

## Centre for Policy on Ageing

# Searching Ageinfo

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## The RCN interface to Ageinfo on the internet

[www.rcn.org.uk/library](http://www.rcn.org.uk/library)



## Simple text searching

- The whole of the Ageinfo database is about older people. It is therefore rarely necessary to include “older people” or elderly in a search strategy
- Unlike Google – Ageinfo searches for an exact phrase match by default.
- keep phrases simple

## Simple text searching

- Use Boolean operators (logical links) – AND OR NOT WITH to construct more complex searches
- use brackets to avoid ambiguity
- fish and chips or peas (possibly ambiguous)
- fish and (chips or peas)
- (fish and chips) or peas

## Simple text searching

- How do you search for operators (and etc) in the text?
- *coping with stress* finds *coping* and *stress* in the same part of the record
- coping "with" stress finds the exact phrase *coping with stress*

## Simple text searching

- *Wild cards*
  - ? = any character
  - \* = any group of characters (anywhere in a word)
  - eg *wom?n*
- *False drops*
  - eg *Reading, AIDS – unavoidable*
- *Proximity searching .n.*
  - eg *health.2.safety*

## Keyword searching

- *Keywords allocated by CPA information professionals*
- *Greater precision*
- *Start with text search and note keywords used in relevant records*
- *Use thesaurus / keyword index*
- *keyword@ = exploded search (keyword and all narrower terms)*

## Author searching

- *Authors names are indexed in full, surname first. The surname may be followed by one or more forenames and/or initials. eg Midwinter E, Midwinter Eric*
- *Truncate (Midwinter\*) or use the author index (more reliable and preferred)*

## Date searching

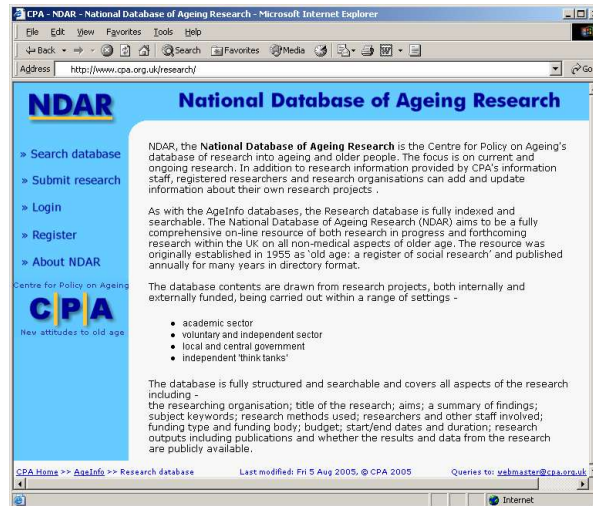
- Year of publication
- Range operator ~ (Tilde) or upto
- eg *2000 ~ 2006* same as *2000 upto 2006*

## other information resources at CPA

- **NDAR, the National Database of Ageing Research**
  - provides information on current and recently completed research projects, often before they reach the stage of publishing their results.

# The National Database of Ageing Research

[www.cpa.org.uk/research](http://www.cpa.org.uk/research)

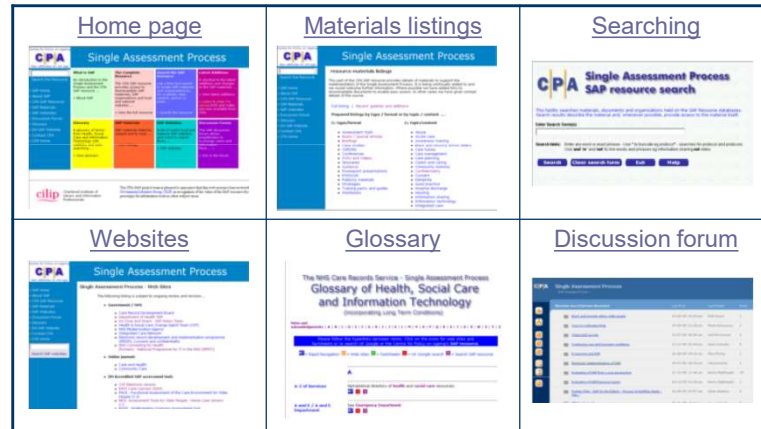


## other information resources at CPA

### • SAP (Single Assessment Process) resource

- an example of a 'practice based' resource which allows practitioners to exchange materials and ideas, directly feeding into the improvement of practice and also informing researchers of lessons learned in practice.

## The CPA SAP resource... [www.cpa.org.uk/sap](http://www.cpa.org.uk/sap)



## Happy Searching.

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