



## Finding Research Instruments and Questionnaires in CINAHL

CINAHL Complete is available to Duke users at [mclibrary.duke.edu](http://mclibrary.duke.edu).

1. Check the box beside **Suggest Subject Terms**.
2. Type **research instruments** into the search box and click **Search**.

Searching: CINAHL Complete | Choose Databases

Suggest Subject Terms

research instruments | Select a Field (optional) | Search | Clear

AND | Select a Field (optional)

AND | Select a Field (optional) | + | -

Basic Search | Advanced Search | Search History

3. Click on the linked heading, **Research Instruments**, to go to the **Tree View** for this term. A Tree View is a hierarchical display of broader and narrower terms related to a heading.

Results For: RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

Check box to view subheadings. | Click linked term for tree view.

[Research Instruments](#)

4. From the Tree View, click on the topic of interest to you. Under **+Research Instruments**, there are narrower headings, such as **+Instrument by Name** or **+Instrument by Type**. A “+” in front of a CINAHL Heading indicates there are additional, narrower headings.

5. Check the box next to the desired heading. **Note:** If there are narrower terms under the heading you have chosen, and you want to include those in your search, make sure the box in the **Explode (+)** column is checked.

<input type="checkbox"/> Check box to view subheadings.	Click linked term for tree view.	Explode (+)	Major Concept	Scope
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Research Instruments</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Instrument by Name</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Instrument by Type</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Instrument Construction</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Instrument Scaling</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Instrument Validation</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Click the **Search Database** button on the upper right side of the page.

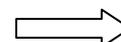
### Not sure which CINAHL Heading to use?

To find articles *about* instruments, try one of these headings:

- **Instrument By Name** or **Instrument By Type**

To find articles about *how to develop* or *validate instruments*, try one of these headings:

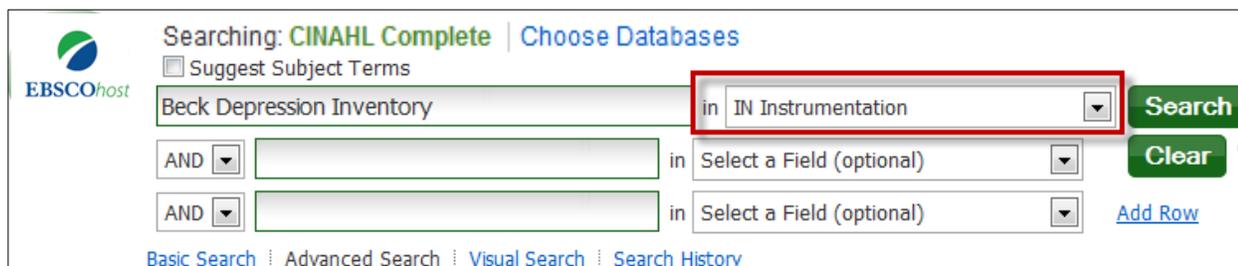
- **Instrument Construction**, **Instrument Scaling** or **Instrument Validation**



## Other searching options

For many articles, CINAHL includes an **Instrumentation (IN)** field, which gives the names of the instruments used in the studies.

To search for instruments, enter terms into one of the search boxes on the main search screen. Change the drop-down to **IN Instrumentation**. You can search for a specific instrument (e.g., Beck Depression Inventory) or instruments that contain a certain term (e.g., depression).

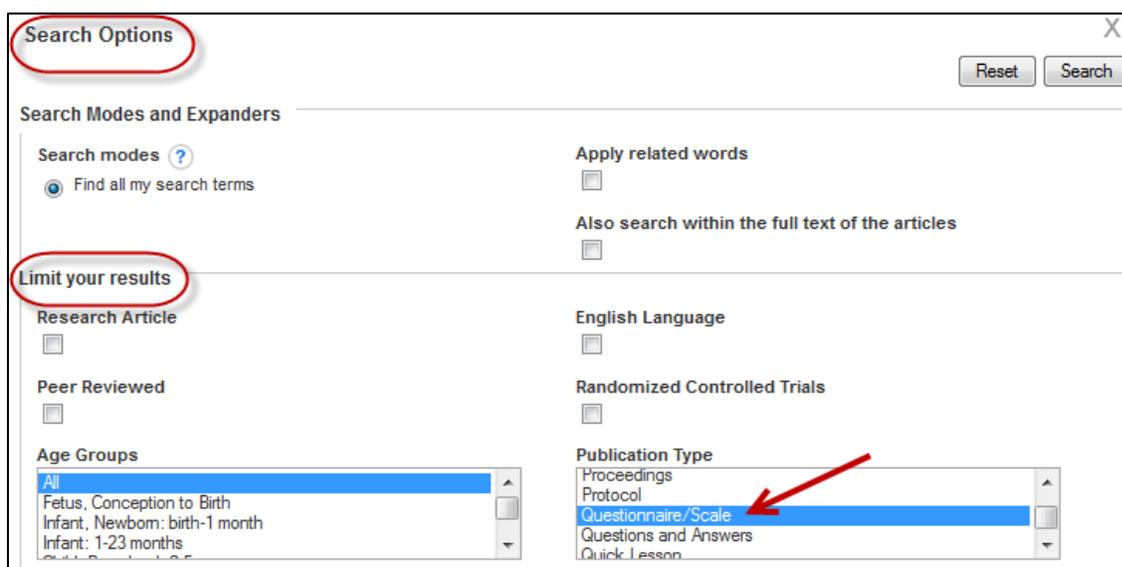
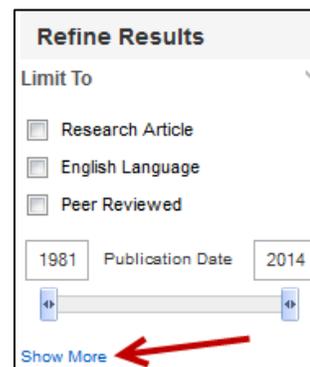


From the **Search Options** (or **Limits**) page in CINAHL, it is possible to limit by **Publication Type**. This represents the **type** of publication being indexed, **not** the topic covered.

To access **Search Options** (or **Limits**), click on **Show More**, which can be found in the blue bar to the left of your search results.

You may want to try limiting your search results to one of these **Publication Types**:

- **Questionnaire/Scale**: Indicates there is an *actual* questionnaire or scale in the referenced item.
- **Research**: Indicates the referenced item is a research study.
- **Research Instrument**: Indicates the item is a summary description of a specific research instrument.



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