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Search Syntax

**Background:** When you specify a search, you need to find the right balance between precision and recall. If you specify a "precise" (very specific and restricted) search, you will get fewer matching articles, and so if your search criteria is right, you have the article(s) you want and fewer articles that aren't of interest. On the other hand, if your search isn't exactly right, you may not find the article(s) or concepts you are looking for. A broader search increases recall, which means the results are more inclusive. You will have more to look through, but the result you are looking for may be more likely to be there. Different query or search strategies yield different "ratios" of precision and recall.

**Rules for Searching**

- Enter the keyword input box ("Search for Words or Phrases") the word(s) or phrase(s) that you wish to retrieve.
- Use specific words instead of general ones. For example, a search for positive transference will return fewer and more targeted results than a search for transference.
- A boolean search request consists of a group of **words** or **phrases** linked by operators such as **and** and **or** that indicate the relationship between them.

**Examples:**

- `transference and countertransference` Both words must be present
- `transference or countertransference` Either word can be present
- `transference and not countertransference` Only transference must be present
- `transference w/5 countertransference` Transference must occur within 5 words of countertransference
- `transference not w/5 countertransference` Transference must not occur within 5 words of countertransference

**Note:** If you use more than one operator, you should use parentheses to indicate precisely what you want to search for (see precedence rules below).

Use the **AND** operator in a search request to connect two expressions, both of which must be found in any document retrieved. For example, to search for documents containing the word countertransference and the word transference, type countertransference and transference in the keyword input box. A more complicated search: (transference or countertransference) and (enactment w/5 process) would retrieve any document that (1) contained either transference **OR** countertransference, **AND** (2) contained enactment within 5 words of process.

Use the **OR** operator in a search request to connect two expressions, at least one of which must be found in any document retrieved. To search for documents containing either the word "countertransference" or the word "transference," type countertransference or transference in the keyword input box.

Use **NOT** to narrow your search by excluding a term you may not want. If you type positive transference in the top keyword input box and negative transference in the second dialog box,
your search will return only those documents that include the words "positive transference" and exclude the words "negative transference."

Use quotation marks around a phrase to search for an exact match of those words in sequence. For example, to find the phrase "positive transference" type "positive transference" in the keyword input box, including the quotation marks. Without the quotation marks, your search will return documents containing the word "positive" and the word "transference," even if the words are not used together.

Use wildcard * (asterisk) for multiple endings. By typing an * (asterisk symbol) at the end of a word, you can search for items with multiple endings. For example, typing interp* in the keyword input box will return documents that include the words "interpret" "interpreter," "interpreting," "interprets," and "interpreted."

Use a question mark (?) as a wildcard for a single character. By typing a question mark symbol (?) anywhere within a term, any character (numeric or letter) will match in that position.

**Dictionary Based Operators**

You can also take advantage of several dictionary type operators to improve recall in your searches. This includes "stemming" (all forms of a word, including irregular forms) and thesaurus (synonym) based lookups.

To use stemming, take one form of the word and add a ~ (tilde) at the end. For example, a search for applied~ would also find applying, applies, and apply.

**Thesaurus**

To further enhance search recall, PEP has incorporated an industry specific thesaurus into the site. Use the thesaurus suffix ampersand (&) to expand the effect of the search term to include conceptual synonyms. If you wrote the word paranoia&, you find articles containing words matching paranoia or synonyms of paranoia such as anxiety, suspicion, fear, mistrust, apprehension.

**Note:** The PEP Thesaurus function had not yet implemented on PEP Web as of 2006-05-11, but should be available soon.

**Proximity Searches**

Proximity Searches allow you to search for terms which fall within a specific number of words from each other.

- PEP Web is defaulted to search terms, words or phrases at the paragraph level, although you can also specify article level.
- When creating a word proximity search, you must specify a range for the search.
- If you wanted to search for the terms countertransference, transference, and "acting out" within 10 words, you would write: countertransference transference "acting out" w/10.
- Wild cards can be used in phrase and proximity searches.

**Search by Fields**

PEP Web is set up with multiple fields such as Author, Year, Article, Para, Reference, etc. Additionally, the "Or, And or Not" logical operators are also displayed on the search screen to further help limit your searches. The default search will look for your word or phrase within the full
text and fields of the documents. If you would like to search for a specific field, you may enter those values in that field's search boxes.

- to search only within the References at the end of each article, select the radio button "references" and enter your search words or phrases. "references" would be selected. (Note: Normally, references are excluded from searches, so this method is the only way to search references).
- to search only within for dreams in articles, select the radio button "dreams" and enter your search words or phrases.

**Note:** For simple word combination searches (and/or) using the Article radio button is less useful than using Para, unless you wanted to find an article talking about two concepts as they wouldn't necessarily be in the same paragraph or even near each other. When you try to exclude a concept from a search, using "Not", the article radio button is more specific, since it would exclude that concept from the entire article.

**Important Note:** Para search is actually "approximated" by requiring that the search terms are within 25 words of each other. They may, however, actually be in different paragraphs.

**Search Year**

Year field may be a specific year, or a range.

The default search does not set limits according to year. You can narrow a search by year or year range by selecting from the drop down menu. Choose "Anytime," "Since," "Before," or "Between" and indicate a month, day, or year.

List of search operators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>How to Use</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Finds one term and a second term</td>
<td>Separate the words with a space, or separate with &quot;and&quot;</td>
<td>Chronic hypochondria Polymer blue; polymer and blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>Finds terms in an exact sequence</td>
<td>Use quotation marks around the sequence</td>
<td>&quot;chronic hypochondria&quot; &quot;polymer and blue&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Finds one term or another term</td>
<td>Separate terms with &quot;or&quot;</td>
<td>House or Senate hypochondria or feigning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOT</td>
<td>Finds one term but not another</td>
<td>Separate terms with &quot;not&quot;</td>
<td>House not Senate Hypochondria not chronic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* (asterisk)</td>
<td>Finds any terms starting with a specific sequence of letters</td>
<td>Type the letters, followed by an asterisk symbol (*)</td>
<td>Work psychoanal* matches psychoanalysis, psychoanalytic, psychoanalyst, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>Finds variations of a term</td>
<td>Replace letters with the ? symbol</td>
<td>wom?n returns woman, women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w/</td>
<td>Finds terms that are within a certain number of words of each other</td>
<td>Separate words with a &quot;w&quot; and a slash mark (/) and the number of words</td>
<td>smoke w/5 transference w/5 aggressive tobacco</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
which can occur between the search terms

finds "smoke transference " and "tobacco aggressive " within 5 words of each other (in either order)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&amp; (ampersand)</td>
<td>Finds variations of a term using an industry thesaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ (tilde)</td>
<td>Stemming (word forms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%%</td>
<td>Fuzzy (imprecise) matching</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Place the & at the end of the word.

trauma& Finds all documents matching trauma and all synonyms as derived from an industry dictionary (Klumpner)

Place the ~ at the end of one of the word forms

apply~ returns matches for apply, applies, applied

Place % in the middle of the word, starting where you want the imprecision. The number of % signs you include determines the number of characters which can differ from the specified word and still constitute a match.

psycho%%%analysis matches psychoanalysis, psychoanalytic, psychoanalytical, ...

Place ~~ between two numbers representing the outside of the range

10~~20 returns matches for any number between 10 and 20, inclusive.

Use of the * wildcard character near the beginning of a word will slow searches somewhat.

**Note:** With PEP Web, when the radio buttons "And", "Or", or "Not" are selected, two Search by Word or Phrase dialog boxes display, which allows the search to be further refined according by selecting any of the fields (Article, Para, Dreams, etc.) displayed in the PEP Web Search Criteria screen.
Using the Search Tab

Click on the Search tab on the left-hand side to access the search template (if you were searching the books previously you will need first of all to click on the tab “Home”)

Finding One Term

Click the Search Tab to access the search template which lets you do full-text searches, searches by article title, author, year, etc.

PEP Web offers superior search and hyperlink jump capacities that mean that the best way to use it is using the superior search facilities built into it. It can also be used to browse the material contained in it as if standing by a library stack and the Journal, Books, and Author tabs will be used. If you are looking for publications which are more specific and linked with a particular concept or phrase, the Search function of PEP Web is very useful. The Search Tab allows for searches by context and content. Before searching you must decide which search criteria you are going to complete. You can complete as few or many criteria as you wish. However the more criteria you complete the more narrow and specific your search will be.

Note: pass your cursor over the blue, circular information symbols to give you a description of a particular function.

Before searching you must decide which search criteria you are going to complete. You can complete as few or many criteria as you wish. However the more criteria you complete the narrower your search will be.
Start by positioning your cursor in the field designated for searching a word or phrase - it is at the bottom of the search page.

Type in: countertransference and select the "article" radio button.

Your screen should now look like this.

Notice that with the radio button labelled "article" selected, the search engine will look within the full text of all the 30,000 plus articles in the database and select out those where the term "countertransference" appears most frequently. Click the Search Button at the bottom of the form and the results will display - 30 hits at a time.
You can view your search results as bibliographic or as a table, the above example is bibliographic. To view the results in table form, click the down arrow next to “View as” on the tool bar at the top right of the screen under the tabs.

You can also sort the findings in different ways. Click on the “Sort by” arrow at the top right of the screen to view your options.

By clicking on the green and blue toggles beside the articles you can read their abstracts, your screen will look like this:

Click again on the toggle to clear the abstract, alternatively if you have opened several abstracts click on clear abstracts on the tool bar below the tabs.

You may now click on the article by Harold Blum and you will be taken to it:
Notice how the search term "countertransference" is highlighted.

The row of links on the tool bar underneath the tabs, including: print, prev doc, prev hit, next hit, next doc are useful while reading the articles.

In this case "Hit" refers to the word "countertransference" (as that was the word being searched). "Next Hit" will take you to next occurrence of the word countertransference while "Prev Hit" will you to take you to the previous occurrence. "Doc" refers to the next document in the list of search results, so clicking on "Next Doc" will take you to the next publication in your search results while "Prev Doc" will you take you to the one before. As seen earlier they will be sorted in a way that you will have selected.

If you want to return to the search results click on the tab "Contents" and from there if you want to return to the Blum article click on the tab "Documents".

**Refining Your Search**

You may well feel your searches like that above results in rather a lot of articles to look at!

To get more precise results you can refine your search by defining your interest more specifically.

Let us suppose we are interested not just in the term "countertransference" but in the specific question of the way countertransference can lead the analyst to enact with the patient.

Click the Home Tab to access the Search Tab and type in the word "countertransference" and then the word "enactment". This time click the radio button Paragraph - this will find articles where these two terms are close together (in fact within 25 words of each other). Your screen will look like this:
Now click the Search Button to get a list of results.

You can see from the top of the screen that there are in fact 578 articles where these terms are found near together. Once again you can look through them article by article or hit by hit (match by match).

Let us now try being still more specific and look at situations where authors talk about how they interpret enactment in the countertransference. Again click the search Tab and Type in the word "countertransference" and then the word "enactment" and then "interp*". The * is used as wild card (we will explore this function a little later) so that it will find instances of any word starting
with interp, e.g., interpret, interpretation, interpreting.

Click the Search Button to display your results. Your screen will look like this:

As you can see, by being more specific you retrieve fewer results, narrowing down your search results.

**Printing your Search**

You can print or export your results to a word processor or send them to a colleague.

To print a publication or the bibliography click Print at the top right of the screen on the tool bar underneath the tabs. This will take you to your usual printing screen. For export click export. You may also sort your results in different ways.

**Bookmarking or Saving Your Search**

To save your search results click Export which is on the top right-hand side of the screen on the toolbar underneath the tabs. This will create a word document of your search result that can then be saved to your word processing document on your hard drive. By saving them in word you then have a hard copy and can also e-mail them to a colleague.

If you use Internet Explorer you can save your publications in your Favourites:
From the Main Tool bar Select Favorites à add Favorite
Assign a name (and if you wish a folder name)
Click OK.

You will find the page in your Favorites under the appropriate name - by clicking on it (whenever online) you will be able to retrieve it.