

Internet Resources and Basic Technique on Searching

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Game: how to find the best airline ticket to Hong Kong

- the lowest price ticket any time but must be Air Canada (Aeroplan)
- the most direct flight 2 days before the Hong Kong marathon

Case Presentation:

On-call Clinic – 28 year old woman with Crohn’s Disease acute onset of abdominal pain and gross hematuria. She is on Sulfasalazine and prednisone.

Before you start searching make sure you ask searchable clinical questions:

Re **Treatment** - Effectiveness of Sulfasalazine (specific)

Re **Diagnosis** - Renal Calculus; Spiral CT vs US/Abdo XR (specific)

Re **Etiology** - Association of stones and Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (general)

Re **Prognosis** - % patients requiring bowel resection; use of prednisone to reduce recurrences (specific)

Source – know your databases

- how is information assembled?
 - Oct 2005: Yahoo (19.2 billion documents); Google (8.1 billion) but 60% all searches
 - Nov 2005: Uptodate.com (3000 authors)
- how recent?
 - Should be on web page or try “view-source”
- peer reviewed?
 - Check Cochrane Review
- cost of subscriptions?
 - Uptodate \$495+\$15 S&H per year
 - ACP Medicine \$199
 - MD Consult (CMA members free)
 - Look for free stuff!

	COMMON DISEASES	RARE DISEASES
GENERAL Information	Google MedlinePlus eMedicine	Google Mercks
SPECIFIC Information	Google Cochrane Abstracts POEMs and CATs	Google Medline - Pubmed

Search – know your database search engines

- Pubmed: try Clinical Queries
- Google: how to improve yields; how about <http://scholar.google.com/>?
- Don’t forget a simple search engine Ctrl-F or “/” in FireFox browser

Store – keep your hard earned results; use a web-based bookmark manager

- “Delicious” <http://del.icio.us/> - set up a free account and browser buttons
- Online Content Management System <http://res.oscarmcmaster.org> – get username/password from me!

Other free online bookmark/homepage managers:

- myHq.com (<http://www.myhq.com/>)
 - see Dr. Risdon’s homepage (<http://www.myhq.com/public/r/i/risdone/>)
- My Web <http://next.yahoo.com>
- Shadows <http://www.shadows.com/>
- Clipmarks <http://www.clipmarks.com/>