



John A. Graziano Memorial Library

FINDING PEER REVIEWED JOURNALS

SAMUEL MERRITT COLLEGE

2008

Peer reviewed journals are also referred to as “scholarly” or “refereed journals”. Refereed means that the reviewers are not members of the editorial staff or board. Blind review means that the author is not known to the reviewers. Double blind review means that neither the author nor the reviewers are known to each other. These journals contain articles written by researchers and practitioners in their chosen fields. A group of professionals from the field, (the author’s peers), review the articles submitted for publication to ensure that the information and research are valid. Articles not approved by a majority of these peers are not accepted for publication by the journal.

Methods for finding peer reviewed journals include:

A. Look at an issue of a journal

Check the page with editors’ names and subscription information or the page with instructions to authors (either at the beginning or end) for any mention of “peer reviewed” or “refereed”.

B. Medical and Health Care Books and Serials in Print: an Index to Literature in the Health Sciences, Bowker, 2000, 2 vols. Z 6658 B65 2000 REF

Check in vol. 2 (Serials – Subject Index) under the heading “Medical Sciences”.
A journal entry will include “Refereed Serial” if it is peer reviewed.

C. The Serials Directory: an International Reference Book, EBSCO, 1997, 5 vols. Z 6941 S46 1997 REF

A journal entry includes “Pr Rev” if the journal is peer reviewed.
Vol. 5 has a Peer Reviewed Index beginning on page 9749.

D. [CINAHL website: List of peer reviewed journals: www.cinahl.com/library/library.htm](http://www.cinahl.com/library/library.htm)

Click on Journal Directory; click on Peer-Reviewed

E. Instructions to Authors in the Health Sciences: <http://mulford.meduohio.edu/instr>

F. Limiting a search in an electronic database to articles from peer reviewed journals:

ProQuest: check the box “Limit search to peer reviewed articles”

CINAHL Plus (EBSCO): click the “Refine Search” tab, click the box next to “Peer Reviewed”

Cochrane Library (Wiley): essentially all systematic reviews & protocols are peer reviewed

PsycInfo (WebSPIRS): under Limits click the “More” button, choose “Document Type”
from the left-hand list, highlight “peer reviewed journal” from the resulting list.

Health and Wellness Resource Center: Check the box labeled Limit the current search “to refereed publications”.

Medline & PubMed: *most* journals indexed are peer reviewed – double check by looking in one of the above references.

Note: Even though a particular journal is peer reviewed, an individual article in that journal may not be (i.e. editorials, news items, letters to the editor, etc.).