Focus on the TRIP database

The TRIP database is a specialist search engine which will find you references to evidence-based information such as systematic reviews and guidelines and other high quality resources such as medical images, patient information leaflets and articles from peer-reviewed journals.

How to access TRIP (Turning Research Into Practice)
The TRIP database can be found [www.tripdatabase.com](http://www.tripdatabase.com).

How to search TRIP
You can choose to initially run your search in one of three sections – evidence based medicine (systematic reviews, guidelines etc), medical images or patient information leaflets by selecting the relevant tab.

Enter your search term(s) and click Search

Read the tips below the search box (or at [http://www.tripdatabase.com/searchtips.html](http://www.tripdatabase.com/searchtips.html)) to help you enter your search term(s) in the best possible way, for example:

- if you key in two or more words it will find records containing ALL those words
- to search for a phrase, enclose it in double inverted commas, eg “heart attack”

Search results
All the results of a search are displayed on the left hand side of the screen. In the case of an evidence based medicine search the results from individual types of resources, eg clinical questions, can then be viewed by clicking on the appropriate heading.
Refining your search

The Medline articles are taken from the PubMed database and are split into therapy, diagnosis, prognosis and etiology articles, and systematic reviews. These can be further filtered according to specialty using the drop-down menu.

If you find you get too many results using the search box on the home page, which automatically searches title and text, switch to advanced search, which allows you to find your search terms in the title of items only.

You may also view results in either of the other two sections of the database by clicking on the relevant tab.

Search history

Advanced search also allows you to view your search history. You can use the numbers of the searches you have carried out to combine terms together.

NB If you want to find items containing more than of your terms, eg #1 AND #2 you don’t need to include the “and” in your search request. Simply type #1 #2 making sure that there is a space between them.

Other features

The See the synonyms used link at the top of search results shows other similar words to your search term(s) which the system has automatically searched for you.

Near the top of the screen on the right hand side are further options including more information About Us and a Trip Blog highlighting developmental issues.

EBM Links takes you to useful information about evidence based healthcare. My Trip allows you to register with a username and password on the site to enable you to receive automatic updates of new items added to the database matching a keyword of your choice.