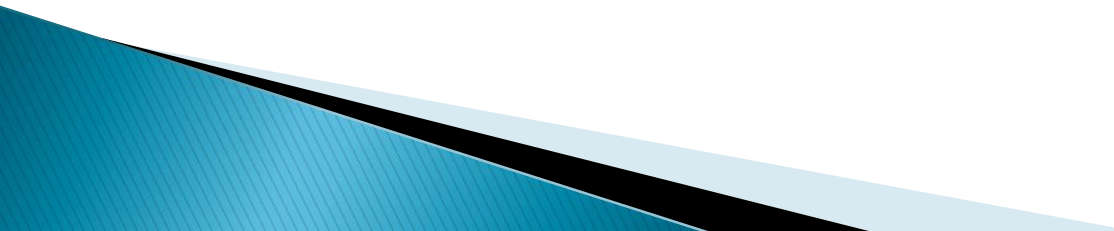




Tracking Down Evidence

@PEG_Exeter

Tracking Down Evidence

- ▶ College of Policing Library
 - ▶ Basic Search Techniques
 - ▶ Resources
 - ▶ From 'Problem to Evidence'
Walkthrough
- 

With Thanks to...



College of
Policing

Systematic Searching

Boolean, Search Strings and Tiers

Presented by: Patricia Hughes &
Emily Powell

Date: Oct 2013

1

Pen CLAHRC
The NIHR CLAHRC for the South West Peninsula

NHS
National Institute for
Health Research

Tracking Down the Evidence

UNIVERSITY OF
EXETER | MEDICAL
SCHOOL

Alison Bethel
Information Specialist

http://whatworks.college.police.uk/Partnerships/Documents/Base_Camp_1_Systematic_searching.pdf

Basic Search Techniques

Breaking Down the Question

- The search approach will be based around the research question.

What works in the **policing** of **public order**?

How can we **reduce recidivism** amongst **sexual offenders**?

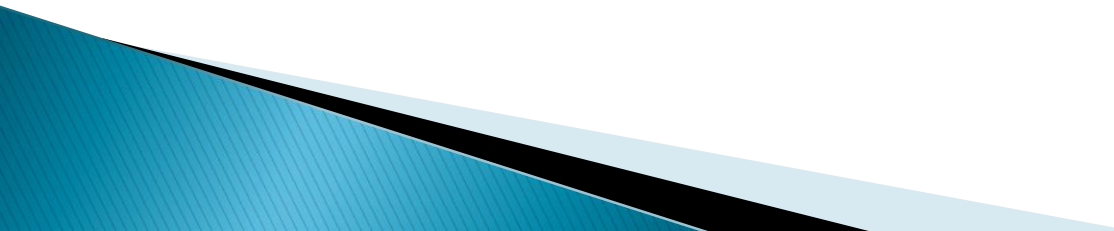
- It is therefore very important to be clear on what it is your trying to find out!

Basic Search Techniques

Explaining Tiers

- Tiers make up the various sections of the search and consist of synonym terms for the key element being looked at:

What works	policing	public order
	Policing Police Law enforcement	



Searching with PICO

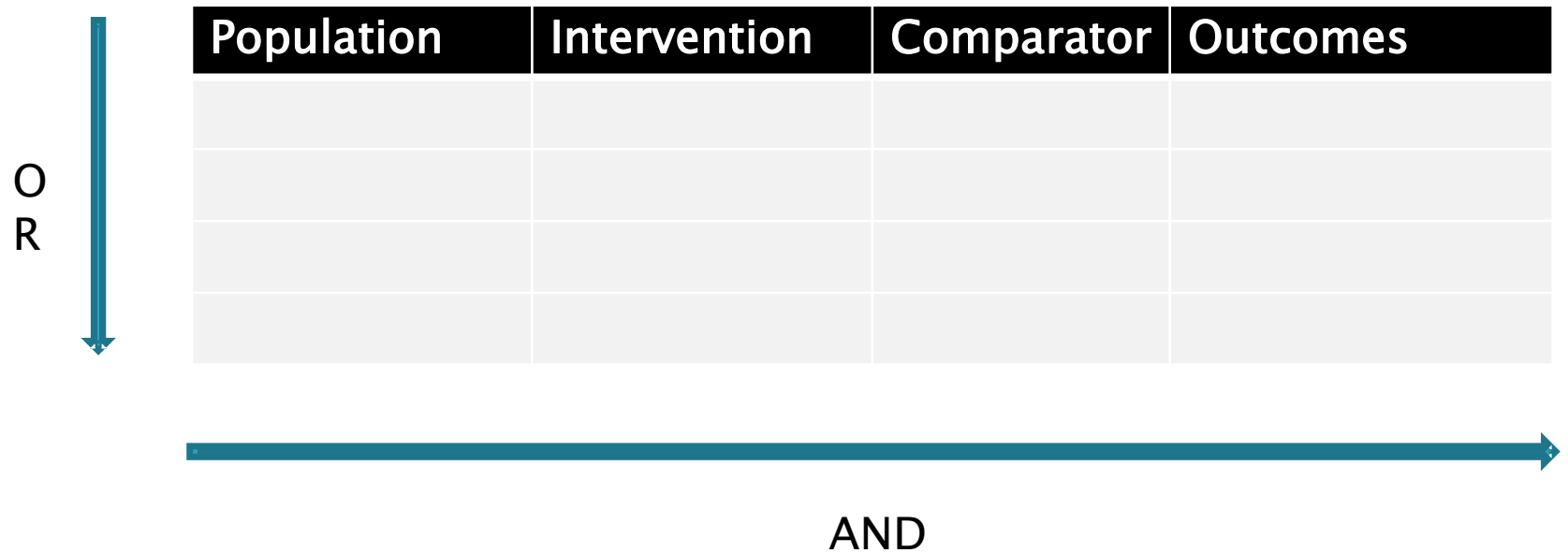
Population terms

Intervention terms

Comparator terms

Outcome terms

From Problem to Evidence



Search Engine Logic

AND CCTV AND attitudes

OR Tasers OR electroshock devices

NOT Alcohol NOT addiction

Can combine search phrases:

- ▶ Alcohol AND (CCTV OR surveillance)

Wildcards

- Wildcards are used to account for alternative spellings of a word
- A commonly used wildcard symbol is ?

EXAMPLE: *organisation* becomes *organi?ation*

- **retrieves** organisation and organization.

Double Quotes

- Double quotes are used to search for an exact phrase

EXAMPLE: *Police and Crime Commissioners*

Police and Crime Commissioners = 8159

"Police and Crime Commissioners" = 69

Truncation

- Truncation is used to stem words, allowing the search to capture variant word endings.
- The truncation symbol is often *

EXAMPLE: *politics* becomes *politic**

- **retrieves** politic, political, politics, politically, politician.

BAD EXAMPLE: *police* becomes *polic**

- **retrieves** police, policing, but also policy, policies.

Systematic Reviews

CHARACTERISTICS OF A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

- Has a clearly stated set of objectives with pre-defined eligibility criteria for studies;
- Has an explicit, reproducible methodology;
- Uses a systematic search that attempts to identify all studies that meet the eligibility criteria;
- Includes a formal assessment of the validity of the findings of the included studies;
- Produces a systematic presentation, and synthesis, of the characteristics and findings of the included studies.

Source: HM Treasury (2011) *The Magenta Book; Guidance for Evaluation*

Nesta...



**USING
RESEARCH
EVIDENCE**

A Practice
Guide



THE CAMPBELL COLLABORATION

What helps? What harms? Based on what evidence?

- C2 Home
- About our group
- Activities
 - Events
 - Meetings
- Contact us
- Crime and Justice reviews
- Crime and Justice updates
- Resources

View: 1-10 | [All \(Total: 39\)](#)

Sort by: Relevance, [Title](#), [Date](#)

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|
| 1. | Title: Interview and Interrogation Methods and Their Effects on Investigative Outcomes
Authors: Christian Meissner, Allison Redlich, Sujeeta Bhatt, Susan Brandon
Published: 01.09.2012
Group: Crime and Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. | Title: The Effects of Stress Management Interventions among Police Officers and Recruits
Authors: George Patterson, Irene Chung, Philip G Swan
Published: 18.04.2012
Group: Crime and Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. | Title: Police Strategies for Reducing Illegal Possession and Carrying of Firearms
Authors: Christopher Koper, Evan Mayo-Wilson
Published: 01.09.2012
Group: Crime and Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. | Title: Drug Courts' Effects on Criminal Offending for Juveniles and Adults
Authors: Ojmarrh Mitchell, David Wilson, Amy Eggers, Doris MacKenzie
Published: 02.02.2012
Group: Crime and Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. | Title: The Effects of "Pulling Levers" Focused Deterrence Strategies on Crime
Authors: Anthony Braga, David Weisburd
Published: 03.04.2012
Group: Crime and Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. | Title: Legitimacy in Policing: A Systematic Review
Authors: Lorraine Mazerolle, Sarah Bennett, Jacqueline Davis, Elise Sargeant, Matthew Manning
Published: 02.01.2013
Group: Crime and Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. | Title: Use of DNA Testing in Police Investigative Work for Increasing Offender Identification, Arrest, Conviction, and Case Clearance: A Systematic Review
Authors: David Wilson, David Weisburd, Dave McClure
Published: 12.08.2014 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- Topics A-Z
- Corrections & Reentry ▶
- Courts ▶
- Crime & Crime Prevention ▶
- Drugs & Substance Abuse ▶
- Juveniles ▶
- Law Enforcement ▶
- Technology & Forensics ▶
- Victims & Victimization ▶

Share Your Success

Let us know how CrimeSolutions.gov has helped your efforts – submit your success stories with us.

[Learn More](#) ▶



Recently Posted

Announcements

About CrimeSolutions.gov

[Abecedarian Project](#)

Program Summary: This was an intensive early education intervention aiming to combat the impact of poverty on children's development and educational aptitude. The program is rated Promising. Treatment group participants had greater reading scores; were more likely to be enrolled in college and have held skilled employment; were less likely to be a teenage parent; and had fewer depressive symptoms than the comparison group participants.

[Community-based Residential Programs \(Ohio\)](#)

Program Summary: The programs include halfway houses and community-based correctional facilities in Ohio. The goal of the community-based correctional programs is to reduce recidivism by offering a wide range of programming related to chemical dependency, education, employment, and family relationships. The program is rated Promising. Offenders in community-based residential programs were less likely to recidivate (measured by new arrests and re-incarcerations) than those not in the programs.

[Philadelphia Policing Tactics Experiment: Offender-Focused Policing](#)

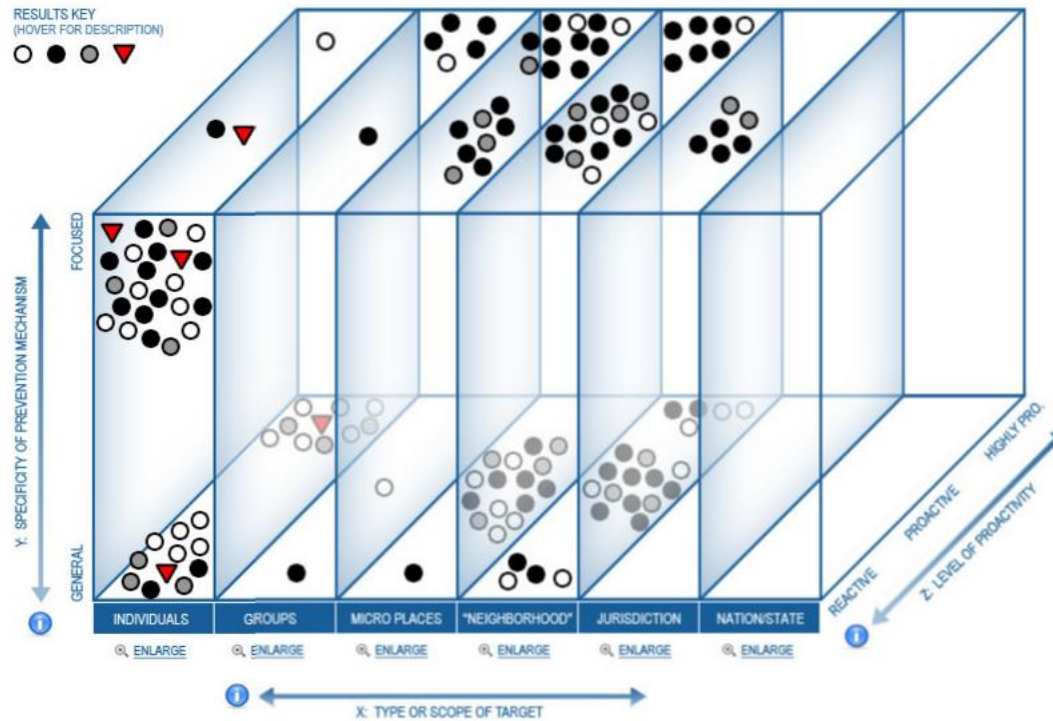


I would like to:

- ◆ [Learn how programs and practices are rated](#)
- ◆ [Understand how to use this information](#)
- ◆ [Search for a program or practice](#)
- ◆ [View a list of all programs and practices](#)
- ◆ [Find out who rates programs and practices](#)
- ◆ [Recommend a program or practice](#)

Programs at a Glance

Evidence-Based Policing Matrix





Home / What we do / Research / POLKA

What Works
Centre

National Police
Library

POLKA

POLKA

POLKA (the Police OnLine Knowledge Area) is a secure online collaboration tool for the policing community to network, ask questions, share insights, discuss ideas and suggest new ways of working.

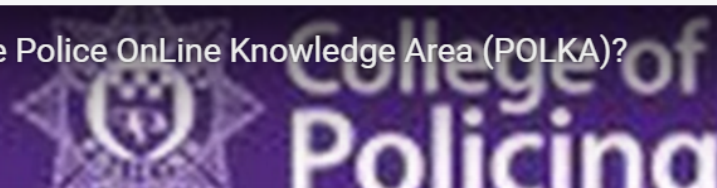
[Register or access](#) POLKA.

(You must have a PNN (Police National Network or GSi (Government Secure intranet) internet connection to access POLKA).

What is POLKA?

POLKA is a RESTRICTED online collaboration tool that enables knowledge and information sharing across the police service.

What is the Police OnLine Knowledge Area (POLKA)?



Resources



BetterEvidence
for BetterPolicing™

ABOUT US RESEARCH CRIME REDUCTION TOOLKIT PARTNERSHIPS SUPPORT



**CRIME REDUCTION
TOOLKIT**

Easy access to the evidence available on crime reduction interventions.

Highlights

Policing and Crime Reduction Research Map

The Research Map plots details of policing or crime reduction-related research. It is intended to increase opportunities for collaboration and to enable stakeholders to engage directly with researchers working on topics of interest to them.

National Police Library

Our unique collection provides you with access to eResources, book loans, and an enquiry and document delivery service.

What Works Briefings

Developed by researchers from the College of Policing these briefings summarise the best available research evidence on a range of topics.

College of Policing Published Research

A range of publications putting evidence in the hands of police practitioners, and making it available to academics and the

Updates



Tue 08 Dec 2015

Frontline staff use Crime Reduction Toolkit to get ready for Christmas

Tue 24 Nov 2015

New Randomised Controlled Trial published on Body Worn Video

Wed 02 Sep 2015

Research Map goes from strength to strength highlighting new policing and crime-reduction related research projects

Wed 29 Jul 2015

Police Knowledge Fund - Successful bids announced

Featured Article



College of Policing publishes research papers on leadership and integrity

New intervention added to the Toolkit!

Home / Research / Policing and Crime Reduction Research Map

Add your research

Help us to develop the Research Map

Completed Research

Police Region

UK

Institution

All

Level of Research

All

Randomised control trials

Only randomised control trials

All

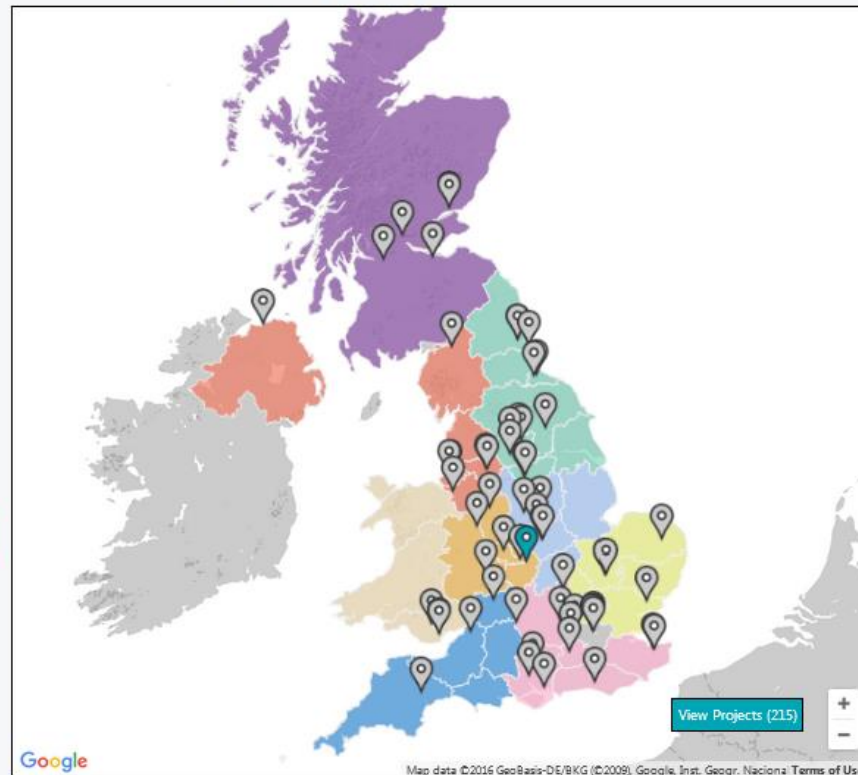
Research Topic

All

Reset

Policing and Crime Reduction Research Map

The Research Map plots details of relevant ongoing policing related research at Masters level and above. It is intended to increase opportunities for collaboration, and to enable forces to engage directly with researchers working on topics of interest to them. Summaries of relevant randomised control trials (ongoing and completed) are also available on the map.



Home / Support / Research Surgeries

Evidence base
camp

Research
Surgeries

Research Surgeries

As part of the College of Policing's role in building the evidence base in policing and crime reduction, we work closely with forces to support and encourage research projects and the evaluation of new initiatives. Research Surgeries take place at College sites around the country and give officers and staff access to hands on advice and support from specialist College staff.

Research Surgeries

Are you planning to undertake a research project in your force? Do you want to ensure your project will provide meaningful results? Would you like advice on survey development, running focus groups, or interviews? Do you want to evaluate the effect of a new programme or intervention? Could you make use of guidance and support from College research experts?

Research Surgeries take place at College sites around the country and give officers and staff access to hands on advice and support from specialist College staff. Surgeries are an important part of the College's work to help increase knowledge of research methods and build analytical capacity across policing.

What is a Research Surgery?

Research Surgeries are an opportunity to get bespoke advice and guidance on any research issue facing you or your force. Surgeries can be used for a variety of reasons. You could be developing a force survey, planning focus groups with staff, or introducing a new technology, tactic, or business process. Whatever your focus, the College can provide advice and guidance to help support your project.

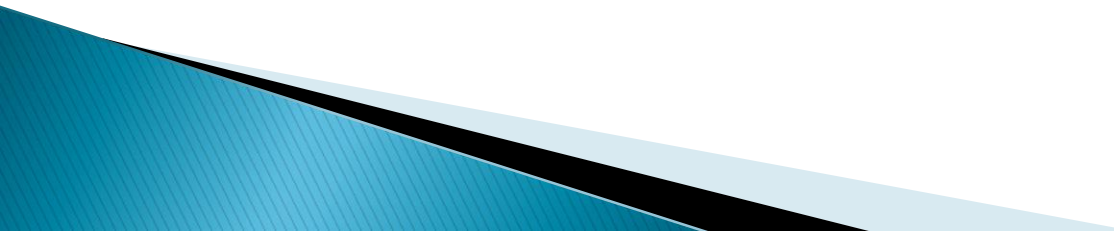
How does it work?

Surgeries are typically an hour long, though longer slots may be available for complex projects or those focussed on national priority areas. Surgeries are staffed by two senior College researchers with a broad range of experience designing and undertaking research in policing.

Slots at surgeries are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Surgeries take place at College sites around the country on a rolling basis. If you are unable to attend in person, video and teleconferencing facilities are available at all sites.

If you think that a Research Surgery could help you with any of your research and evaluation needs then why not book a slot at one of the upcoming Surgeries listed below?

From Problem to Evidence

- ▶ What is the situation?
 - ▶ What is the research question?
 - ▶ What type of evidence do you need?
 - ▶ What methods would be used?
 - ▶ Where would you look for the evidence?
 - ▶ What is your search strategy?
 - ▶ How would you judge the quality of evidence?
- 

From Problem to Evidence

- ▶ What is the situation?
 - ▶ ~~What is the research question?~~
 - ▶ What type of evidence do you need?
 - ▶ ~~What methods would be used?~~
 - ▶ Where would you look for the evidence?
 - ▶ What is your search strategy?
 - ▶ How would you judge the quality of evidence?
- 