Open Grey

Open Grey is a multidisciplinary European database providing references to grey literature such as technical or research reports, doctoral dissertations, conference papers and official publications.

Searching Open Grey

You can search Open Grey using your own search terms (keywords). Like most databases Open Grey uses ‘search operators’ which you can place between your search terms to expand or narrow your search.

Here is a list of those you can use in Open Grey. They must all be used in upper case:

AND

searches for all documents which contain both terms.

e.g.: diabetes AND children: this search will return documents containing the word diabetes and the word children

OR

searches for documents which contain either term.

e.g.: children OR teenagers: this search will return all documents containing the word children or the word teenagers.

NOT

excludes a term or phrase from the search.

e.g.: children NOT teenagers: this search will return all documents containing the word children but which do not contain the word teenagers.
NEAR

searches for documents in which the terms entered are, by default, within sixteen words of one another in the text.

NEAR/X

this operator can be used to specify the maximum distance between two search terms.

e.g.: health NEAR/5 promotion: this will return all documents in which health is found at most five words away from promotion.

BEFORE / AFTER

can be used to search for documents created before or after a specified date.

e.g.: diabetes and children AFTER 2004: returns all documents published after 2004.

The following techniques can also be used:

Truncation

As in other databases, an asterisk * placed at the end of a term runs a search on all words beginning with that term. This can be used to search for singular and/or plural forms of a term.

e.g child* will find child and children and childhood

Phrase searching

You can restrict your search to a specific phrase by placing quotation marks “ “ around your terms.

e.g. parkinsons disease will find results with the words parkinsons and disease.

“parkinsons disease” will only find records with that exact term.
Using brackets to separate the various concepts of your search

To ensure you find results relevant to your topic you need to separate the different concepts of your search with brackets.

A full search would look something like this:

(health NEAR/5 promot* OR health NEAR/5 educat*) AND (diabet*) AND (child* OR infants OR pediatric OR paediatric OR pediatric)

Viewing your results

Results are listed under the search box.

All titles are in English even if the text itself is in another language.

To view details about the results you have found click on the title.

You will be taken to the full record.

If the full text is available a link will be next to the heading:

Fulltext online access :  http://hydra.hull.ac.uk/resources/hull:3511

If full text is not available look for a Get a copy link:

Get a copy :  EThOS - Electronic Theses Online Service