

## VHL SEARCH QUICK GUIDE <a href="http://bvsalud.org/en/">http://bvsalud.org/en/</a>

How to	Example	Instruction
Start the search	INFANT MORTALITY BRAZIL  SEARCH  Advanced search  DeCS/MeSH	Access the VHL Regional Portal <a href="http://bvsalud.org/en/">http://bvsalud.org/en/</a> and type one or more words or phrases in the search box and click the button SEARCH.
Search for phrases or compound terms	"INFANT MORTALITY" BRAZIL  P Advanced search DeCS/MeSH	Type phrases or compound terms in quotes " "
Search for word derivations from a radical (truncation)	"INFANT MORTALITY" BRAZIL\$  SEARCH  P Advanced search DeCS/MeSH	Use the symbol \$ or * after the word radical.  Note: This resource cannot be used
	Brazil <b>\$</b> = Brazil , Brazilian, etc.	with phrases or compound terms in quotes.
Two or more words or phrases must be	"INFANT MORTALITY" BRAZIL\$ SEARCH	<b>AND</b> operator between each word or phrase.
in the search result	Advanced search DeCS/MeSH	<i>Note</i> : the <b>AND</b> operator is a system default, which makes its use optional when typing it between terms.
At least one or another word or phrase must be in the search result	"infant mortality" OR "perinatal mortality"  SEARCH  P Advanced search DeCS/MeSH	Use the <b>OR</b> operator between each word or phrase.
Delete words or phrases from the search result	"INFANT MORTALITY" AND NOT BRAZIL  P Advanced search DeCS/MeSH	Use the <b>AND NOT</b> operator before the word or phrase you wish to delete.
Establish the correct search order	"INFANT MORTALITY" (BRAZIL OR CHILE)  SEARCH  Advanced search  DeCS/MeSH	Use the parentheses ( ) to set the search order. Use for expressions which apply the AND and OR operators in the same search.

Search for words and phrases on document Titles.



Select the **Title** field next to the search box. In this case, all words and phrases will be searched on document titles.



Or type the code TI followed by a colon: before the word or phrase you wish to search on the document titles.

Refine the search result



Use the filters (or *clusters*) to refine your search.

Select one or more items from one or more filters and click the FILTER button to refine your search result.

## **Search Tips**

- Begin your search with few words or phrases then use the filters to refine your search.
- Choose words or phrases which are most relevant to your search topic.
- Uppercase and lowercase letters, as well as word accentuation (Portuguese and Spanish), DO NOT make any difference in your search result.
- The search in the Subject Descriptor field MeSH/DeCS can be made in Portuguese, English or Spanish

## **About MeSH/DeCS**

DeCS — Health Sciences Descriptors is a controlled trilingual vocabulary (Portuguese, English and Spanish), an enlarged translation for MeSH — *Medical Subject Headings*. The descriptors are used to represent the subject of the indexed documents in the main health databases such as MEDLINE and LILACS.

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There are other searching options in the VHL Portal, such as the Search by Descriptor MeSH/DeCS. To know more refer to *How to Search* In the VHL home page.