PubMed Linking - Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is PubMed?

PubMed, a service of the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) that includes millions of citations from MEDLINE and other life science journals for biomedical articles. PubMed includes links to full text articles and other related resources. PubMed does not include copies of journal articles. However, you may be able to obtain an article in a number of ways:

- Many articles are available for free via PubMed Central.
- If you are a physician, researcher, or health professional, your medical library may have access to the article.
- If you are a member of the general public or not affiliated with a medical library or institution, your local library may have access to the article.
- The journal publisher may provide free or fee-paid access to the article.

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Q. How does EBSCO's partnership with PubMed work?

PubMed and EBSCO can work together on behalf of customers who want PubMed LinkOuts to EBSCO database and Electronic Journal Service (EJS) full text articles automatically managed. When using this service, all applicable PubMed citation content is automatically presented to end users as PubMed LinkOuts to the full text of the article. All new content, as well as changes to existing content and rules (for example embargos, data range changes, and additions/deletions), from EBSCO linkable titles are updated automatically by EBSCO to PubMed on a bi-weekly basis.

This relationship between EBSCO and PubMed eliminates the need for EBSCO customers to maintain subscribed content in the PubMed Submission Utility. Note that if EBSCO is maintaining linkable titles for your institution, these settings are not displayed in your PubMed Submission utility. Additionally, while EBSCO is managing your PubMed LinkOuts, no EBSCO titles should be selected in your PubMed Submission Utility.

If preferred, you can choose to maintain EBSCO linkable titles using the PubMed Submission Utility. (This is the default functionality.)

To have EBSCO manage database PubMed LinkOuts, contact EBSCO Customer Support:
For more information on PubMed LinkOut, see the following FAQs:

- What is PubMed LinkOut and how do I set it up?
- Which databases support PubMed LinkOut?

Q. How do I enable PubMed linking from DynaMed?

DynaMed administrators can link out to their customized PubMed accounts from DynaMed references by adding their PubMed institution name in EBSCOadmin.

To customize DynaMed link out to PubMed in EBSCOadmin:

2. From the Choose Profile drop-down menu, select the DynaMed profile.
3. Click on the Linking sub-tab.
4. In the PubMed Linkout Setup field, click Modify.
5. Enter your PubMed Institution Name in the field provided.  
   Note: Please include "holding=" with your name abbreviation. Example: "holding=ebscopublib".
6. Click Submit.

Q. If EBSCO manages my PubMed linking, what happens with the EBSCO links I've created in my PubMed Submission Utility?

EBSCO's PubMed LinkOut is designed to completely manage the linking process. Ideally, when EBSCO begins managing a customer’s PubMed LinkOut, all EBSCO links previously created by the customer in his PubMed Submission Utility should be removed.

Once EBSCO assumes the management of your PubMed linking, customer-created links are not updated, (and could over time, result in broken links). We provide bi-weekly updates of links to your full text content; changes to the content in the database will be updated within 7-10 business days in your PubMed.

Therefore, we recommend that customer-created EBSCO links in the PubMed Submission Utility be removed prior to EBSCO managing the PubMed LinkOut process.
Q. Why is my PubMed Linkout icon not appearing?

This can happen when the URL to your icon returns an error message. Please check the Full-Text Icon/Icon URL information in your Linkout Submission Utility account and edit if necessary.