# **How PubMed Works: Introduction Handout**

## **Search Examples Used in Class:**

1. lazarus nejm 2019
2. lazarus sc
3. caregiver burden Alzheimers
4. acid reflux
5. The New England journal of medicine
6. Nosebleed

## **Questions**

1. What is the unique number for a PubMed citation called?

**Hint**: all citations in PubMed have one.

**Answer**:

1. Which PubMed view (Summary, Abstract, PubMed, PMID) do you need to be on to get computer author sort message to appear?

**Hint**: It is the view that usually includes a paragraph of what the article is about.

**Answer**:

1. What does the National Library of Medicine call the machine-learning algorithm that matches your search terms to the PubMed records in your results and displays them based on the article title, subject terms and abstract?

**Hint:** It is one of the several ways to sort your search results.

**Answer:**

1. What are five ways to share your PubMed results?

**Answer**:

## **Links shared in class**

[MEDLINE, PubMed, and PMC (PubMed Central): How are they different?](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/difference.html)

[Best Match Algorithm](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/help/#best-match-algorithm)

[Computed Author Sort](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/mj12/mj12_pm_author_ranking.html)

[Similar Article Algorithm](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/help/#similar-articles)

[Saving and Managing Searches in My NCBI](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK53592/)

## **Additional Training Resources**

[Register for How PubMed Works: Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) on November 12, 2025](https://www.nnlm.gov/training/class/how-pubmed-works-medical-subject-headings-mesh-0)

[Register for How PubMed Works: Automatic Term Mapping (ATM) on November 19, 2025](https://www.nnlm.gov/training/class/how-pubmed-works-automatic-term-mapping-atm-0)

[The PubMed Trainer's Toolkit](https://learn.nlm.nih.gov/documentation/training-packets/T0022014P/) - slides and materials to repurpose for training end-users.

## **Journal Selection for MEDLINE**

[Journal Selection for MEDLINE](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/medline/medline_journal_selection.html)

## **PubMed Search Tips**

**Retrieves all citations added on a specific date**

2025/03/06[crdt]

**Retrieves all citations added during a date range**

2025/03/01:2025/03/06[crdt]

**To include a specific term/topic of interest, use the string below then AND your search term:**

2025/03/06[crdt] or for a range, 2025/03/01:2025/03/06[crdt] AND *your term goes here*