# **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 June 18, 2025](https://www.nnlm.gov/training/class/how-pubmed-works-medical-subject-headings-mesh)

[Register for How PubMed Works: Automatic Term Mapping (ATM) on June 25, 2025](https://www.nnlm.gov/training/class/how-pubmed-works-automatic-term-mapping-atm)

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