Coverage:
- The Cochrane Library contains high-quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making. It includes reliable evidence from Cochrane and other systematic reviews, clinical trials, method studies and more indexed from a group of six affiliated databases.
- The six databases are Cochrane database of systematic reviews (CDSR) which is full text, Database of abstracts of reviews of effects (DARE), The Cochrane central register of controlled trials (CENTRAL), The Cochrane database of methodology reviews (CDMR), and The Cochrane methodology register (CMR).

Access:
- Access via the Databases link in the Library home page.
- Scroll to find and click on Cochrane Library to open the database.

On the Cochrane Library Homepage you will be able to do a quick keyword search, browse the current issue, browse by topic or review group, and access more resources such as Journal Club and Clinical Answers.

Create your own Cochrane Library Login if you intend to use the Saved Searches and Search Alerts functions.

Searching:
Cochrane Library can be searched in a variety of ways.

1. Basic search
Enter keywords or phrases into the search bar.

2. Advanced search
Choose Advanced Search, Search Manager or MeSH to tailor your search strategies.
Advanced Search:
There are four available options in the Advanced Search screen, to suit the level of depth you’re looking to search at.

**Search:** Like the basic search, this is for performing quick searches but also has an auto-suggest drop down as you type and the ability to refine your search via Search Limits.

**Search Manager:** For setting out complex Boolean and nested searches. Document your search strategies and refine searches over multiple disciplines.

**Medical Terms (MeSH):** For searches using Medical Subject Headings. Pinpoint subjects or include related subjects via MeSH Tree Limits.

**Browse:** Browse the database by Topic, or Review Group. View the Current Issue or browse the affiliated databases (e.g. DARE) for trials, reviews or studies.

To do a MeSH search:

1. Dietetics
2. Education - ED
3. Lookup
4. Health Occupations [-25] 
   - Nutritional Sciences [-4]
   - Dietetics
   - Animal Nutrition Sciences
   - Child Nutrition Sciences
   - Sports Nutritional Sciences
5. There are 13 results for your search on MeSH descriptor (Dietetics) 
   - explode all trees
   - with qualifier(s) Education
   - save search
   - add to search manager

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1. Begin by entering a term or phrase (e.g. dietetics) into the text box. A drop down menu with suggested Medical Subject Headings will automatically appear. Choose the appropriate term.

2. Your search can be further refined by selecting additional subject terms from the **Qualifier** drop down menu. For instance, you could add the qualifier **Education** to refine the search. Multiple terms can be selected from this list.

3. Once you’re happy with your search criteria click on **Lookup**.

4. Under **MeSH trees**, you will see all the Medical Subject Headings where the term Dietetics appears, arranged from broad to narrow. You can choose one of these headings instead if it is more appropriate to your topic of research and click on it.

5. To view the results of the search click on **View Results**. You can also save the search, or add it to your Search Manager. This box also breaks down the type of resources your search has resulted in e.g. **Reviews** are reviews of clinical trials and describe how the review will be undertaken.

### MeSH Search Results:

- The results can be filtered by Cochrane Reviews, Other Reviews, Trials, Methods Studies etc., and then sorted by Title, Relevance or Publication Year.
- All Cochrane Reviews from the Cochrane database of systematic reviews (CDSR) are available in full text for free. Results from the other databases (e.g. DARE) under Other Reviews may only be available as an abstract or citation, or may link to one of ECU’s other full text databases via Find it @ ECU.