

**MedlinePlus and
Health Source – Consumer Edition
Practice Questions**



MedlinePlus

1. A patron approaches your reference desk having just come wishes to read more about the **rash** she has developed from soaking in a **hot tub** but does not remember the condition. How would you find information to help her?
2. A bewildered patron approaches your reference desk. He has recently moved to the area and is need of a dermatologist nearby as he does not drive. Where would you direct him to find a dermatologist in his neighborhood? Would this resource provide a list of what insurance is supported by a chosen physician?
3. A Spanish speaking patron approaches you wanting to learn more about her recently diagnosed **asthma**. She confides in you that she does not read very well. How would you help her obtain beginning overview information in Spanish?

Health Source -Consumer Edition (EBSCOhost)

1. Your patron explains that she has a young child who is being treated for **asthma**. In a conversation with her health care provider, the mother is told that **cockroaches** can be a concern and can aggravate the condition. She is looking for some very basic information. Help your patron find a pamphlet on asthma and cockroaches using the Basic Search feature.
 - a. Use the **Refine Search** function to select an appropriate **publication type**. Is full text available? Is the information helpful? Use the system to have this text translated into Spanish.
 - b. Do the same search without restricting to publication type. Browse the results list and click on the link to an article that seems interesting. What **subject** words have been used to index the article? Try another search strategy using subject words.
2. Your patron is experiencing **menopausal symptoms**. She has heard that **black cohosh** is an alternative treatment for her hot flashes. Find more information for her on this topic.
 - a. What **Subject** word is used for black cohosh in this database? Use this word in your search. How does it affect retrieval?
 - b. Use the Advanced Search feature and limit black cohosh to the title field. How does this affect retrieval?
3. Your patron indicates that she needs more information about a drug she is using. Search for **prozac**. Evaluate the citation information and become familiar with how the articles are indexed. Make a list of synonyms for prozac and then try one or two of these terms in the search. (You might want to do this search in MedlinePlus, as well.)