

## **STAT!Ref**

<<http://online.statref.com/Search.aspx?grpalias=TennShare>>

STAT!Ref Medical Reference Library lets you cross-search more than 30 medical and drug texts including Stedman's Medical Dictionary and popular medical texts such as Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment in a full-text format. STAT!Ref contains text, tables, images, movies and other content types specific to individual Libraries. The text is fully formatted with all matches and links clearly marked. A tool bar provides powerful navigation features while a status bar reflects your present location in the library.

### **Selecting Titles**

The Titles you select are the titles that STAT!Ref looks in to find your search terms. If you know the information that you are looking for is in a certain title, select only that title to search.

STAT!Ref defaults to having all of the titles selected. Clicking on a title will cause it to be selected individually. CTRL-clicking (CMD-clicking on the MacOS) will deselect a title. CTRL-clicking and Drag-clicking will allow you to select or deselect multiple titles. SHIFT-clicking will allow you to select a range of titles.

### **Search Statement**

A Search Statement can be a single word or a combination of words that you want to find in the text. Since there is a direct correlation between the number of words you search for, how frequently they occur in the library and the duration of the search, try to select a few specific words.

*Note:* STAT!Ref treats words placed in quotes as an ordered phrase, meaning that the words must appear in the exact order entered in the Search Statement. For example, in the Search Statement [diagnosis of chest pain], you may want to find only those matches where chest and pain are in order and next to each other. To do this, enclose chest and pain in quotes (i.e. diagnosis of "chest pain").

### **Boolean Operators**

A Search Statement can include the standard Boolean operators for very precise control of a query. The supported operators, which must be entered as uppercase words, are:

1. OR
2. AND
3. NEAR/n (where n is a small positive number)
4. NOT
5. ADJ

The proximity operators (NEAR and ADJ) count non-stopwords. In the text "heart and often disease", the word "heart" is considered adjacent to the word "disease" since "and" and "often" are both stopwords. Therefore, the query [heart ADJ disease] will find a match in the document containing this text (see Stopwords). Note that NEAR/1 and ADJ are equivalent and that neither operator considers order (use quotes or hyphens to force order).

Boolean operators can be combined with keywords and special punctuation to perform very complex searches. For example, ["heart attack" NEAR/50 aspirin NOT headache] will find all documents containing the ordered phrase "heart attack" occurring within 50 non-stopwords of "aspirin", but not containing the word "headache".

*Note:* Boolean operators will over-ride the Precision setting and must be entered in capital letters.

## **Precision**

The Precision setting controls the sensitivity of the search. Lower Precision settings result in a more general search and may return more matches. Higher Precision settings result in a more refined search and will usually return fewer matches. All settings ignore word order.

STAT!Ref will automatically select the best precision unless a setting is chosen manually. Five different Precision settings are available. Each setting is chosen by clicking on the desired precision setting from the drop-down menu.

1. 'OADJ' (Ordered Adjacency). The search phrase must be found exactly as entered.
2. 'ADJ' (Adjacent). All words must be adjacent to one another in a document to consider it a matching document. Word order is not considered and stopwords are not counted between Search Statement words. This setting is equal to a Boolean "ADJ" search.
3. 'NEAR/X' (Within X number of Words). Each word must be found in the document within specified number (X) of words of each other to consider it a matching document. Stopwords are not counted. This setting is equal to a Boolean "NEAR/n" search.
4. 'AND' (All Words). Each word has to be found in a document to consider it a matching document. This setting is equal to a Boolean "AND" search.
5. 'OR' (At Least One Word). Only one of the words in the must occur in a to consider it a matching document. This setting is equal to a Boolean "OR" search.

*Tip:* To have Search Statement words searched in exact order, place the words in quotes.

## **Search Options**

### *Thesaurus*

If the Library supports a Thesaurus, it is used when the "Include Synonyms" box is checked on the search page. When using a Thesaurus, search results will include matches for words in your Search Statement as well as synonyms for the words. For example, searching for heart using the thesaurus option will also find cardiac, cardiology, etc.

### *Stemming*

Stemming is applied when the "Include Suffixes" box is checked. When using Stemming, search results will include matches for your Search Statement as well as matches with various suffixes. For example, searching for "disease" with stemming will also find "diseased" and "diseases".

## **Executing a Search**

Once you have selected the titles you wish to search, entered a search statement, selected the precision and chosen search options, simply select the 'Search' button to apply the query to the Library. STAT!Ref will return a list of documents that match your search, sorted in relevance ranked order. The document considered most likely to fit the search parameters is at the top of the list. Relevance is governed by the number of search terms present in a document, where they occur in the document (such as in a chapter title) and how rare each term is in the Library.

## **Word List**

When you search for a word that does not occur in the predetermined Stat-Ref library of terms (either misspelled or the word does not exist in the library), a list of suggested alternatives is displayed. Selecting a word will re-execute your search with the unknown word replaced by the selected word. If more than one word in the Search Statement is unknown, this process of selected words from the Word List will repeat until all terms exist in the Library. If you do not see a word similar to the word for which you were searching, select Previous or Next to see another set of words. The Word List is displayed alphabetically, so navigating the word list is as simple as paging through a dictionary.

### **Viewing Results**

Search Results are displayed in a relevance ranked list, where each item ("tile") contains the path to a match document. The document name is linked to its content. STAT!Ref will return a maximum of 100 documents in the results list grouped into pages of up to 10 documents. Clicking on a page number will display another list of 10 ranked documents. Each document's rank is indicated to the left of the document's name. The results list also indicates how many matches occurred for the selected search parameters and how many document those matches occur in.

### **Retrieving Matches**

Each document in the results list is a link to that document's content (text, table, image, movie, etc.). By clicking on the link, the matching document's content will be displayed with all matches marked in red. The document will be automatically scrolled to the best match. You can display the document in a new window by selecting that option from your browser's link popup menu (right-click on Windows, hold-click on Mac). Within the text of the selected item, matches for every search term are marked in red.

### **Table of Contents**

Navigating STAT!Ref's Table of Contents is another powerful tool to navigate to library content. All headers in the Library are represented in the Table of Contents as links, enabling you to easily view and navigate the Library as an outline.

Navigation of the Table of Contents is simply a matter of clicking on the links which represent content headers. If a header in the outline has children, clicking on it will expand the outline to make the children visible. Clicking on the header again will collapse the outline and hide the children. Headers with children are indicated by a triangle to the left of the header name. This triangle is "turned up" if the header is collapsed and "turned down" if the header is expanded. If a header in the outline does not have any children, clicking on it will open the document to which the header points. Headers without children do not have triangles to their left. In most browsers, when a header is expanded it is marked in red. Similarly, when selecting the Table of Contents from a document's content, the header associated with the document is marked in red.

### **Retrieving Content**

Document content is retrieved by clicking on a header that does not have any children. This is indicated when no triangle appears to the left of a header. You can display the document associated with a header in a new window by selecting that option from your browser's link popup menu (right-click on Windows, hold-click on Mac). When selecting the Table of Contents from a document's content, the header associated with the document is marked in red.

### **Links**

Within text, links are marked in the browser link style (usually underlined blue). There are three types of links:

1. Links to other locations within the Library (e.g. tables, figures, references, footnotes or the Table of Contents)
2. Links to pop-up definitions
3. Links to locations outside of the Library (e.g. World Wide Web pages).