

Comparison of PubMed, ScienceDirect, Web of science, Scopus and Google Scholar in Retrieving Neuroscience Information.

Abstract

Background and Objectives: The use of databases is one of the fastest and most convenient ways to obtain the required information. But it is important to have access to accurate data and information needs of individuals. Thus, for effective use of the Internet as an information source, a detailed assessment databases and search tools available at that particular inevitable. The purpose of this study was to compare the performance of databases, PubMed, ScienceDirect, Web of Science, Scopus and Google Scholar terms of precision, relevance, recall, success, importance and duration of recovery.

Methods: This research was a Cross-sectional study and applied. The data was collected by checklist. Searches were conducted by the researcher itself. Five topics of neuroscience were presented by neuroscience professionals and were searched in default field of each database. The first 20 results retrieved were evaluated. Excel and SPSS software was used for data analyzing.

Results: According to the results, a comparison of the mean databases showed that Google Scholar demonstrated excellence in five of the six variables considered. This means that Google Scholar's performance in terms of relevance, recall, success, importance and duration of the recovery has been better than other databases, but in terms of precision, performance Scopus in "default" field was better than the others. The results of analysis also showed that the databases

considered, in terms of recall, relevance, importance and recovery time, but there was no significant difference in terms of precision and success.

Conclusions: The results showed that in the field of neuroscience, performance of considered databases, in most cases, significantly varied. Also, according to the results, Google Scholar databases were better than the others. Thus, the results suggest that because of differences in databases, researchers should recognize these differences and then choosing the appropriate database. This, precise and targeted users to search and user goals is to facilitate and accelerate.

Keywords: Databases, PubMed, ScienceDirect, Web of Science, Scopus, Google Scholar, Neuroscience.