Curtin University

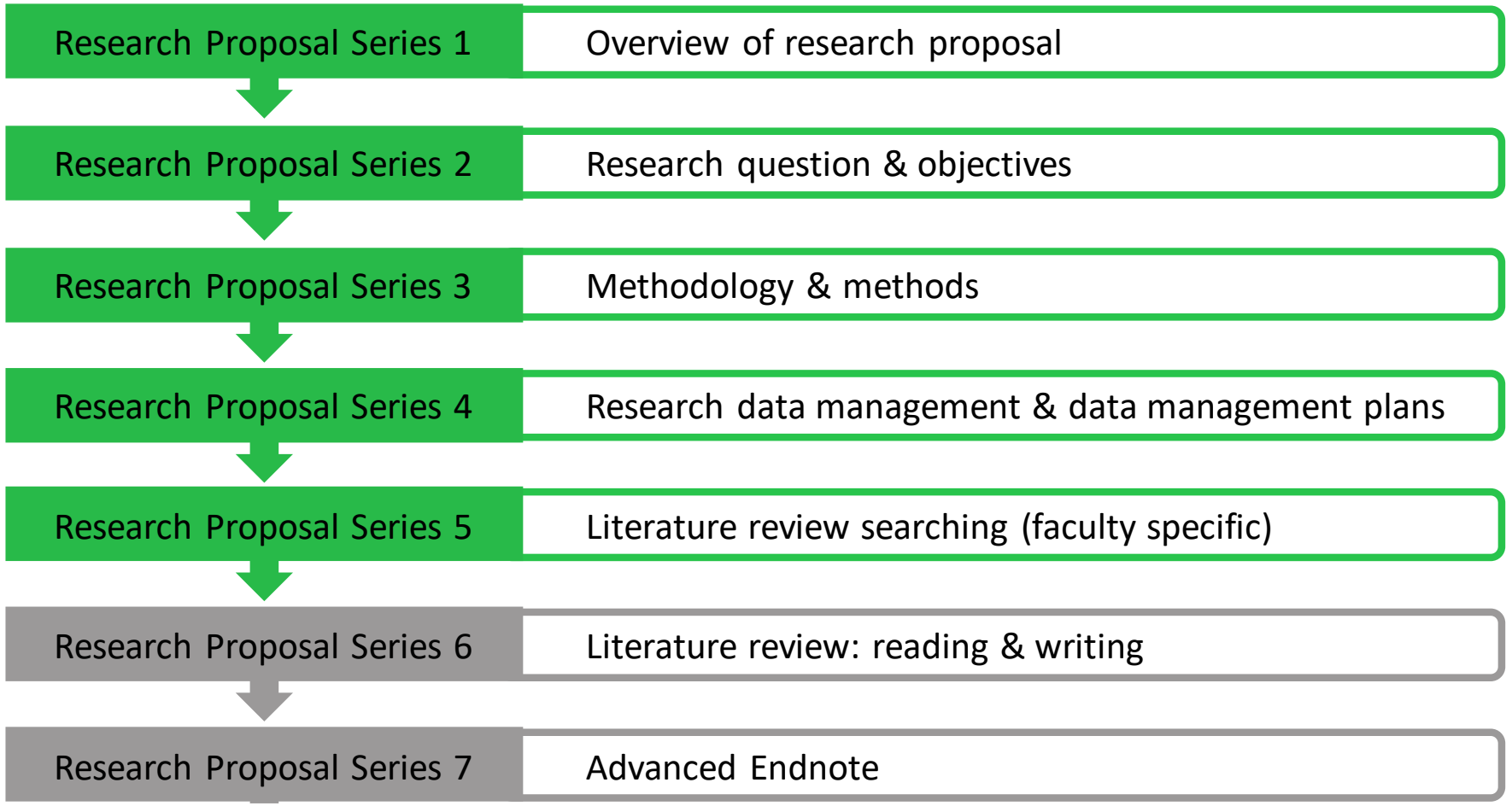
Graduate Research Advanced Skills Program (GRASP)

Research Proposal Series 5

Literature Review - Searching

Kitty Delaney and Jaya Ralph

Faculty Librarians - Humanities, Business & Law


Research Proposal Series 1
Overview of research proposal
Research Proposal Series 2
Research question & objectives
Research Proposal Series 3
Methodology & methods
Research Proposal Series 4
Research data management & data management plans
Research Proposal Series 5
Literature review searching (faculty specific)
Research Proposal Series 6
Literature review: reading & writing
Research Proposal Series 7
Advanced Endnote

Before we start……

Questions….

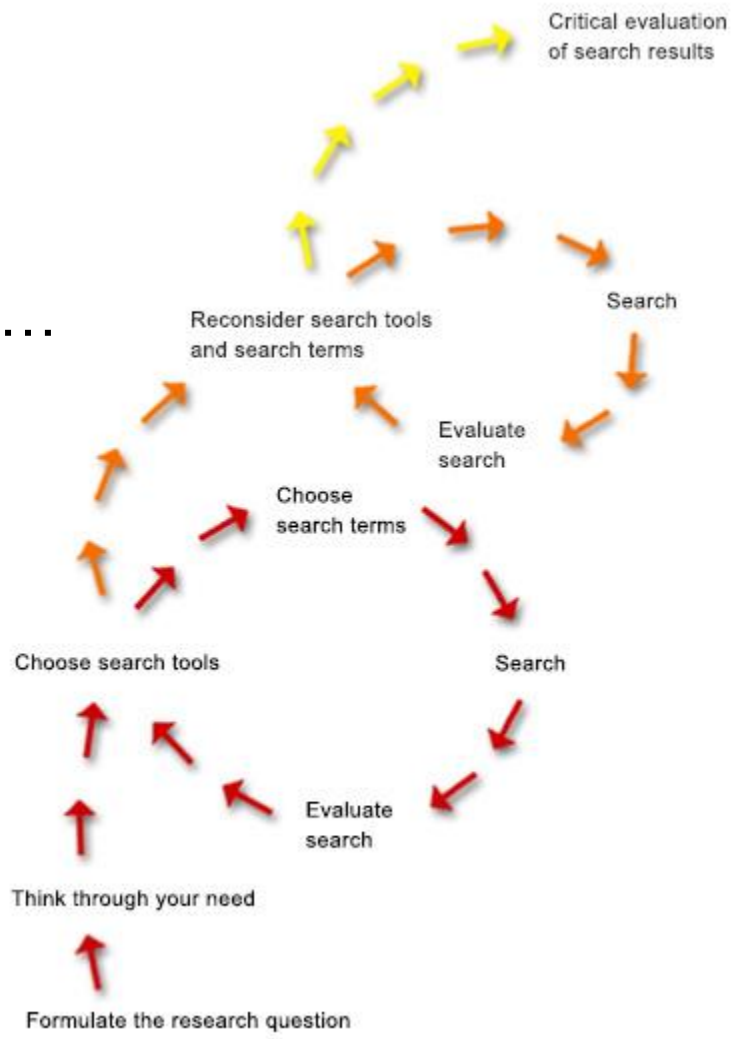
The things we are looking at.....

- **Planning your literature review**
- Identifying sources of information
- Translating the research question into a search strategy
- Maximising strategies for effective searching
- Staying up-to-date with your research topic
- Managing your research results

Planning your literature review.....

Plan your search with a clear strategy in mind:

- It begins with a robust research question
- Decide on what kind of literature review you will do…
  - Scoping review
  - Narrative or traditional
  - Systematic style literature review
- Decide on the type of information you need and where you can get this information
- Understand the search process and get the most out of your resources
- How will you manage your research results?



Source: University of Jönköping Library - How to search guide
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The things we are looking at.....

- Planning your literature review
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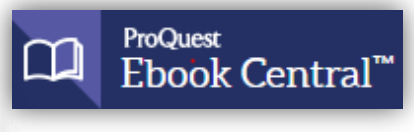
Which database?



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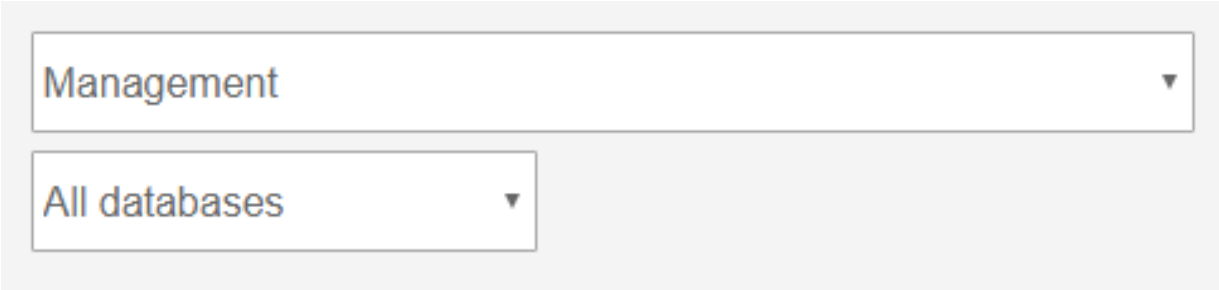
Which database?

To find relevant databases in your subject area consider using the Library Databases list and filter by your topic in the list.



What!....

Google Scholar

Search tips:

- Exclude a word: -word
- location:country
- daterange:date
- Google's Advanced Search page replicates some of what you can do with the search bar but you don't need to know the syntax: https://www.google.com.au/advanced_search

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Grey Literature….

- Grey literature refers to both published and unpublished research material that is not available commercially
- Most grey literature is free. However, some sources such as market research firms charge for access to their material.
- Look for associations, organisations, government departments etc.
- Google - consider restricting your search to the .org and/or .gov domains on the Internet

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Literature Reviews or Review Articles

- Proquest – choose Review as the 'Document Type'
- Scopus – choose Review as the 'Document Type'
- Annual Reviews – provides critical reviews written by experts. Reviews will provide an overview of a particular subject often reviewing past research and focusing on current knowledge and avenues for future research.
- Sage Research Methods online – find resources to answer your research methods and statistics questions. This tool is designed to help create research projects and understand the methods behind them. Covers criminology, criminal justice, political science, international relations, public policy and sociology (amongst others)

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Finding Theses

Go to the Curtin Library webpage on finding theses: http://library.curtin.edu.au/find-resources/theses/

Watch this short tutorial: Library homepage > Study and research guides > Research Toolkit > Research Skills videos > Finding theses and dissertations. This outlines the following resources which will link you to theses written by master and doctorate students from Curtin and around the world:

- Curtin theses (print and digital) in the library catalogue
- espace: Curtin's institutional repository containing the research output of Curtin.
- Trove: The National Library. Includes Australian theses in digital and print form.
- OAIster: Search the world for a thesis on your subject using Advanced Search and Content Type "thesis"
- Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations
- ProQuest Dissertations and Theses
- WorldCat: Find items in libraries near you.
- British Library – EThOS e-theses online service: UK theses. Requires free registration to access.

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The Research Question.....

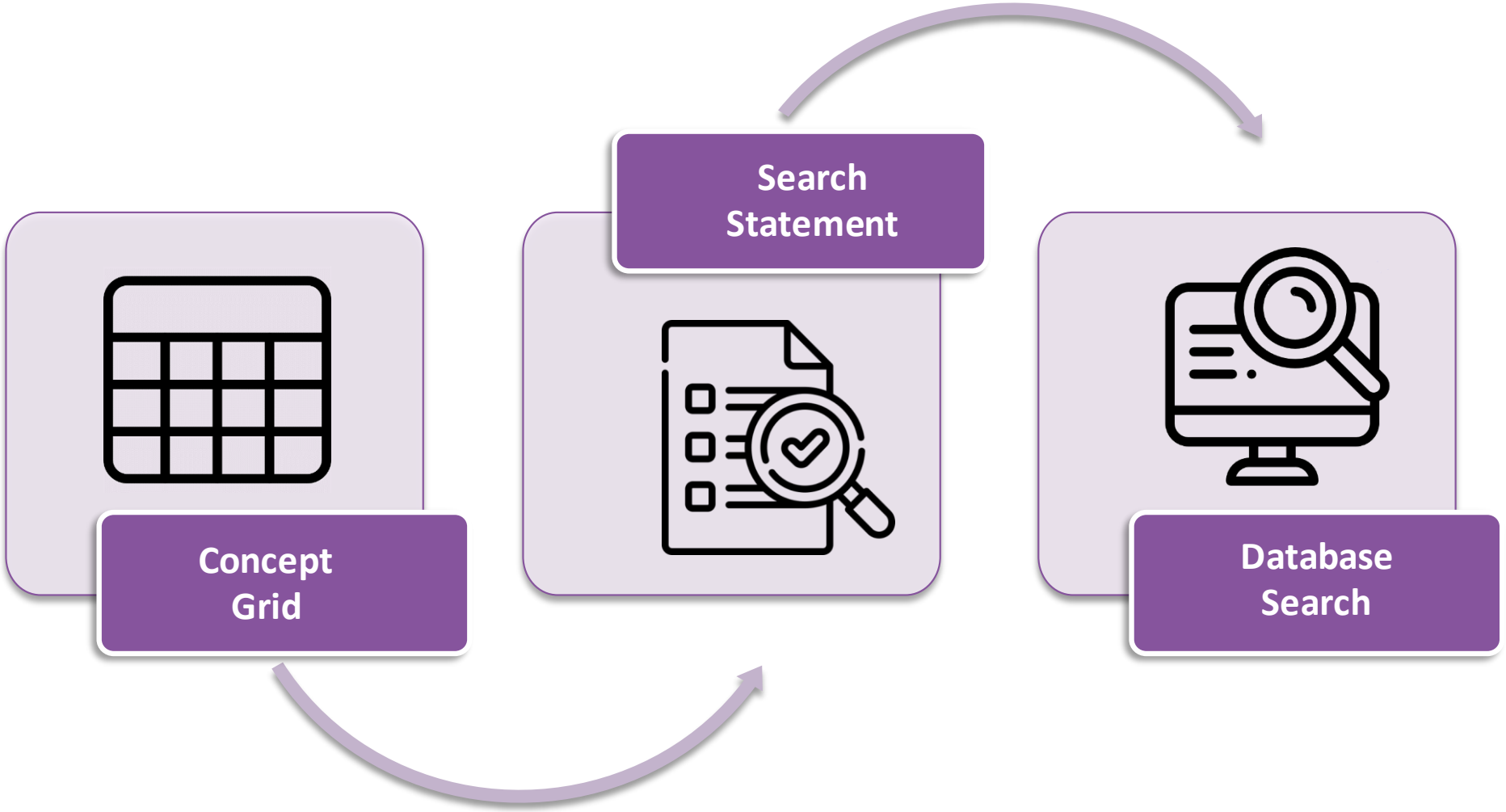
Identifying the research question **is** research

The research question may change over time

A good research question guides the research process:

- It informs the search strategy
- It also informs which resources to use
- Can be complex & consist of several sub-questions
- Must be able to be segmented into searchable components

Translating the Research Question into a search strategy



Icons source: https://www.flaticon.com
Graphic: Denise D'Cruz – Learning Engagement Developer, FBL.

The concept grid

Concept 1	Concept 2	Concept 3	Concept 4	Concept 5

- Good for building a search strategy
- Can make you think about alternative terms
- Starting the search strategy

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Concepts/keywords - Where to start ....

- What you already know
- Wikipedia
- Google
- Google Scholar
- Known researchers
- Organisations or Associations
- Look for any other **Theses** on your topic or research
- Try to find a **literature review** or **review article**
- Known articles – mine your article

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The concept grid……

Does being a leader affect your mental health?

What is the research question about?

Can we rephrase it?

Can we isolate the concepts?

Where would you start?

The concept grid

Does being a leader affect your mental health?

Concept 1	Concept 2	Concept 3	Concept 4	Concept 5

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The concept grid…..

Does being a leader affect your mental health?

Keyword	Keyword	Content	Time span	Concept 5
Leader(s)	Mental Health	Peer Review	Last 10 years	
Manager(s)	Wellbeing	Thesis		
Executive(s)	Stress	Grey literature		
CEO(s)	Burnout			
Leadership				
C-suite				

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Concept grid to Search Statement

Leader* OR Manager* OR Executive* OR CEO* OR C-suite

AND

“Mental Health” OR Wellbeing OR Stress OR Burnout

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Search Statement to Search Strategy……

This is where you decide on:

- Databases and sources
- Inclusion of resources
- Search terms

You also need to:

- Learn the “language” of the database
- Learn the language of the literature

Search Statement to Search Strategy……

Scopus

Start exploring

Discover the most reliable, relevant, up-to-date research. All in one place.

Documents | Authors | Researcher Discovery *Pilot* | Affiliations

Search within
Article title, Abstract, Keywords

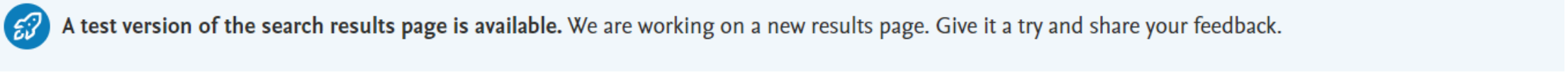
Search documents *
Leader* OR Manager* OR Executive* OR CEO OR C-suite

AND

Search within
Article title, Abstract, Keywords

Search documents
"mental health" OR wellbeing OR stress OR Burnout

Search Statement to Search Strategy……



What went wrong & how to improve this search?

The things we are looking at.....

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AND

Search within
Article title, Abstract, Keywords

Search documents
"mental health" OR wellbeing OR stress OR Burnout

A deceptively complex search……

Does being a leader affect your mental health?

- This should have been a walk in the park!
- Very simple keywords and concepts
- What is the challenge?
- A good example of using advanced search techniques

new

Search History | Saved Searches

33	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((leaders OR executives OR managers OR ceos) W/2 stress)	769 results	Set Alert More
32	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((leaders OR executives OR managers OR ceos) W/2 (stress OR wellbeing OR mental OR health)) AND (LIMIT-TO (	1,183 results	Set Alert More
31	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((leaders OR executives OR managers OR ceos) W/2 (stress OR wellbeing OR mental OR health))	14,765 results	Set Alert More
30	TITLE-ABS-KEY ("leader* mental health")	18 results	Set Alert More
29	TITLE-ABS-KEY ("mental health w/1 leaders")	0 results	Set Alert More

---

new

Search History | Saved Searches

37	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((leaders OR executives OR managers OR ceos) W/2 "burnout") AND (LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA , "busi"))	40 results	Set Alert More
36	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((leaders OR executives OR managers OR ceos) W/2 "burnout")	162 results	Set Alert More
35	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((leaders OR executives OR managers OR ceos) W/2 "mental wellbeing")	1 results	Set Alert More
34	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((leaders OR executives OR managers OR ceos) W/2 "mental health")	562 results	Set Alert More
33	TITLE-ABS-KEY ((leaders OR executives OR managers OR ceos) W/2 stress)	769 results	Set Alert More

This search history is available through the use of the browser session.

Strategies for when it is gets tricky…

Proximity Searches

Proximity searching is a way to search for two or more words that occur within a certain number of words from each other. The proximity operators are composed of a letter (N or W) and a number (to specify the number of words). The number cannot exceed 255.

The proximity operator is placed between the words that are to be searched, as follows:

- Near Operator (N): **N5** finds the words if they are a maximum of five words apart from one another, regardless of the order in which they appear. For example, type **tax N5 reform** to find results that have a maximum of five words between the beginning and ending terms, that would match **tax reform** as well as **tax that has been submitted for reform**.
- Within Operator (W): **W8** finds the words if they are within eight words of one another, in the order in which you entered them. For example, type **tax W8 reform** to fi match **tax reform** but would not match **reform of income tax**.

In addition, multiple terms can be used on either side of the operator. See the fo

- **(tax OR tariff) N5 reform**
- **oil W3 (disaster OR clean-up OR contamination)**
- **(baseball OR football OR basketball) N5 (teams OR players)**

(*Business Source Ultimate*)

(*Scopus*)

Proximity operators - W/*n*, PRE/*n* —

You can choose between two **Proximity** operators to find words within a certain distance from each other: Pre/*n* specifies a word order whereas W/*n* does not.

Proximity operator	Example
W/*n*	Indicates distance between words, but not the order — e.g., `journal W/2 publishing`, where *journal* can be found within a distance of two words from *publishing*
Pre/*n*	Terms must appear in a specific order between words — e.g., `behavioral PRE/3 disturbances`, where *behavioral* precedes *disturbances* within three words

Strategies for when it gets tricky…

Nesting

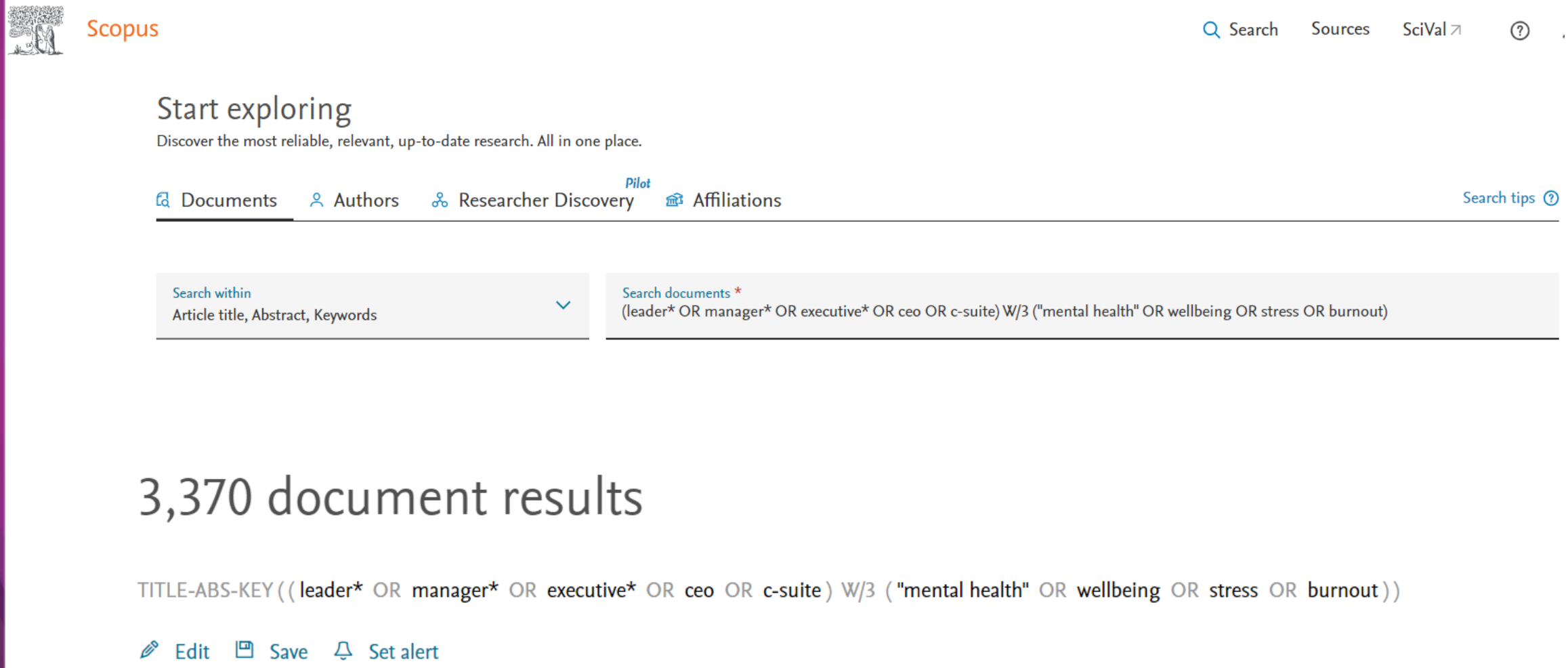
A technique that allows you to organize complex search statements using more than one kind of search operator.

When nesting, you are combining Boolean Operators (AND, OR, NOT) with symbols such as parenthesis, quotation marks, and truncations.

Video link

Image: Nina Garman - Pixabay

Search Statement to Search Strategy……

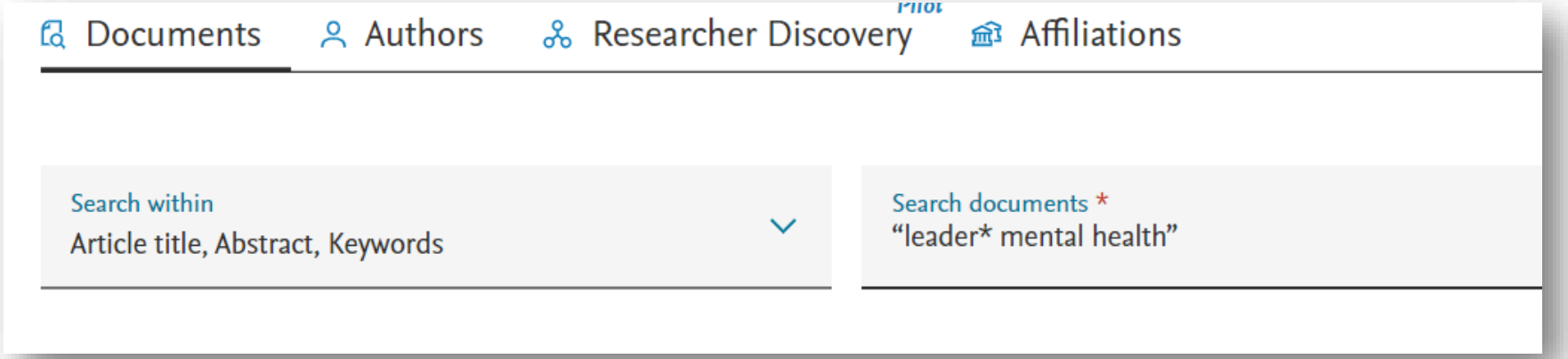


Search Strategies…..

- Pearl growing – Ruth Hadfield
- Citation mining
- Snowballing

Pearl growing' (also known as 'Citation mining' or 'Snowballing') is an effective approach to systematic literature searching which helps to ensure that **all** relevant literature has been identified.

All three names hint at the iterative process involved – a grain of sand in an oyster grows slowly, layer by layer, into a pearl – one citation is mined, by digging deeper into the reference list and then digging even deeper into the references cited by those references – or a snowball is grown into a larger snowball by adding more layers of snow



Journal of Occupational Health Psychology • Volume 22, Issue 3, Pages 394 - 406 • July 2017

Leaders' mental health at work: Empirical, methodological, and policy directions

Barling, Julian ; Cloutier, Anika

Save all to author list

[a] Smith School of Business at Queen's University, Canada

30
Citations in Scopus

64
Views count

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Abstract

While employees' mental health is the focus of considerable attention from researchers, the public, and policymakers, leaders' mental health has almost escaped attention. We start by considering several reasons for this, followed by discussions of the effects of leaders' mental health on their own leadership behaviors, the emotional toll of high-quality leadership, and interventions to enhance leaders' mental health. We offer 8 possible directions for future research on leaders' mental health. Finally, we discuss methodological obstacles encountered when investigating leaders' mental health, and policy dilemmas raised by leaders' mental health.
© 2016 American Psychological Association.

Author keywords

Abusive supervision; Leaders; Leadership behavior; Mental health; Transformational leadership

Pearl growing, Citation mining, Snowballing.....

Start working with:

Citations (30)

Look at keywords

Reference List

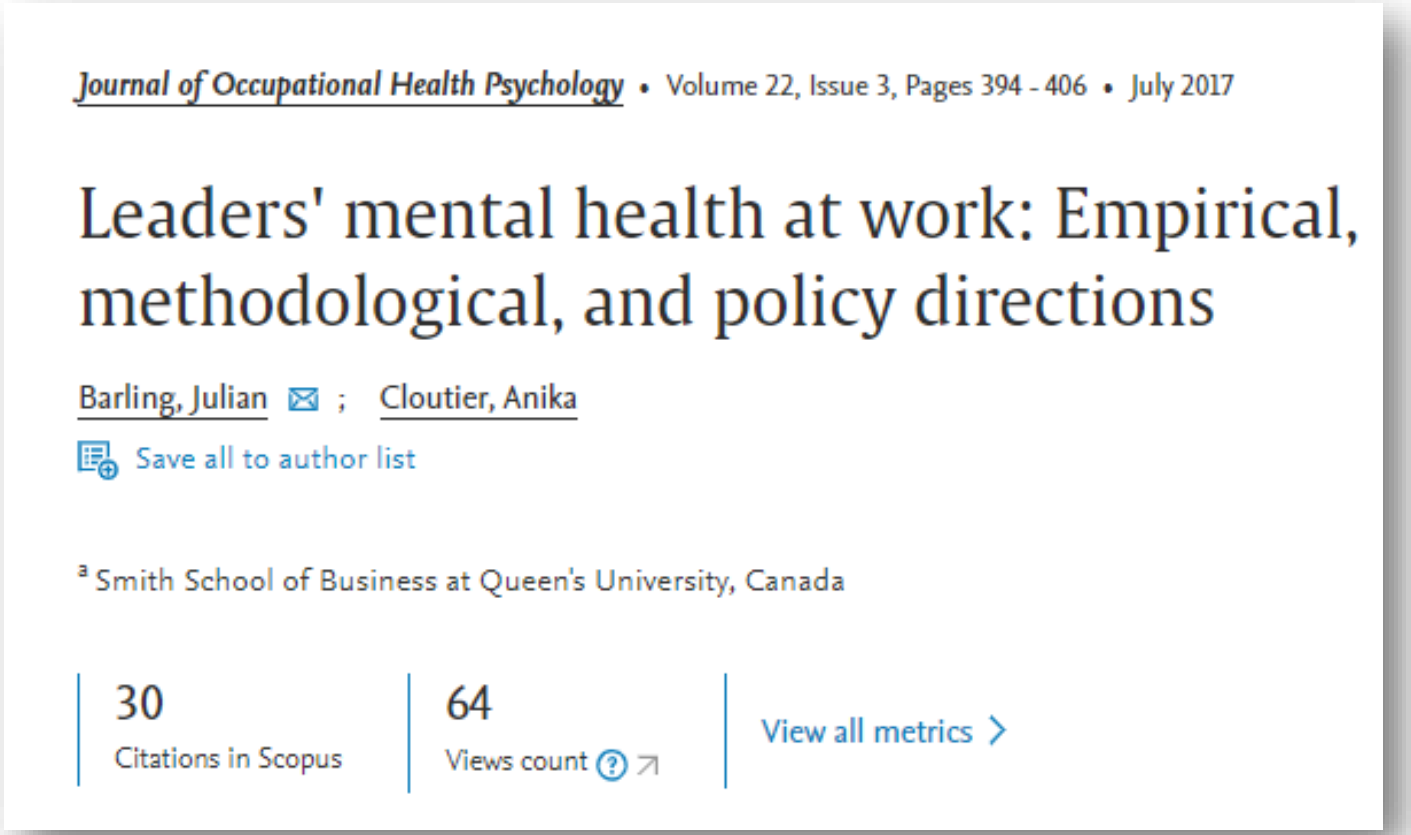
Subject Headings

Indexed Keywords

Author Supplied Keywords

Related documents

Literature Mapping Tools



Tools….

Literature mapping tools:

- Connected Papers
- VOSviewer
- LitMaps
- Citation Gecko
- Inciteful
- ResearchRabbit

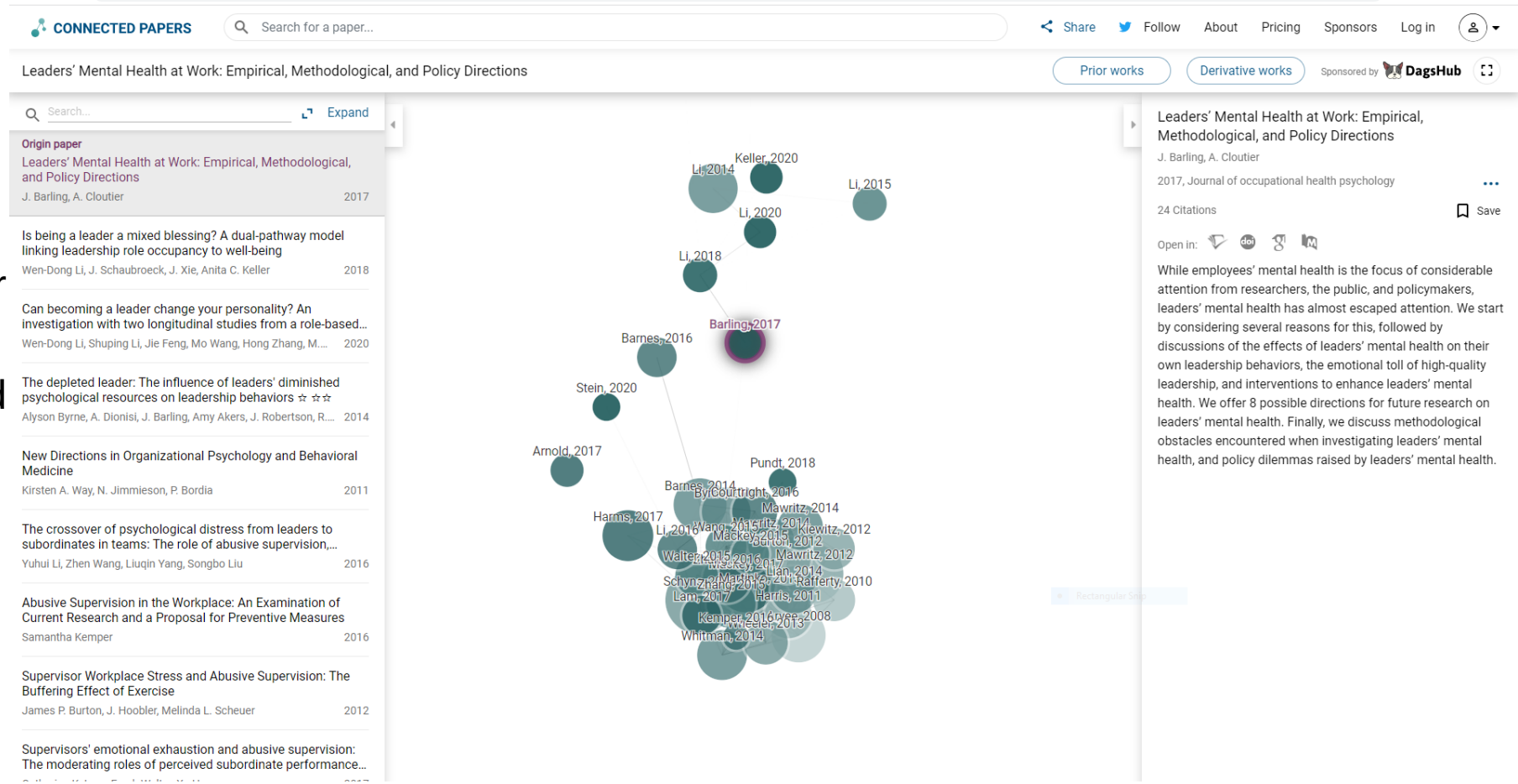
Citation management tools:

- EndNote
- Mendeley
- Zotero

Literature mapping tools….

Connected Papers:

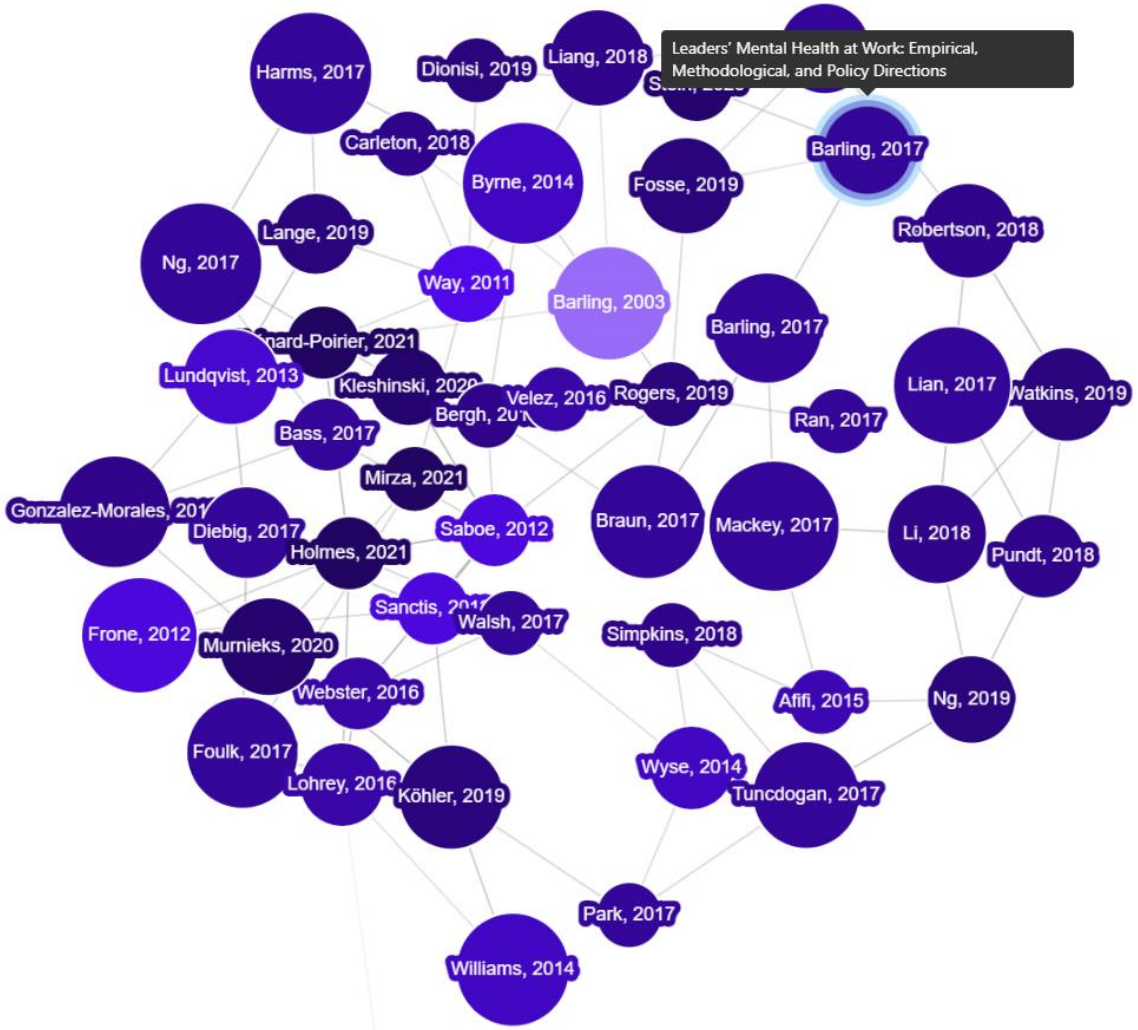
- Five free graphs per month
- All features included
- Academic upgrade is $3 per month



Literature mapping tools….

Inciteful:

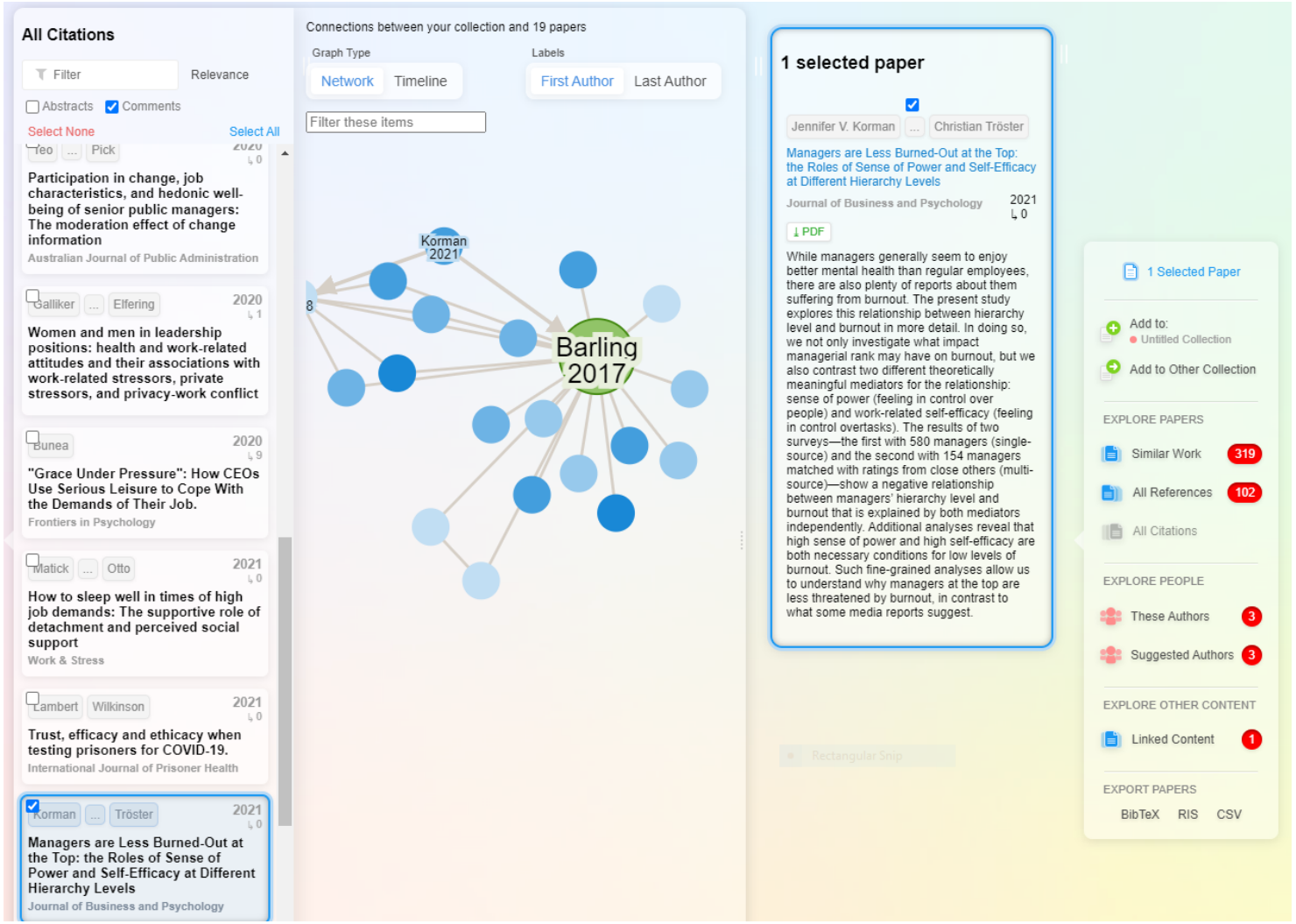
- Free
- Good help section
- Can download into reference management software (e.g. EndNote)
- Paper Discovery tool builds network from citations
- Literature Connector – enter two papers and show how they are connected



Literature mapping tools….

ResearchRabbit:

- Free
- Just out of Beta
- Read Review here



The things we are looking at.....

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- Managing your research results

Setting Up Alerts

Use **Alerts** to keep current on your research topic:

- References to **articles on a topic** or subject search
- **Contents pages** of recent journal issues
- **Citations** to specific articles or authors

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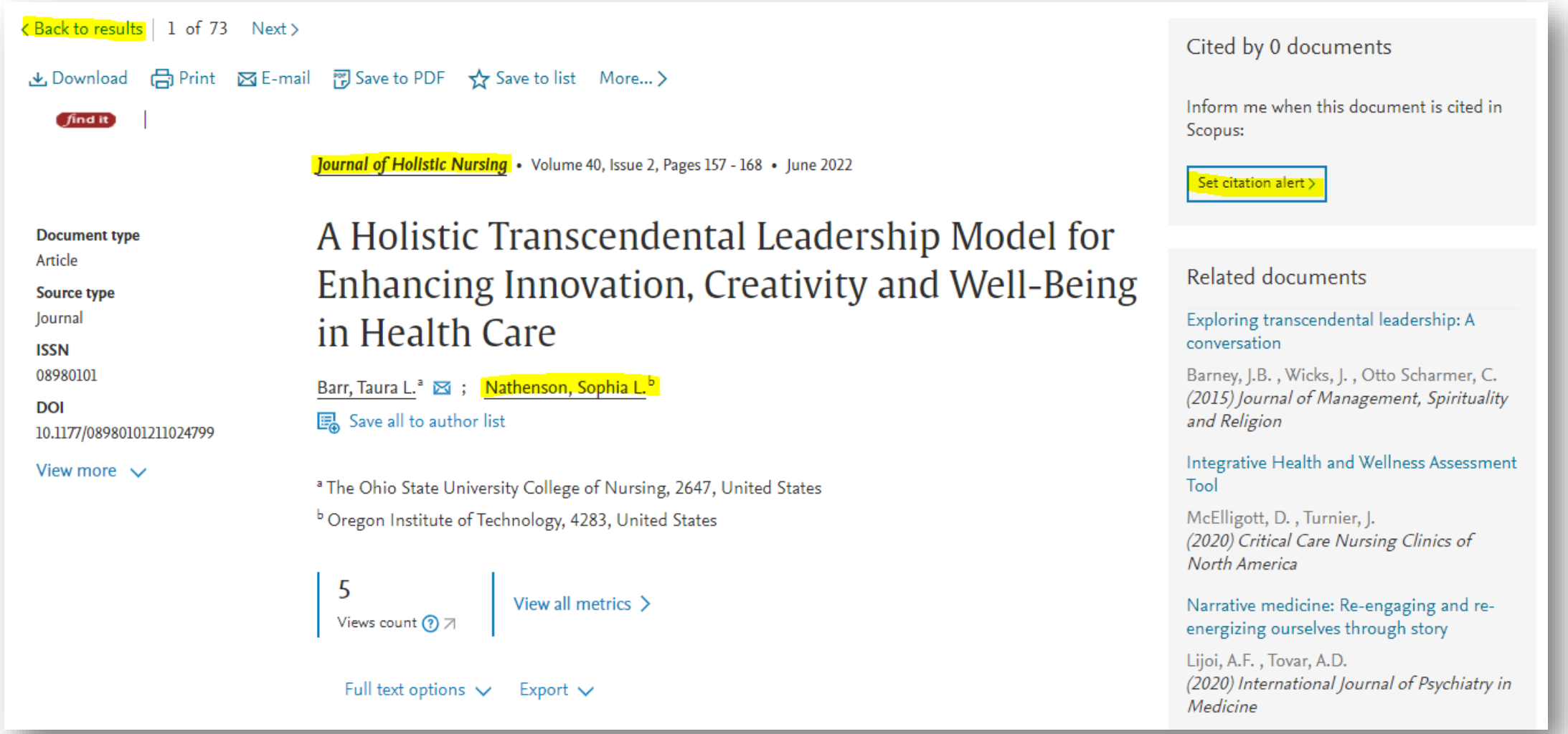
Creating alerts (Scopus)



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find it

Journal of Holistic Nursing • Volume 40, Issue 2, Pages 157 - 168 • June 2022

Document type
Article

Source type
Journal

ISSN
08980101

DOI
10.1177/08980101211024799

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A Holistic Transcendental Leadership Model for Enhancing Innovation, Creativity and Well-Being in Health Care

Barr, Taura L.[a] ; Nathenson, Sophia L.[b]

Save all to author list

[a] The Ohio State University College of Nursing, 2647, United States

[b] Oregon Institute of Technology, 4283, United States

5
Views count

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Cited by 0 documents

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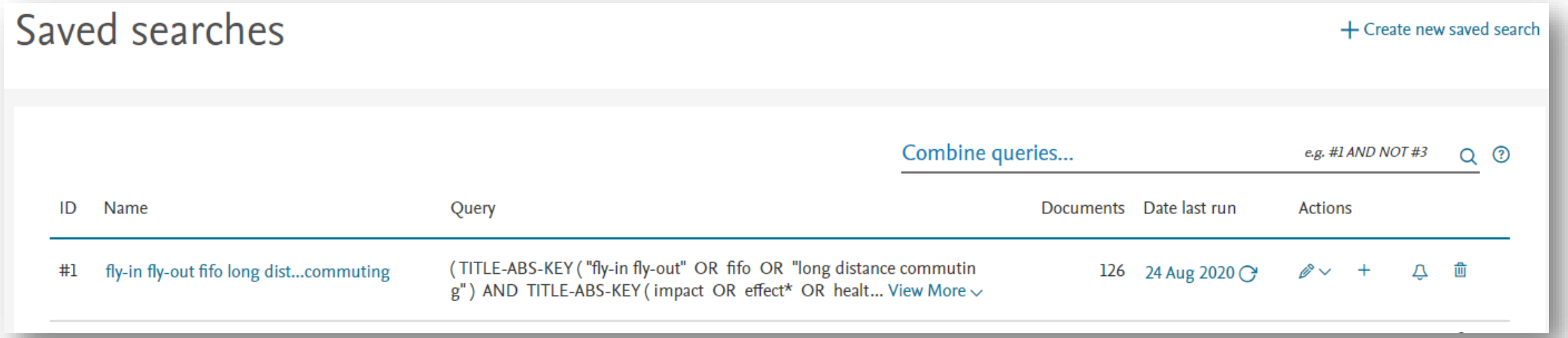
Related documents

Exploring transcendental leadership: A conversation
Barney, J.B. , Wicks, J. , Otto Scharmer, C.
(2015) Journal of Management, Spirituality and Religion

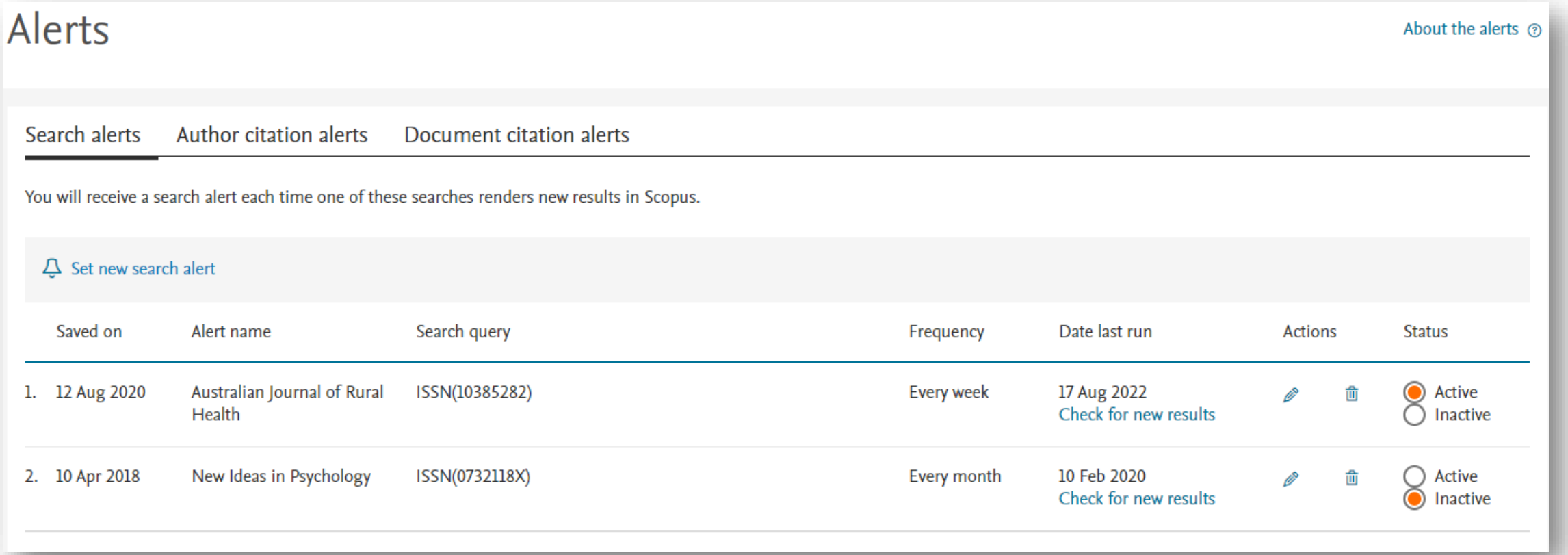
Integrative Health and Wellness Assessment Tool
McElligott, D. , Turnier, J.
(2020) Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America

Narrative medicine: Re-engaging and re-energizing ourselves through story
Lijoi, A.F. , Tovar, A.D.
(2020) International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine

Search alert (saved searches)….



Journal alert (table of contents)….



Alerts

About the alerts

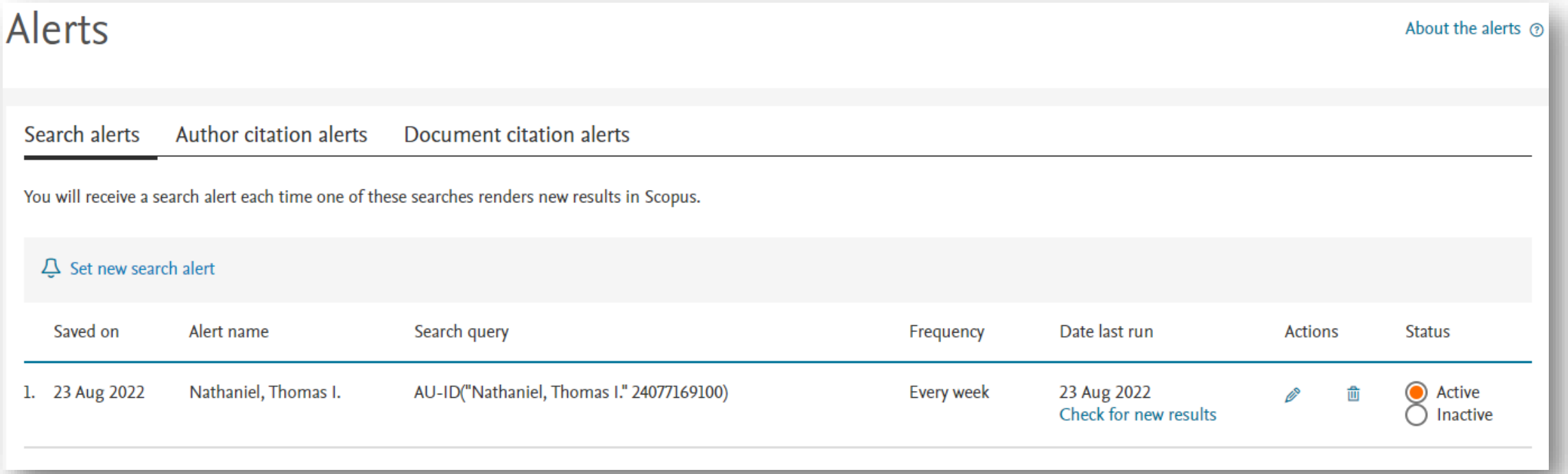
Search alerts | Author citation alerts | Document citation alerts

You will receive a search alert each time one of these searches renders new results in Scopus.

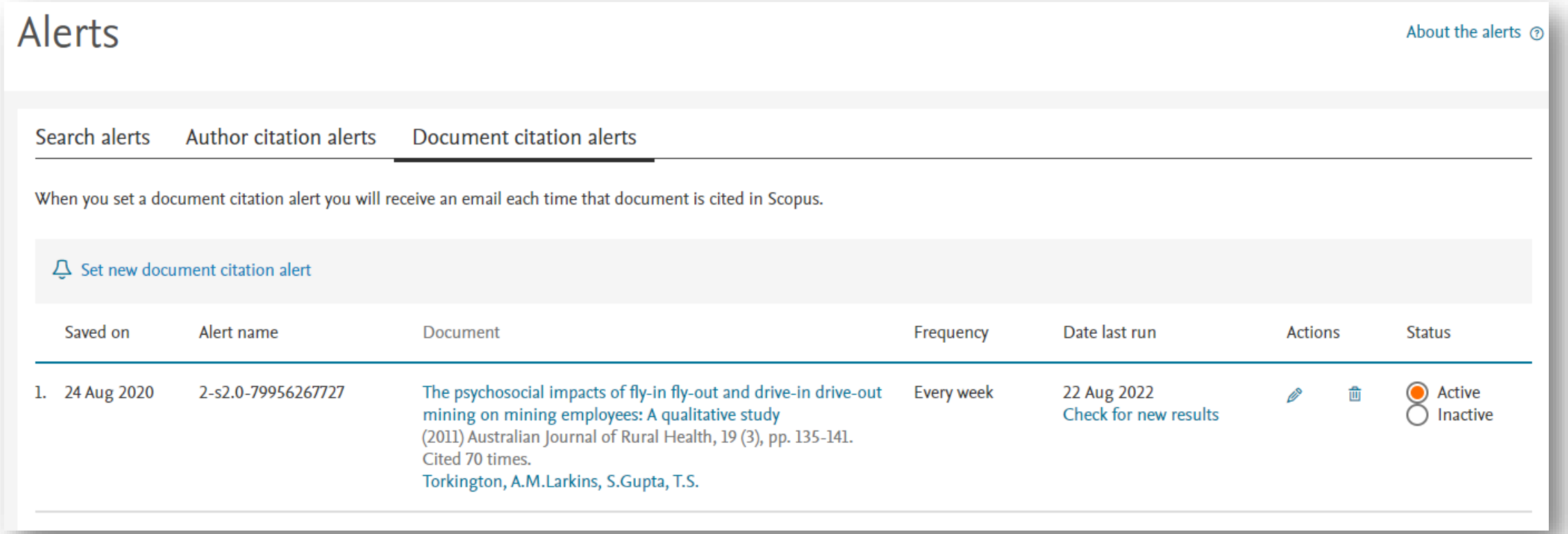
Set new search alert

	Saved on	Alert name	Search query	Frequency	Date last run	Actions	Status
1.	12 Aug 2020	Australian Journal of Rural Health	ISSN(10385282)	Every week	17 Aug 2022 Check for new results		Active Inactive
2.	10 Apr 2018	New Ideas in Psychology	ISSN(0732118X)	Every month	10 Feb 2020 Check for new results		Active Inactive

Author alert….



Citation alert (articles)….



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Managing your search results

Record your search strategy

- Save it on the database you are searching
- Keep a record – paper, Word document, Excel spreadheet
- GradCoach: offer a free Excel spreadsheet template to organise your readings, keywords, authors, leads etc

Managing your search results

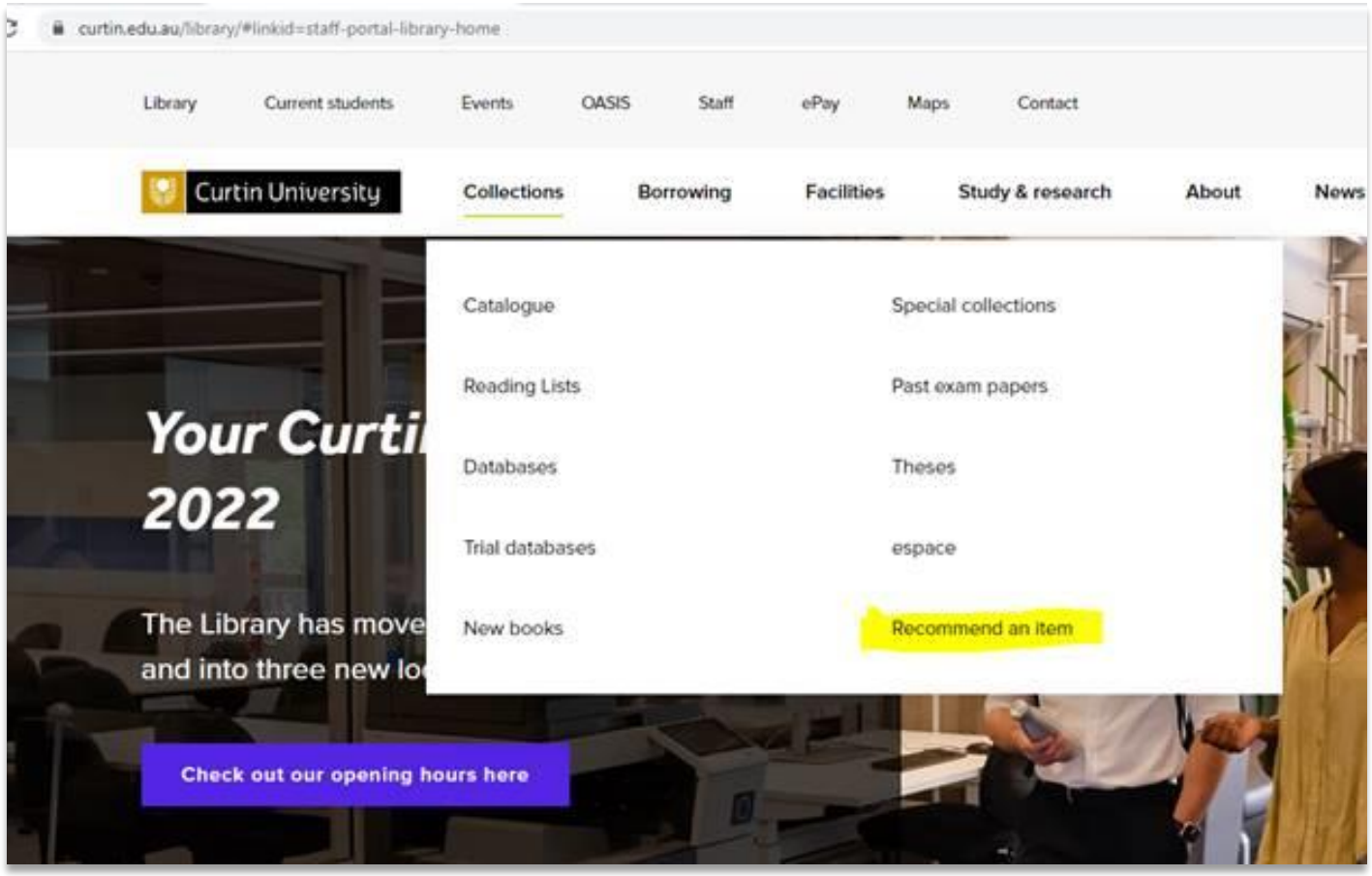
- Export from databases to EndNote
- Add to My Favourites in the Library catalogue
- Save results in the database you are using
- Organise your material in a matrix

Resources - Document Delivery

If you find that perfect article and we don't have access to full text at Curtin:

- Request document delivery (we will obtain it from another library and email it to you)

Resources - Recommend an item



Resources - Borrowing from other libraries

- Current Curtin students and staff are entitled to borrow in person from the libraries of the University of Western Australia, Edith Cowan University, the University of Notre Dame or Murdoch University.

- You must register online first, and you will need to show your Curtin ID card and provide your Curtin email address when you first borrow items.

- Registration and borrowing are free of charge. Registration must be renewed each year.

Resources….

Bowers-Brown, Tamsin, and Anna Stevens. 2010. "Practical Research and Evaluation: A Start-to-Finish Guide for Practitioners." London: SAGE Publications Ltd. https://doi.org/10.4135/9781446268346.

Hadfield, Ruth. 2020. "Pearl Growing as a Strategy in Systematic Literature Searches." Mediwrite, 9 August, 2020. https://www.mediwrite.com.au/medical-writing/pearl-growing/.

Price, Rebecca H. 2017. "The Four-Part Literature Review Process: Breaking It Down for Students." *College Teaching 65 (2): 88-91.* https://doi.org/10.1080/87567555.2016.1276042.

Miles, Rachel. (2022). “Use with caution! How automated citation recommendation tools may distort science. The Bibliomagician, 16 August, 2022. https://thebibliomagician.wordpress.com/2022/08/16/use-with-caution-how-automated-citation-recommendation-tools-may-distort-science/

Questions

GRASP webpage
https://libguides.library.curtin.edu.au/grasp

Help
LibraryResearchSupport@curtin.edu.au

Feedback (Stop – Start – Continue)
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1t7roPInys2xK_0zY69ivY9s09ZNs2iY_byLVdCSKD7M/edit?usp=sharing