



# RESEARCH SKILLS

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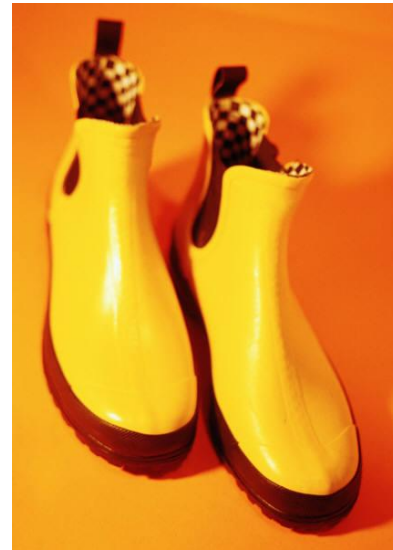
# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- At the end of this course, all participants will be able to:
  - Demonstrate the ability to identify several keywords for a concept
  - Demonstrate the use of Boolean AND, OR and NOT in order to construct a search strategy
  - Understand the benefits and dangers of truncation



# KEYWORDS AND SYNONYMS

Concepts can have more than one word to describe them:

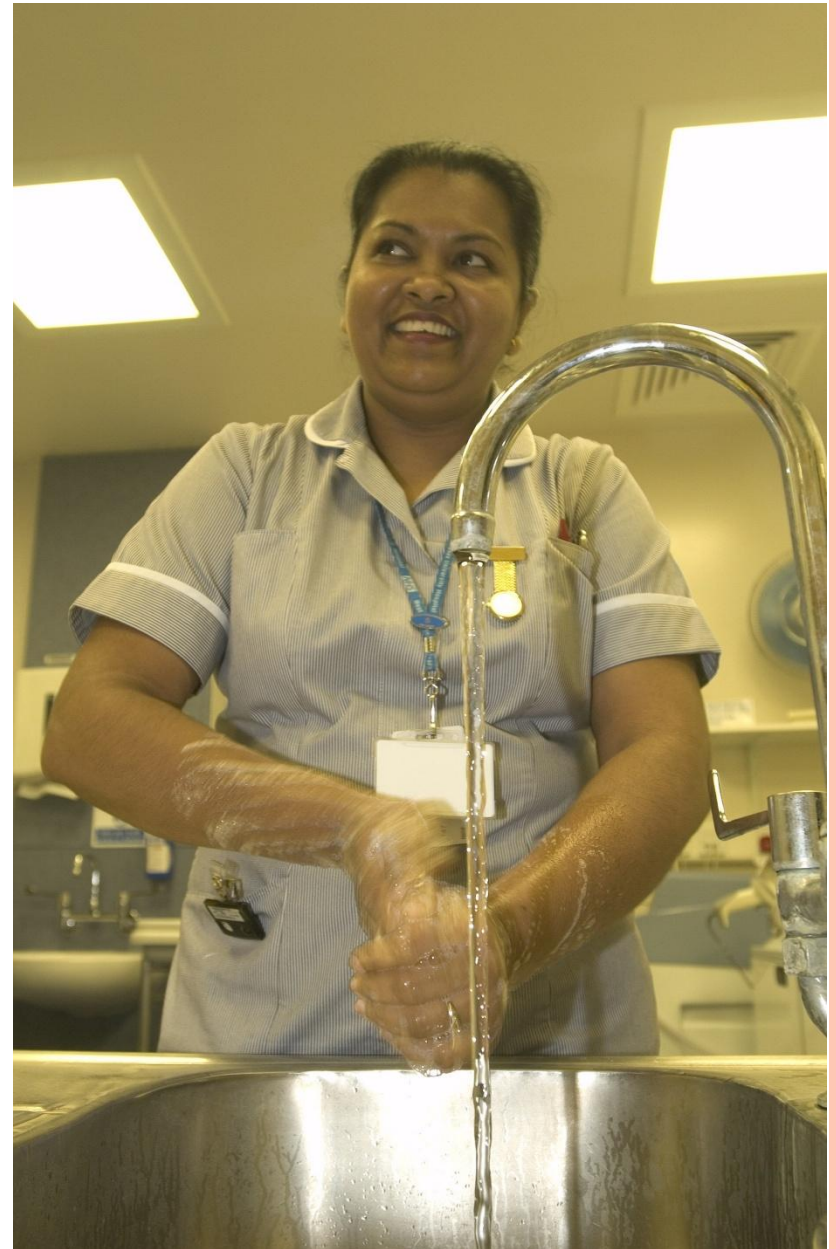


Footwear, slippers, shoes, boots, wellies, clogs, flip-flops, heels, trainers, takkies, Jimmy Choos, ones and twos...



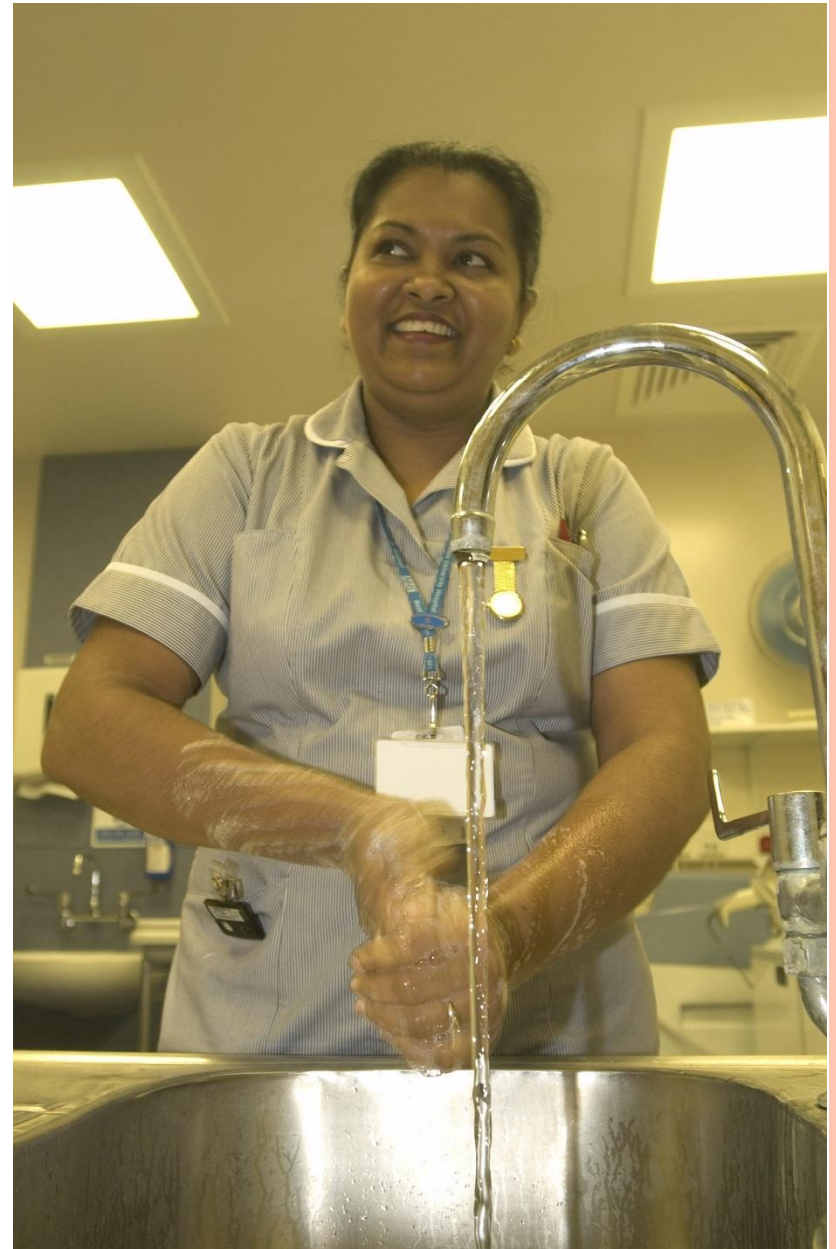
# DESCRIBE:

- Hospital environment
- Routine
- Sink
- Person
- Washing hands in flowing water with soap
- Infection control



# KEYWORDS

- Hospital
- Nurse
- Healthcare Worker
- Handwashing
- Sink
- Soap and water
- Infection Control
- Uniform



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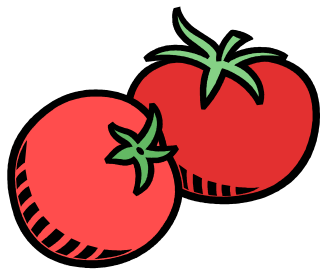
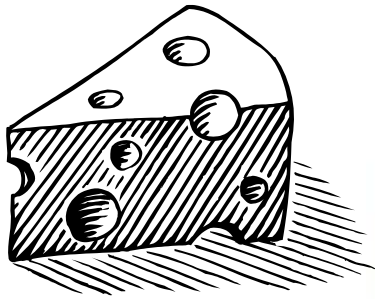
# KEYWORD BINGO

- Paediatric
- Baby
- Mother
- Neonatal ward
- Nurse
- Temperature
- Female
- Thermometer
- Hospital
- Adult
- Infant
- Asian
- White
- Secondary care
- Maternity
- Neonatal





# AND



# AND

- Use AND to combine your search terms
- If you would like an article that covers **both** of your search terms
  - Hand Washing **AND** Infection Control
  - Smoking cessation **AND** nicotine replacement
- If you want to find a specific book
  - Title/part of title **AND** author



OR



OR



?



# OR

- When we offer it we mean one or the other
- In searching it means **either**
- Use OR when you want to find **either** of your search terms in an article
  - Rubella **OR** German Measles



# AND / OR

- You can use AND and OR together
- If you do this, always use your OR search terms together first
  - MRSA OR *C.diff* AND hand washing





# NOT

- Here's your tea. Milk and sugar?
- Just milk please.
- You will have a mug containing:
  - tea **AND** milk **NOT** sugar



# NOT

- Use to **exclude** information
  - In a search for childhood illnesses you may search for **Measles NOT Chicken Pox**
- Some Internet search engines use the minus sign ( - ) for NOT
  - **Measles -chicken pox**



# AND, OR, NOT?

You want to find information on whether  
**acupuncture** can help people give up  
**smoking**

acupuncture \_\_\_\_\_ smoking



# AND, OR, NOT?

You want to find information on whether  
**acupuncture** can help people give up  
**smoking**

acupuncture **AND** smoking



# AND, OR, NOT?

You want to find information about  
**addiction to alcohol** in either **children**  
or **teenagers**

children \_\_\_\_ teenagers \_\_\_\_ addiction \_\_\_\_ alcohol





# AND, OR, NOT?

You want to find information about  
**addiction to alcohol** in either **children**  
or **teenagers**

children **OR** teenagers

**AND** addiction **AND** alcohol



# AND, OR, NOT?

You want to find information on the use of **maggots** to help **wound** cleaning in cases of **MRSA** but not **gangrene**

maggots \_\_\_\_\_ wound \_\_\_\_\_ MRSA \_\_\_\_\_ gangrene



# AND, OR, NOT?

You want to find information on the use of **maggots** to help **wound** cleaning in cases of **MRSA** but not **gangrene**

maggots **AND** wound  
**AND** mrsa **NOT** gangrene



# TRUNCATION

- Truncation is a form of searching often used in databases and library catalogues
- A “wildcard” symbol is used where a range of words or plurals could be relevant



# CARDI\*

CARDI

OVASCULAR  
OLOGY

AC

OGRAM

NAL

OGRAPH

OGRAM

OPULMONARY

OMYOPATHY





# HOW MANY CAN YOU GET FOR?

- MEDIC\*

- EDUCAT\*



# HOW MANY DID YOU GET?

- MEDICAL
- MEDICABLE
- MEDICALLY
- MEDICINE(S)
- MEDICATION(S)
- MEDICATOR(S)
- MEDICALISATION
- MEDICATE(D)
- MEDICINAL
- MEDICOMMISSURE
- EDUCATE(D)
- EDUCATIVE
- EDUCATOR(S)
- EDUCATION
- EDUCATIONAL
- EDUCATIONALIST(S)
- EDUCATIONALLY

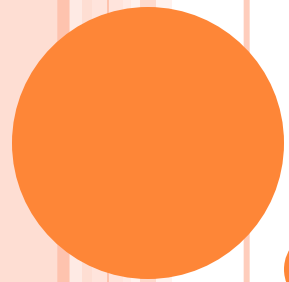


# WILDCARDS

- Wildcards vary between systems so it is good to check first

\* £ \$ &





**ANY QUESTIONS?**

