

Keeping up to date with occupational therapy and health and social care

Information skills guide

In this guide we introduce setting up alerts about new journal issues and articles, and suggest some websites to boost your current awareness.

Table of contents alerts

Receive alerts about the newest papers from specific journals as soon as they have been published online through the [JournalTOCs](#) website.

Titles on the site include the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, *British Journal of Occupational Therapy* and *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*.

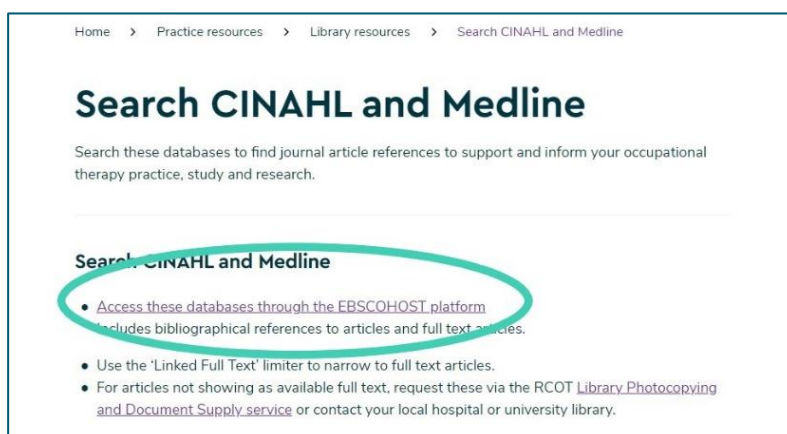
Sign up for journal table of contents alerts. Find information about how to search, select and receive them.

EBSCOhost alerts

Receive notifications when new search results specific to your interests become available on any of the databases on the EBSCOHOST platform, at a frequency that suits you.

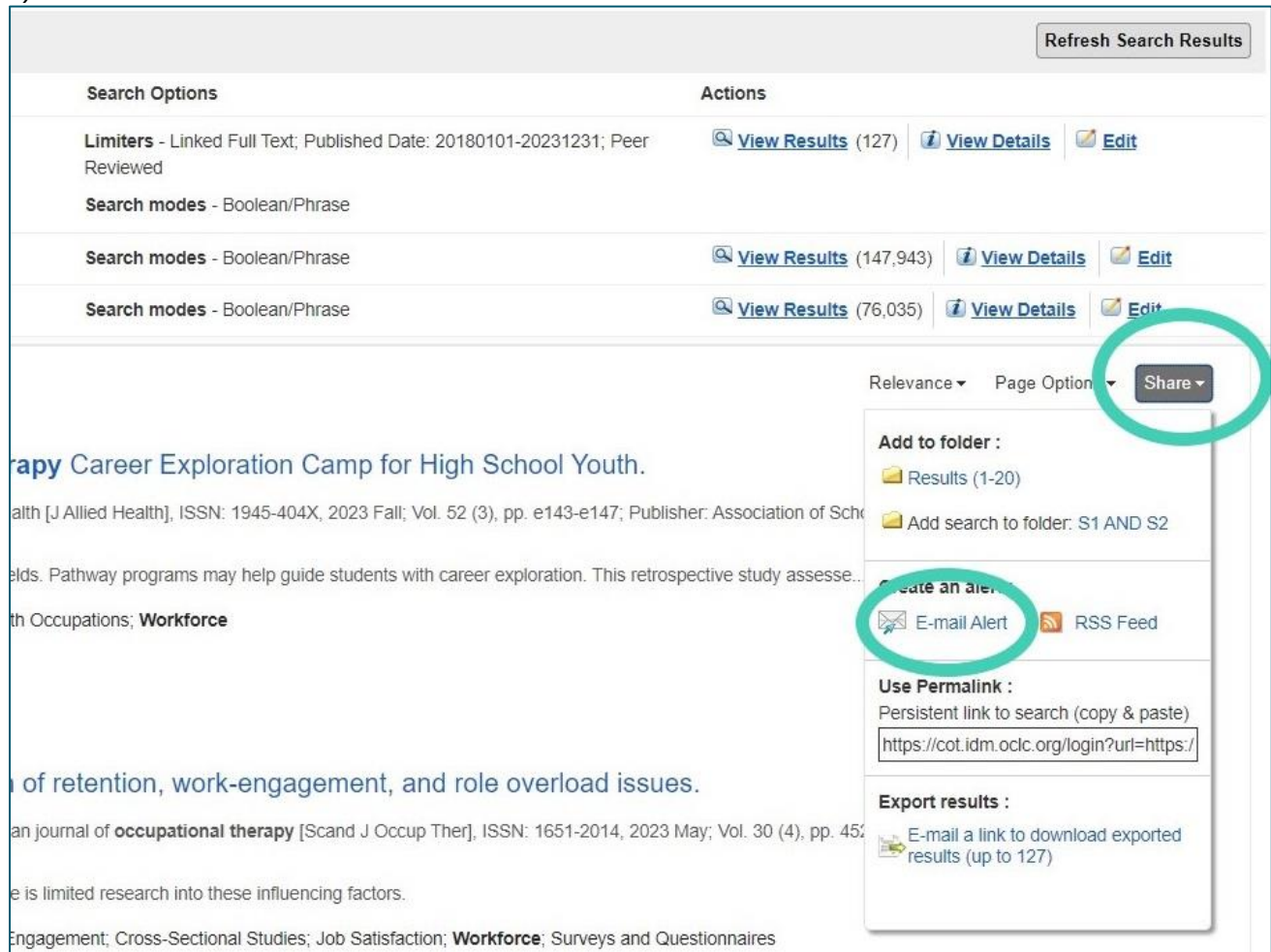
Follow these steps to set up an alert:

- Log into the [RCOT website](#).
- Go to Practice resources > Library resources > Search CINAHL and Medline, or click [here](#).
- Click **Access these databases through the EBSCOHOST platform** link:



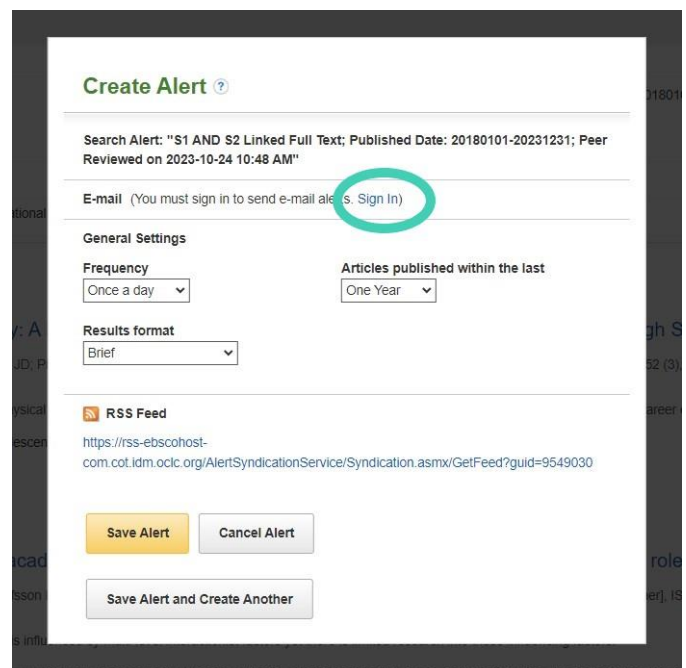
- Complete a search of the databases as usual. If you need help with this, please [contact the RCOT Digital Library](#).

e) Click the '**Share**' button and choose '**E-mail Alert**':



The screenshot shows the EBSCOhost search results interface. At the top right is a 'Refresh Search Results' button. Below it is a table with 'Search Options' and 'Actions'. The 'Search Options' column lists filters like 'Limiters - Linked Full Text; Published Date: 20180101-20231231; Peer Reviewed' and 'Search modes - Boolean/Phrase'. The 'Actions' column provides links to 'View Results' (with counts like 127, 147,943, and 76,035), 'View Details', and 'Edit'. On the right side of the search results, there is a 'Share' button circled in green. A dropdown menu is open from this button, showing options: 'Add to folder' (with 'Results (1-20)' and 'Add search to folder: S1 AND S2'), 'Create an alert' (with 'E-mail Alert' and 'RSS Feed', where 'E-mail Alert' is circled in green), 'Use Permalink' (with a persistent link to the search), and 'Export results' (with an option to email a link to download results up to 127).

f) Click on **Sign In**. If you don't already have an EBSCOhost account you can create one at the next step.



The screenshot shows the 'Create Alert' form. At the top, it displays the search alert details: 'Search Alert: "S1 AND S2 Linked Full Text; Published Date: 20180101-20231231; Peer Reviewed on 2023-10-24 10:48 AM"'. Below this is the 'E-mail' section, which states '(You must sign in to send e-mail alerts. Sign In)' and has a 'Sign In' button circled in green. The 'General Settings' section includes 'Frequency' (set to 'Once a day'), 'Articles published within the last' (set to 'One Year'), and 'Results format' (set to 'Brief'). There is an 'RSS Feed' section with a URL: 'https://rss-ebcshost-com.cot.idm.oclc.org/AlertSyndicationService/Syndication.aspx?GetFeed?guid=9549030'. At the bottom, there are three buttons: 'Save Alert', 'Cancel Alert', and 'Save Alert and Create Another'.

g) Sign into EBSCOhost or, if you don't have an account, sign up:

h) Insert your email address in E-mail box, select to receive emails in either Plain Text or HTML format, and choose from the following options:

Frequency	Articles published within the last	Results format
Once a day Once a week Biweekly Once a month	One year Six months Two months One month No limit	Brief Detailed Bibliographic Manager

i) When done, click on **Save Alert**.

Further information can be found on a 90 second video [Creating a Search Alert in EBSCOhost - Tutorial](#).

Websites

Royal College of Occupational Therapists	Address
News	https://www.rcot.co.uk/news
Policy and public affairs	https://www.rcot.co.uk/policy-and-public-affairs
Specialist Sections	https://www.rcot.co.uk/about-us/specialist-sections/about-specialist-sections
Using social media	https://www.rcot.co.uk/promoting-occupational-therapy/using-social-media
<i>British journal of occupational therapy</i>	https://www.rcot.co.uk/practice-resources/journals/bjot
<i>OTnews</i>	https://www.rcot.co.uk/news/otnews

Governments	Address
Department of Health & Social Care	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care
Department of Health, Northern Ireland	https://www.health-ni.gov.uk
Scottish Government, Health and social care	https://www.gov.scot/health-and-social-care
Welsh Government, Health and social care	https://www.gov.wales/health-social-care

National Health	Address
Health and Social Care Northern Ireland	https://www.hscni.net
NHS England	https://www.england.nhs.uk
NHS Wales	https://www.nhs.wales
National Services Scotland	https://www.nss.nhs.scot

Other	Address
Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)	https://www.hcpc-uk.org
The Health Foundation	https://www.health.org.uk
Health Service Journal	https://www.hsj.co.uk
King's Fund	https://www.kingsfund.org.uk
National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)	https://www.nice.org.uk
Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)	https://www.scie.org.uk
Social Care Today	https://socialcare.today

Look out particularly for news, blogs, social media and press release pages. Consider signing up, where offered, to receive regular newsletters and bulletins.