

**PubMed and Google Scholar will yield different results,
but can complement each other.**

*Medline is a [subset](#) of Pubmed. It is the principal database of the PubMed system.

	PubMed / Medline*	Google Scholar
Key attributes	Focus on clinical and biomedical journal literature. Provided by the National Library of Medicine (part of NIH).	Search engine of the whole internet and all disciplines; Narrows results to 'scholarly' content based on Google machine automated criteria.
Content	Journal abstracts and citations, links to some full-text journal articles.	Anything online identified as "scholarly" based on automated criteria. May include conference proceedings, books, reports, and grey literature not found in PubMed.
Criteria & method of inclusion	Journals in the Medline portion of Pubmed are selected by humans based on defined scholarly and quality criteria. Journal selection is determined by NIH appointed committee. The Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC) meets 3 times a year to review journal applications. To see if a journal is Medline indexed, use the NLM catalog , and look for "Currently indexed for MEDLINE" in the catalog record for the journal.	Machine algorithm based on information submitted by publishers or individuals . May include predatory or poor-quality journals.
Evidence Filters	Can limit results by article type and other filters. Clinical Queries allows filtering by clinical study categories (Therapy, Diagnosis, Etiology, Prognosis, Clinical Prediction Guides), and systematic reviews.	No built-in filters. Can add search terms as filters. (See useful suggestions here from Levy Library at Mount Sinai).
Search retrieval	Searches are reproducible and reportable.	Accuracy and reproducibility vary; Not reportable.
Content metadata	Structured data fields (standardized): title, author, date, journal name, content (subject headings), article type (e.g., review, clinical trial, meta-analysis, etc). Provides consistent retrieval.	Not standardized and no tagging for content type. Often includes author, date, journal name, and other pieces of a citation.
Citation tracking	Yes (limited)	Yes
Full-text Search	No. Search limited to citation and abstract text, plus 40+ database fields.	Yes