**Detailed note on bibliographic databases**

(Introductory portions are repetition of previously given note)

**ComDisDome**

ComDisDome is a bibliographic database covering the communications disorders literature, with focus on speech-language pathology and audiology. In one convenient location, the database will quickly identify and connect to reliable information from multiple sources in the field, including journal articles and books, along with access to profiles of researchers working in this area.

ComDisDome helps users to stay current on the latest findings and trends in communications disorders research, improve patient communication and education, write research reports and grants, and locate and communicate with researchers in the field.

The ComDisDome is published by M/s Proquest, an international private establishment in the field of information management. The ComDisDome is one among the hundreds of databases published by the Proquest.

**Subject Coverage**: Major areas of coverage include: Audiologic Management, Audiology, Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), Communication Mechanism and Systems, Electroneuronography (ENoG), Hearing Assessment, Hearing Conservation, Hearing Impairment, Hearing Science, Pediatric Audiology, Rehabilitative Audiology, Speech/Articulation, Speech-Language Pathology.

**Types of Sources Covered:** The major information resources covered in the database are: journal articles, books, conference proceedings and theses/dissertations.

**Update Frequency**: Monthly, with approximately 400 records added per update.

**Period of coverage:** The database includes citations from the year 1958.

**Searching**

COMDISDOME offers three types of searching for the topics of interest on communication disorders:

1. basic search
2. advanced search
3. thesaurus based search
4. command line search

**Basic search**: To conduct a basic search enter one or more words and click **Search**. The search can be limited to peer-reviewed articles.

**Advanced search**: The advanced search permits combination of different fields such as author, document title, publication title, abstract, subject headings and many other fields using the Boolean operators AND, OR and NOT.

**Command line search**: In command line searching, the search strategy is prepared and entered in the box provided. Individual search fields and operators can be added to the search statement using the options provided. To search across multiple fields at once, comma has to be used in between field codes e.g. TI, AB, SU (aphasia)

**Thesaurus based search:** The Comdisdome thesaurus is available at the advanced search window.Enter a term to find the matches in the thesaurus, or browse for a term. Select terms to add back into the search form and then search.

**Personalized Service**

The database has a facility for creating personal account for the individual users. This is called ‘ My Research’. Once an account is created, it is useful for searching the entire range of Proquest databases (provided the user has the right to access other Proquest databases). The ‘My Research’ account provides space for the users to save, manage, and organize the content and supporting materials that they find while searching the database. It is possible to save documents, search statements, search alerts, RSS feeds, and more in ‘My Research’.

**Search Results**

**Sort Option**: The search results can be sorted according to relevance as ‘Oldest First’ or ‘Most Recent First’

**Search Filters:** Thesearch results can be further narrow down using the following filters.

1. Peer-reviewed or not
2. Source type such as journal articles, books, conference proceedings, theses/dissertations
3. Publication date range
4. Publication title (*mainly in case of journals*)
5. Document type such as article, feature, case study etc.
6. Subject category such as female, male, age
7. Topic classification
8. Language

**Displaying Search Results:** The database provide options for displaying the search results in the following ways:

1. brief view
2. detailed view
3. preview

**Saving the Search Results:** The search results can be saved in the following formats:

1. html
2. pdf
3. text
4. rich text
5. ris
6. excel

Also, the search results can be saved in bibliographic management system such as EndNote, RefWorks, EasyLib etc.

In addition, the results can be e-mailed to the own e-mail id or that of a colleague. There is also provision for print the search results as well as to cite them using various citation styles such as APA and MLA.

**PubMed**

PubMed® is a free online health and biomedical information database developed and maintained by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), at the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM), located at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The main component of PubMed is MEDLINE, a database which indexes articles and other documents from across 5,600 worldwide publications.

**Subject Coverage**: Its subject coverage is biomedicine and health, along with portions of behavioral sciences, bioengineering, chemical sciences and life sciences.

**Types of Resources**: Most of these publications are academic journals; a small number are newspapers, magazines and newsletters. PubMed also provides access to online books, websites and molecular biology resources.

**Period Covered**: Date coverage is generally 1946 to present, with some older material provided.

**Contents:** PubMed includes more than27 million citations and they are of the following types:

* publisher supplied citations that will be analyzed to receive full indexing for MEDLINE if they are biomedical in nature
* in-process citations that have not yet been analyzed and indexed for MEDLINE
* citations that are already indexed for MEDLINE based on the articles from more than 5600 regularly indexed journals.

**Searching PubMed**

The PubMed facilitates the following types of searches:

1. **Basic**: Type a word or phrase into the query box (e.g., a subject, author and/or journal). Then click on the Search button or press the Enter key.
2. **Advanced**: The advanced search in PubMed is facilitated by an Advance Search Builder where in the users can build their search statements by combining various fields using the Boolean operators AND, OR and NOT. The fields that can be combined with the Boolean operators include Author, Title, Source type, ISBN (in case of book), Publisher, Abstract and Keywords.
3. **Searching by Medical Subject Heading (MeSH)**

While indexing the journal articles for MEDLINE database, the indexing personnel read all the articles and assign them relevant subject heading or keywords by using a controlled vocabulary (thesaurus) called Medical Subject Headings (MeSH). It is beneficial to search the PubMed using MeSH terms rather than entering multiple “key words”.

For example, you can select a single MeSH term such as neoplasms, and PubMed will automatically search for cancers and tumours as well. You can also identify a MeSH term in relation to broader/narrower terms to help you find either more or fewer results e.g. ‘Eczema’ is listed within terms for ‘Dermatitis’; ‘Dermatis’ is listed within ‘Skin diseases’.

To search using MeSH term:

1. Select MeSH from the drop-down menu next to the PubMed search box.
2. Type a word or phrase and click ‘Search’.
3. Then, tick the relevant MeSH term(s).
4. Finally, click ‘add to search builder’ and ‘search PubMed’.

**Major Features of PubMed**

* Sophisticated search capabilities, including spell checker, Advanced Search Builder, and special tools for searching for clinical topics
* Assistance in finding search terms using the MeSH (Medical Subject Heading) database of MEDLINE’s controlled vocabulary
* Ability to store citation collections and to receive email updates from saved searches using PubMed’s My NCBI
* Links to full-text articles, to information about library holdings, and to other NLM databases and search interfaces.

**REHABDATA**

REHABDATA, produced by the National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC), USA is the leading literature database on disability and rehabilitation. The database describes over 80,000 documents covering physical, mental, and psychiatric disabilities, independent living, vocational rehabilitation, special education, assistive technology, law, employment, and other issues as they relate to people with disabilities. The collection spans 1956 to the present. REHABDATA results may also include abstracts from the international research collection, originally developed by CIRRIE (Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information and Exchange). More than 120,000 documents are abstracted in this database. NARIC adds approximately 4,000 items to REHABDATA each year, including 1,000 international research documents.

Four main categories of documents are included: (1) reports, studies, and papers submitted by projects funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research; (2) articles published in rehabilitation-related periodicals; (3) international research originally collected by the CIRRIE project, and (4) commercially published books. Some non-print materials are also included.