Performing a literature search using databases in Ovid Online

You should use the Multi Field Search option when searching databases in Ovid Online if you need to perform a literature search or review.

Selecting databases

You can search as many databases as you wish simultaneously (try to only select databases that are relevant to your topic).

Using the Multi Field Search option

After selecting your databases select the Multi Field Search option. This option will allow you to perform a 'Field search' where you can combine related terms from one concept of your topic and select which field you wish those terms to appear within a document.

You can use techniques such as truncation, wildcard and proximity operators to enhance your search terms.

You should perform a separate search for each concept of your topic:
Combining your searches using the Search History option

Each search you make will be added to your Search History.

You will need to combine these searches together (using the AND operator) to get your final result:
Removing duplicated results

As you are likely to be searching more than one database you may find that some of your results are duplicates. You can remove these by clicking on the Remove Duplicates button:

Select Continue on the next screen:

Your amended results will be displayed in your search history.

You can refine your results even further by using Ovid’s ‘Search Limiter’ options (see the Using Search Limiters guide in this section to discover how to do this).