April 2012 Reload of PsycINFO Research Databases

The 2012 annual reload of PsycINFO®, PsycARTICLES®, PsycBOOKS®, and PsycCRITIQUES® was released to vendors on April 23rd.

Database reloads have long been an integral part of the American Psychological Association’s efforts to provide researchers and users in the behavioral sciences and related disciplines with new tools to retrieve content and discover innovative research trends. Reloads allow us to reformat our records to deliver new features, enhancements, or other upgrades—essentially a new version of the database.

Interested in locating more detailed information about grants and research funding?

A major project in this year’s reload was the fielding of grant and sponsorship data. PsycINFO staff began collecting these data in a single field, Grant/Sponsorship, in 2005. The new fielding makes it easier to find information about what organizations are providing funding and other support for specific areas of research.

The new fields allow display, search, and limits for individual sponsoring agencies, including the country in which they are located (if provided), grant numbers, grant recipients, and principal investigators. Additional fields are grant date, funding amount, and recipient country. We’ve retained an “Other Details” field that will include information about the grant, such as whether it was a Young Investigator Award or a cooperative agreement among several agencies.

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Are you familiar with the Tests & Measures field in PsycINFO® records? We are providing a new way to link between PsycINFO and the new PsycTESTS® database using a test record Digital Object Identifier (DOI)!

Our new PsycTESTS database was released on PsycNET in September 2011 and on OvidSP in October 2011, and it will soon be released on EBSCOhost. PsycTESTS is a research database that provides access to psychological tests, measures, scales, surveys, and other assessments as well as descriptive information about the test and its development and administration.

Now, when you are searching PsycINFO, you can link to the PsycTESTS record overview by clicking on the Test DOI link. Users who do not have an institutional or other subscription to the PsycTESTS database will be directed to the test record overview.

You’ve been asking for it, and now it is available in the PsycINFO record: the PubMed Identifier.

Over 850,000 records have been matched with their PubMed unique identifiers—PMID—to help researchers use the PMID to navigate between searching in APA databases and finding resources in PubMed. You can use the PMID, if you know what it is, to search for the record in PsycINFO; if you are in PsycINFO and want to look at the PubMed record, use the PMID as a universal record locator. New PubMed identifiers will be added to the database on a weekly basis.

What other features have been enhanced?

- A Document Type, *Poetry*, will be used for source documents that are actually poems. Document Types identify what a document is as opposed to what it is about. This will help users distinguish between actual poems and analysis of poetry.
- We added the Methodology value, *Scientific Simulation*, for the use of research techniques that reproduce events and/or processes for the purpose of testing or experimentation in any discipline, including but not limited to neuroscience, marketing, perception, health sciences research, and organizational psychology.
- Special Section titles have been added to PsycARTICLES journals that, unlike a Special Issue, contain sub-sections with one or more articles focused on a specific theme or issue.
- A global search of the CrossRef database added new DOIs that have been deposited since the last reload in 2010. Accuracy of DOIs is critical for seamless access to full-text articles.

Timing of the Reload

The reloads of PsycINFO research databases were released to vendors, including APA PsycNET, APA’s own delivery platform, on April 23. We anticipate vendors will process the reload and update their platforms as soon as possible. Vendors implement the reloads on different schedules, so check with your vendor or visit our Vendor Reload Status Update page.

And, as always, ongoing database clean-up projects!

Each time we reload the databases we tackle a few “clean-up” tasks. These can be in response to customer requests, changes in research practices, new technologies and features provided by publishers, and more. Many of these projects will be ongoing even after the reload is delivered.

- Special Issue titles have been standardized and cleaned up for already released PsycARTICLES content.
- For books and chapters from books that are part of a series, we standardized volume and issue information, as well as provided the Series ISSN, if available.
- We researched and added many missing ISBNs to book records, and are now also including the Set ISBNs, when available.
- We replaced the non-English value in the Language field with the original source document language.
- A global search of the CrossRef database added new DOIs that have been deposited since the last reload in 2010. Accuracy of DOIs is critical for seamless access to full-text articles.
2012 Update to the *Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms*®

This year’s PsycINFO reload brings several exciting changes to the *Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms*. More than 100 new terms were added: 73 postable terms and 52 non-postable (or terms that also map to the thesaurus term) terms.

Inspired by the new APA database PsycTHERAPY, we have added many new therapy-centric terms, including Adventure Therapy, Empty Chair Technique, Hydrotherapy, and Strategic Family Therapy. Also included in this update are terms to capture areas of research focused on current technology, such as Mobile Devices, Social Media, and Cyberbullying.

Perhaps the most significant change in this year’s Thesaurus update is the change of status of all Mental Retardation terminology. In order to reflect changes in attitudes, as well as in anticipation of new diagnostic standards and vocabulary, the Thesaurus moved 10 Mental Retardation terms to non-postable status and introduced the term Intellectual Development Disorder (as well as the parenthetical “attitudes toward”). All historical records now reflect this change, and all records will keep the term Mental Retardation (or appropriate subcategory) in the keywords field so they may still be retrieved easily. We anticipate that as the diagnostic language changes, more and more researchers will begin to use Intellectual Development Disorder in their writing.

Would you like to review all the new terms? Visit our [webpage](http://www.apa.org/pubs/databases).

As always, we welcome any suggestions, questions or comments. Please contact us at [psycinfo@apa.org](mailto:psycinfo@apa.org).
In Search of:
Exploring Classification Codes

A physician is interested in learning more about how depression may affect the treatment outcomes of patients in rehabilitation from an accident or as a result of disease or illness. We will take advantage of Classification Codes for this search. Classification Codes are a system that categorizes the document according to its primary subject matter. They can be used to limit a search to a particular subcategory. The full list of Classification Codes can be found here: [http://www.apa.org/pubs/databases/training/class-codes.aspx](http://www.apa.org/pubs/databases/training/class-codes.aspx)

Starting with this issue of PsycINFO News, “In Search of” will become a multimedia feature, which will explore how to build the searches on the major vendor platforms. To watch a brief tutorial demonstrating this issue’s search scenario, please visit [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) or the [APA webpage](https://www.apa.org).

To try the search yourself, set it up using the following terms:

Combine Index Terms Major Depression AND Treatment Outcomes

Select Classification Code “Rehabilitation” (3380)

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What’s New in PsycEXTRA®?

This is now a regular feature highlighting content owners in the PsycEXTRA® database. In this issue, we’ll take a look at the contributions made by the RAND Corporation.

By their own definition, “the RAND Corporation is a nonprofit institution that helps improve policy and decision making through research and analysis.” It’s a fascinating organization. The name is a contraction of Research and Development, and it began as an outgrowth of a research project for the U.S. Army Air Forces back in 1946. By 1948 it had acquired additional support from the Ford Foundation and became an independent, nonprofit research institution with the mission of exploring the issues facing our society. Today, it is funded as a federal research and development center and by private foundations to conduct scientific research, analysis, and development. With research units devoted to Health, Education, and Labor and Population, RAND research is a wonderful resource for PsycEXTRA.

Let’s look at some of the RAND content in the PsycEXTRA database:

First thing to notice: There's a lot of it! We have more than 800 results that range from 1976 to the present. The second thing that a reader might notice is there are a variety of document sources available; they include a newsletter, press releases, report summaries, monographs, brochures, standards, testimony, and an astonishing number of reports. To give you just a taste of the spectrum of topics RAND has been involved with (did you know they invented windsurfing?), let’s look at just the top thesaurus terms that a search of their content shows.

- Costs and Cost Analysis (60)
- Military Personnel (57)
- Academic Achievement (56)
- Health Care Costs (56)
- Educational Reform (54)
- Policy Making (52)
- Government Policy Making (51)
- Drug Abuse (50)
- Health Care Services (50)
- Experimentation (43)
- Quality of Care (43)

Thank you, RAND Corporation!
Direct URLs for APA Databases

We are pleased to announce that direct URLs are now available for institutions accessing PsycTESTS® and PsycTHERAPY® on the APA PsycNET® platform. These URLs allow librarians to link to the APA databases individually, which makes life easier for researchers and students who need to search a particular resource.

Here are the links:

Search links
http://psycnet.apa.org/psycinfo/search
http://psycnet.apa.org/psycarticles/search
http://psycnet.apa.org/psycbooks/search
http://psycnet.apa.org/psyccritiques/search
http://psycnet.apa.org/psyctests/search
http://psycnet.apa.org/psyctherapy/search

Browse links
http://psycnet.apa.org/psycinfo/browse
http://psycnet.apa.org/psycarticles/browse
http://psycnet.apa.org/psycbooks/browse
http://psycnet.apa.org/psyccritiques/browse
http://psycnet.apa.org/psyctests/browse
http://psycnet.apa.org/psyctherapy/browse

In addition, the direct URLs will also soon be loaded into the APA PsycNET Admin Center. They will be available to the institution administrators from the main screen. Select “URLs for APA PsycNET Screens” from the Quick Links menu on the left.
From there you can copy the URLs and set up your links. Don’t forget to append your proxy prefix— if you have questions, try looking at our FAQs. Select “APA PsycNET Technical FAQs” from the Resources menu on the right, and pick “General APA PsycNET FAQs” from the FAQ Index. Your e-resources or systems librarian may also be able to assist you.

**FAQ Index**

Click on one of the databases below for answers to frequently asked questions.

- **General APA PsycNET FAQs**
- **PsycINFO FAQs**
- **PsycARTICLES FAQs**
- **PsycBOOKS FAQs**
- **PsycCRITIQUES FAQs**
- **PsycEXTRA FAQs**

**RESOURCES**

- Admin Center Help
- APA PsycNET Technical FAQs
- Terms and Conditions
- PsycARTICLES Journals History
- Librarian’s Resource Center

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**Get More: APA Concise Dictionary of Psychology**

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