

AbstractMaster®

Daniel Marr

FSA Associate/Consultant
Toronto, Canada
<http://www.abstractmaster.com>
email: dmarr@abstractmaster.com

Keywords: National library of Medicine, electronic search, literature tracking and sharing

AbstractMaster is a powerful search/data management software specifically designed to help quickly locate relevant medical articles indexed by the National Library of Medicine* (NLM), to help keep track searches, what one has read, catalog references and full text articles, to assist in the review and analysis of articles for referencing, publishing and research purposes. Basically, an electronic finder/cataloguer/organizer for the sciences of medicine.

An important feature of AbstractMaster is the ability to dynamically assign individual relevancy ratings to references based on importance, and to even share/collaborate findings with colleagues, researchers and other similarly interested healthcare personnel via the AbstractMaster Collaborators' Corner. The goal being to collectively end up with an abstract for every reference, supplement search criteria and use global relevancy scores to assist researchers in their endeavours. Not only will researchers will be able to simultaneously search the NLM and the AbstractMaster Collaborators' Library, but have available for free downloading specific 'Editions' identified and created with the help of specialists/experts, i.e., collaborators, in their respective fields. For example, the HIV/AIDs Edition contains over 300 thousand references; Oncology Edition, 1.5 million; PharmaScience, 125 thousand; Anthropology, 200 thousand.

Via the AbstractMaster web site, experts in their fields will be invited to become members of the AbstractMaster Collaborators' Corner. The Corner will become the basis for the AbstractMaster Collaborators' Directory which will list interested specialist/experts by their specialty and availability re services such as speakers, clinical collaborators, researchers, etc. Thus, the center is designed to connect specialists and experts to initiate discussions and sharing of information in their respective fields.

It is the position of AbstractMaster that full text articles should be made more readily available, and if not for free, at a price that does not encumber their acquisition. AbstractMaster provides a means for researchers to share full text articles easier via conduits to central repositories, publishers' domains, medical/science and individual collaborators' libraries for free or at minimal charges.