look-up
E/M Coding Wizard
Quickly "Jump to ..." Useful Resources
PEARLS
InfoRetriever Options

What's Included in InfoRetriever

InfoRetriever includes material from many different medical references, covering thousands of topics. It offers the latest evidence-based information, and is the only medical reference to integrate this breadth of information in a single, easy-to-use search interface. InfoRetriever includes:

- **InfoPOEMs:** More than 2,400 **Patient-Oriented Evidence that Matters** summaries. These summaries, an original product of POEMs Technologies®, are brief, evidence-based summaries of recent medical literature
- **Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews:** More than 1,800 abstracts from the "gold-standard" for evidence-based practice.
- **Practice guidelines:** Summaries of more than 700 selected, evidence-based practice guideline summaries, including every evidence-based guideline from the NGC

- **Clinical Decision Rules and Calculators:** More than 200 useful Clinical Rules and Calculators derived from recent medical literature
 - **Diagnostic Test Calculators:** Information on test accuracy and interpretation for nearly 900 unique combinations of symptom, diagnosis, and tests in an easy-to-use calculator
 - **History and Physical Test Calculators:** Information on the accuracy of the history and physical exam in an easy-to-use calculator
 - **Griffith's Five-Minute Clinical Consult:** The complete 2004 Edition of 5MCC, including more than 1,000 summaries and 500 photographs, offers a standard reference to fill in the gaps where evidence is lacking
 - **ICD-9 Lookup Tool:** A searchable collection of 1,500 commonly used ICD-9 codes
-

Search Overview

Due to the limited computing power of most handheld devices, a full-text search of the many resources included in InfoRetriever is impractical. When with a patient, waiting a minute or two for each search to complete is not acceptable. Therefore, InfoRetriever uses a keyword-based search in which every resource is indexed on appropriate ICD-9 codes, other common medical terms, and generic and trade names for most drugs.

It is important to keep this in mind when performing searches in InfoRetriever, and it might take a short time to get used to this type of search.

But InfoRetriever can make the search process easier than many standard keyword-based search tools. Typically, healthcare professionals must know exactly what keywords are available in order to effectively search for the information needed. InfoRetriever offers a free text search (**Search by any word**) that will find the most appropriate keywords for the term(s) entered, so there is no need to know the exact keyword in order to perform a search. In addition, InfoRetriever allows users to combine keywords to broaden or narrow their searches, and to limit searches to a particular type of resource.

More information about each type of search is available in other sections of InfoRetriever Help.

Search by Any Word

This is the default search strategy, and probably the most effective for searching the entire InfoRetriever database. It uses a combination of text and keyword searching to yield the best results.

- **STEP ONE: Select Type of Search** - Select **Search by Any Word** from the dropdown menu.
- **STEP TWO: Enter the Term(s)** - Enter one or more terms in the box. It is best to select one or two words (a disease, symptom, or drug name) that specifically describes what you are looking for. Tap the **Go!** button.
- **STEP THREE: Select a Disease or Symptom** - The search engine identifies all keywords that resemble or are related to your search term(s). Select the keyword or keywords that best match what you're looking for.
- To find articles related to any of the selected keywords (broad search), tap **Any**. If you selected two keywords, tap **Both** to find only those articles that are related to both of the selected keywords (narrow search).
Note that due to the limitations of handheld devices, the **Both search is not available for more than two keywords.
- The results of the search for the selected keyword(s) will be displayed in a "tree" structure that organizes the results by clinical content area. To see the resources within a particular topic, tap the plus (+) sign next to the heading. The icon explains which type of resource each item is. To hide the resources in a particular category, tap the minus (-) sign next to the heading.
- When you have identified a resource of interest, tap the item to view it.
- To return to the search screen, tap the binoculars icon at the bottom of the screen.

Also see:

[Hints for Effective Searching](#)
[Boolean Searches](#)

Search Five-Minute Clinical Consult

This search option is equivalent to the **Search by Keyword** option, except search results include only Five-Minute Clinical Consult entries.

- **STEP ONE: Select Type of Search** - Select **Search 5-Minute Clinical Consult** from the dropdown menu.
- **STEP TWO: Select a system** - Select the appropriate organ-system from the dropdown menu.
- **STEP THREE: Select a disease or symptom** - Locate the keyword for the symptom or disease that interests you from the third dropdown menu.

- The results of the search for the selected keyword will be displayed in a "tree" structure that organizes the results by clinical content area. To see the resources within a particular topic, tap the plus (+) sign next to the heading. The icon explains which type of resource each item is. To hide the resources in a particular category, tap the minus (-) sign next to the heading.
 - When you have identified a resource of interest, tap on the item to view it.
 - To return to the search screen, tap the binoculars icon at the bottom of the screen.
-

Search by Keyword

If you know what keyword to search for and want to avoid writing out a search term, or to browse the keywords for a particular system, then search by keyword.

- **STEP ONE: Select Type of Search** - Select **Search by Keyword** from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP TWO: Select a System** - Select the appropriate organ-system from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP THREE: Select a Disease or Symptom** - Locate the keyword for the symptom or disease that interests you from the third dropdown menu.
 - The results of the search for the selected keyword will be displayed in a "tree" structure that organizes the results by clinical content area. To see the resources within a particular topic, tap the plus (+) sign next to the heading. The icon explains which type of resource each item is. To hide the resources in a particular category, tap the minus (-) sign next to the heading.
 - When you have identified a resource of interest, tap on the item to view it.
 - To return to the search screen, tap the binoculars icon at the bottom of the screen.
-

Drug Info (by name)

This search option provides a quick way to search a supported external Drug Database application for information regarding a particular drug. You must have a supported Drug Database application installed on your handheld in order for this option to function. You may configure the external Drug Database link via the **File -> Options** dialog.

- **STEP ONE: Type of Search:** Select **Drug Info (by name)** from the dropdown list.
 - **STEP TWO:** Enter the drug name: Enter the drug name (either generic or trade), and tap **Go!**.
 - **STEP THREE:** If the external Drug Database application that you have configured via **File -> Options** is installed on your handheld, that application will be opened and will automatically search for the drug information that you entered.
 - When you exit the external Drug Database application, you will be returned to InfoRetriever, if the Drug Database application properly supports this behavior.
-

Search Diagnosis Only

This search option is equivalent to the **Search by keyword** option, except the search results include only diagnostic test information and clinical rules and calculators.

- **STEP ONE: Select Type of Search -** Select **Search Diagnosis Only** from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP TWO: Select a system -** Select the appropriate organ-system from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP THREE: Select a disease or symptom -** Locate the keyword for the symptom or disease that interests you from the third dropdown menu.
 - The results of the search for the selected keyword will be displayed in a "tree" structure that organizes the results by clinical content area. To see the resources within a particular topic, tap the plus (+) sign next to the heading. The icon explains which type of resource each item is. To hide the resources in a particular category, tap the minus (-) sign next to the heading.
 - When you have identified a resource of interest, tap on the item to view it.
 - To return to the search screen, tap the binoculars icon at the bottom of the screen.
-

Clinical Rules and Calculators

This option allows users to browse all of the Clinical Rules and Calculators, and is useful if users are looking for a particular calculator or want to know which calculators exist for a particular system.

- Select **Clinical Rules and Calculators** from the dropdown menu.

- All of the available Clinical Rules and Calculators will be displayed in a "tree" structure that organizes the results by clinical content area. To see the Calculators within a particular topic, tap the plus (+) sign next to the heading. To hide the calculators in a particular category, tap the minus (-) sign next to the heading.
 - When you have identified a calculator of interest, tap on the item to use it.
 - To return to the search screen, tap the binoculars icon at the bottom of the screen.
-

Practice Guidelines

This search is similar to the other keyword search options, except that the search results will include only Practice Guidelines. Guidelines include summaries of immunization schedules, U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendations, and all Evidence-Based guidelines released by the National Guideline Clearinghouse.

The practice guidelines search offers the same system categorization as other keyword searches, but does not offer the third dropdown menu for specific diseases and symptoms.

- **STEP ONE: Select Type of Search** - Select **Practice Guidelines** from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP TWO: Select a System** - Select the appropriate organ-system from the dropdown menu.
 - The results of the search for the selected system will be displayed in a "tree" structure that organizes the results by clinical content area. To see the resources within a particular topic, tap the plus (+) sign next to the heading. To hide the resources in a particular category, tap the minus (-) sign next to the heading.
 - When you have identified a guideline of interest, tap on the item to view it.
 - To return to the search screen, tap the binoculars icon at the bottom of the screen.
-

InfoPOEMs by Month/Year

Each month, InfoRetriever editors review more than 100 journals for the best Patient-Oriented Evidence that Matters (POEMs). Selections are then summarized in brief, structured, synopses called InfoPOEMs. Use this search by month as a way of keeping up with the latest information, or to locate an article received as an InfoPOEM email.

- **STEP ONE: Select Type of Search** - Select **Search InfoPOEMs by month/year only** from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP TWO: Select a Year** - Select the desired year from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP THREE: Select a Month** - Select the desired month from the dropdown menu.
 - All InfoPOEMs published during the selected month are displayed in a "tree" structure, which organizes the results by type of InfoPOEM. To see the InfoPOEMs within a particular category, tap the plus (+) sign next to the heading. To hide the resources in a particular category, tap the minus (-) sign next to the heading.
 - When you have identified an InfoPOEM of interest, tap on the item to view it.
 - To return to the search screen, tap the binoculars icon at the bottom of the screen.
-

Photo Gallery

Quickly access the photos from the Five-Minute Clinical Consult collection. This search option is based on the same keywords as the **Search by keyword** option.

- **STEP ONE: Select Type of Search** - Select **Photo Gallery** from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP TWO: Select a System** - Select the appropriate organ-system from the dropdown menu.
 - **STEP THREE: Select a Disease or Symptom** - Locate the keyword for the symptom or disease that interests you from the third dropdown menu.
 - If there are photos relating to the selected keyword, the Photo Browser will be displayed. A dropdown box at the top allows users to choose among all of the images related to the search.
 - To return to the search screen, tap the binoculars icon at the bottom of the screen.
-

Hints for Effective Searching

Use the following tips to get the best results when conducting a “Search by Any Word” search (do not enter quotation marks in your searches):

- **Limit to 1 or 2 search terms.** Remember words typed are not used to search the database directly; rather, they are used to identify appropriate keywords.

- **Do not use 'and', 'or' and 'not'.** These words will be ignored, and all keywords matching any of the terms entered will be returned. Users can then perform a Boolean search on two or more of the resulting keywords, using the **Any** and **Both** buttons.
- **To find all InfoPOEMs and Cochrane abstracts that mention a drug,** enter the generic or trade name alone.
- **Don't use clinical process terms (test, diagnosis, therapy, prognosis, etc).** These words will be ignored. The search results are displayed in such a way that makes it easy to find the type of information that you need.
- **Enter 'DVT' rather than 'Treatment of deep vein thrombosis'.** InfoRetriever recognizes most acronyms and abbreviations, so there's no need to waste the time entering all the text. Further, clinical process terms such as 'treatment' are ignored.
- **Enter 'Anemia' rather than 'Iron deficiency anemia'.** Save time by entering less text. You will be offered several relevant keywords, and can then choose the more specific one.
- **Enter 'Pneumonia' rather than 'Chest x-ray to diagnose pneumonia' or 'CXR pneumonia'.** Test names are not indexed by InfoRetriever. To locate information regarding tests, search only on the disease, then look for the section titled **Dx: Diagnostic tests** in the search results.
- **If you are having trouble,** try the '**Search by keyword**' option.

Boolean Search

As a part of the **Search by Any Word** search, InfoRetriever allows you to perform a Boolean search over multiple keywords.

The Boolean search option can be enabled and disabled. From the Application menu, choose **File -> Options**, and check or un-check the box labeled **Use Boolean Search**.

Note that the Boolean search option applies to **Step 3** of the **Search by Any Word** process, rather than Step 2. For this reason, you should refrain from entering words such as 'and' and 'or' in Step 2. Rather, enter all terms to consider in Step 2, so that all of the desired keywords appear when you tap **Go!**

Once you have tapped **Go!** and have a list of keywords in the box labeled **3. Select a Disease or Symptom**, you can perform a Boolean search over any of the keywords available.

To perform a broad search (also known as an OR search), select all of the desired keywords by tapping on them (tap on a selected keyword to de-

select it) and then tap **Any**. InfoRetriever will find all articles that relate to any of the keywords that you specified.

To perform a narrow search (also known as an AND search), select two keywords by tapping on them (tap on a selected keyword to de-select it) and then tap **Both**. InfoRetriever will find only those articles that relate to both of the selected keywords. Note that, due to the limitations of handheld devices, a narrow search is limited to two keywords.

ICD-9 Code Look-up

InfoRetriever includes more than 1,500 commonly used ICD-9 codes. Users can search by code and get nearby diseases, or search by disease or symptom and get matching codes.

- From the Application Menu, select **Jump to... -> ICD-9 Code Look-up**.
- Select whether to **Search by Code** or **Search by Name**, by selecting the corresponding radio button.
- Type in the numeric code (if **Search by Code**) or a disease or symptom (if **Search by Name**), and the search will begin to narrow your options in an auto-fill like fashion.
- A list of diseases and codes will be shown. Tap on a code to see a set of nearby terms. To return to the original list of result, tap the **Find!** Button.

E/M Coding Wizard

This tool helps determine the most appropriate code to use for Medicare's Evaluation and Management Services.

Find the E/M Coding Wizard on the Application Menu, under **Jump to....**

Quickly "Jump to..." Useful Resources

The **Jump to...** Application Menu offers quick access to a pre-defined set of commonly used resources. In addition to the ICD-9 Code Lookup tool and the E/M Coding Wizard, the following resources are easily accessible via the **Jump to...** menu:

- **Drugs of Choice:** Concise guidelines showing charts of recommended drugs and doses for particular conditions, compiled by the InfoRetriever editors from various literature sources
 - **Immunizations:** The latest immunization schedules as offered by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
 - **Number Needed to Treat:** A collection of NNT values from various literature sources, organized by disease and treatment
 - **USPSTF Guidelines:** A collection of all the recommendations released by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force
-

PEARLS

PEARLS are a collection of the resources users find most useful and would like to quickly access. Users can add it to PEARLS for instant access without searching each time.

Use and manage PEARLS from the **Pearls** Application Menu. If you have never used the PEARLS feature before, there will be only two items on the **Pearls** menu: **Add to pearls** and **Manage pearls**.

To add a Clinical Rule or Calculator or a Practice Guideline to the PEARLS menu, select **Add to pearls** from the **Pearls** Application Menu. Select the type of resource to add, then the resource category. Scroll through the list of Calculators or Guidelines to locate the one you wish to add, and select it. Tap **Add Selected to Pearls** at the bottom of the screen.

Once you have added a Calculator/Rule or a Guideline, it will appear in your **Pearls** menu.

Users can change the order of PEARLS and remove PEARLS from the list by selecting **Manage pearls** from the **Pearls** Application Menu.

InfoRetriever Options

There are a few settings available to control the way InfoRetriever looks and behaves. These settings are available from the **File -> Options** Application Menu.

- **Enable high resolution** - This setting mainly affects the appearance of the Search Results screen. If the box is checked, the results will appear in a smaller font, allowing more information to appear on the screen. If the box is unchecked, the results will appear in a larger font,

making them easier to read, but allowing less information to appear on the screen.

- **Keep track of what users look up** - Currently, this option is used primarily for testing and research. It enables the recording of search behavior to a file on the device.
- **Use Boolean search** - This option controls whether the Boolean Search feature of **Search by Any Word** is enabled. If the option is unchecked, users can only search one keyword at a time. If the option is checked, simple broad and narrow searches can be performed over multiple keywords using the **Any** and **Both** buttons.
- **Drug Database Application** - InfoRetriever can link to an external Drug Database program to quickly find information about a particular drug. You must have one of the supported drug applications installed on your device in order for this feature to work, and the Drug Database program may need to be appropriately licensed. Use this option to specify which external Drug Database program should be used when searching for information about a drug.