

Finding Information on Pharmacy

Introduction

This guide provides a brief introduction to sources of information for Pharmacy. Most of the printed resources for Pharmacy are held in the Queen's University Biomedical Library. The electronic resources can be accessed via the library website at www.qub.ac.uk/lib and are available both on and off-campus. If you require any further information or guidance on using the resources outlined, please contact your subject librarian, **Angela Thompson** who is based in the Queen's University Medical Library on the Royal Victoria Hospital site (tel: 02890632595, email: a.m.thompson@qub.ac.uk).

Finding Print Resources in the Library

Books and journals have a shelfmark on the spine which indicates their subject and enables them to be shelved in order. You will need to obtain the shelfmark to locate the printed resources in the library. This can be done by checking the library catalogue (QCat) either from the computer terminals in the library or via the library website (www.qub.ac.uk/lib) where you will find a link to the Library Catalogue. Most Pharmacy books are shelved in the RS or RM section of the Biomedical Library, but you will also find a number of pharmacy textbooks in the Medical Library at Queen's – the QCat record will tell you the library location.

Web Access to Library Resources

Information about the library services and access to electronic information resources is available through the library website:

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/InformationServices/TheLibrary>

Access to the electronic information resources is available through any PC (on- and off-campus) with internet access. In the instances where you require a username and password, you will be prompted for your QUB staff/student number (or QUB email address) and your Queen's Online password.

Electronic Databases

Bibliographic databases contain the references and usually the abstracts (summaries) of articles in Pharmacy journals and conference proceedings. Databases are the most effective way of searching for current literature and journal articles on a given topic. All databases available to you are listed on the library website under *Online Resources* and then *Q-Search*. Login with your staff/student number and your Queen's Online password. You can search *Find Database* from the toolbar along the top of the screen and search for your required databases. Below is a list of databases most relevant to pharmacy.

Embase - A major biomedical and pharmaceutical database indexing over 3,500 international journals. Coverage extends back to 1980 and new material is incorporated weekly

International Pharmaceutical Abstracts (IPA) – This provides worldwide information on Pharmaceutical Sciences and health-related literature. Coverage extends back to 1970. **NB**

IPA requires its own username and password; this is made available to you when you access IPA through QSearch



ISI Proceedings (via Web of Knowledge) – This contains information about papers from conferences, seminars and conventions in a wide range of disciplines. Coverage extends back to 1990.

Medline – This database is widely recognised as the premier source for bibliographic coverage of biomedical literature. MEDLINE encompasses a database of over 13 million bibliographic citations and abstracts in the fields of medicine, nursing, dentistry, veterinary medicine, health care systems and preclinical sciences, as well as including pharmacy and pharmacology journals. Coverage extends back to 1950 and new material is incorporated weekly.


Web of Science - A large multidisciplinary database, providing references to the major journals in a wide range of subjects. Coverage extends back to 1981.

Finding E-Journals

There is an extensive range of journals available electronically, which means you can access the full text of journal articles without having to visit the library. There are various ways of checking if the full text of an article is available electronically.

1. Database Search – when you perform a search in one of the databases, you obtain a list of results giving you a brief bibliographic outline of article. On this page you will see the  button. If you click on this button, you will be directed to the full text of the article if available. It will indicate if there is no full text available and alternative options will be offered.
2. E-Journals List – The E-Journals list is found on the library website under *Online Resources*, and then by clicking on . The journal can be browsed by the *Title List* function or by selecting *Health Sciences* from the *Subject List* and choosing one of the subcategories relevant to your search.

Finding E-Books

The library also provides access to electronic books making it easier for you to access relevant textbooks when and where you need to. To access the e-books, simply search on QCat and if  appears to the left of a title this denotes it is available electronically. When prompted, enter your username (Queen's staff/student number) and password (Queen's Online password).