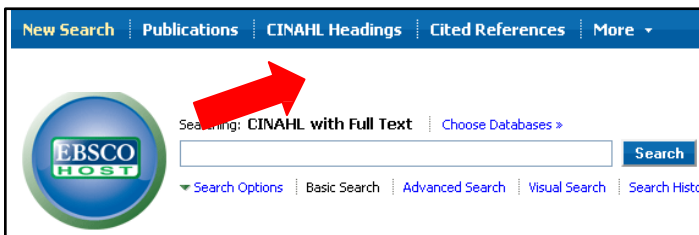




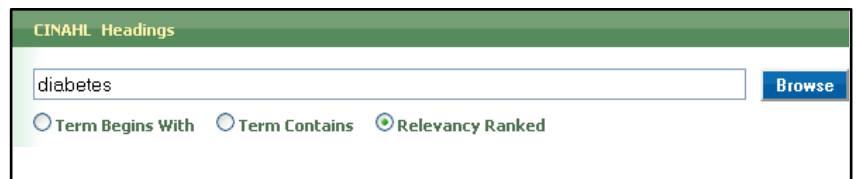
# OCC Library How-To Guide: Using CINAHL Headings for Advanced Searching

**CINAHL Subject Headings** are *controlled vocabulary terms* designed to allow more effective searching of the CINAHL database. They are intended to describe content more accurately, assist in cross referencing, and allow the searcher greater control over detail and subject specificity. Searching CINAHL headings is similar to using a thesaurus.



Select "CINAHL Headings" from the database navigation bar

Search for a keyword like "diabetes"



Check box to view subheadings.	Click linked term for tree view.	Explode (+)	Major Concept	Scope
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetes Use: Diabetes Mellitus</a>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetes UK</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetic Patients</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">American Association of Diabetes Educators</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetes Education</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetes Educators</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetes Mellitus</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetes Mellitus, Gestational</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetes Mellitus, Insulin-Dependent</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetes Mellitus, Non-Insulin-Dependent</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Diabetic Angiopathies</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Search Term	Explosion (+)	Major Concept
<a href="#">Diabetes Mellitus</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Click the "Search Database" box at the top when finished with term selections

"Sub Headings" allows the searcher to narrow a topic towards specific factors. For example, "risk factors" or "Drug Therapy."

The screenshot shows a list of medical terms on the left, including 'Diabetes Mellitus' which is checked. A pop-up window titled 'Diabetes Mellitus' is open, displaying the following information:

- Subheading:** Cerebrospinal Fluid
- Scope Note:** Used for the presence or analysis of substances in the cerebrospinal fluid; also for examination of or changes in cerebrospinal fluid in diseases states.

A red arrow points to the 'Scope Note' section of the pop-up window.

Scope Notes provide term definitions and are available for most terms.

Subject terms can also be displayed in **“tree view,”** showing the term’s relationship to other subjects. Use this to find related topics.

The screenshot shows a 'tree view' of medical terms. The terms are organized hierarchically, with 'Diabetes Mellitus' selected and checked. The search box on the right contains the text 'Diabetes Mellitus /DT'.

Search Term	Explode (+)	Major Concept
Diabetes Mellitus /DT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Don't forget you'll need to access this database through Ocean Connect when you are off-campus. Please see a librarian for assistance or [follow this link](#) for details.