



## Neil John Maclean Health Sciences Library

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## Searching for Health Information about Indigenous Peoples

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There are many resources you can use to find information about the health of Indigenous peoples. This list provides some suggestions for where and how to search for information.

Please contact Janice Linton, Indigenous Health Librarian, or visit the Neil John Maclean Library information services desk for additional help using these databases.

### [University of Manitoba Health Sciences Libraries - Indigenous Health Toolkit](#)

This toolkit provides links to some of the best resources on Indigenous health including the latest statistics on the health status of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canada. The resources available through the toolkit include regional health reports, background materials, journals, oral histories, patient education materials and comprehensive bibliographies. Think of it as your very own Indigenous Health library; it is a great place to start your research!

### [One-Stop Search – University of Manitoba Libraries Catalogue](#)

Search the UML catalogue for books, reports, historical accounts and DVDs held at the UM Libraries. A keyword search can be done in the catalogue by combining terms or subject headings relevant to your topic

Examples:

Indigenous health AND diabetes  
Aboriginal health Dene  
Aboriginal healing  
Indians residential schools  
Native peoples tobacco  
Inuit tuberculosis  
Medicine wheel

## [University of Saskatchewan - Indigenous Studies Portal](#)

Provides access to a wide range of resources in Native Studies and is a great place to browse for articles, book reviews, websites, and photographs. Covers contemporary and historical issues.

### PubMed

Access PubMed from the link provided in the [Indigenous Health Toolkit](#). Searching PubMed provides citations to articles in medical journals. Citations to literature on research in Indigenous populations in Canada are usually indexed in PubMed under the following terms:

- Indians, North American
- Inuits

Try typing in the following search terms in PubMed **exactly** as they appear below.

**Inuit OR native American OR metis OR “first nations” OR “native peoples”**

This will give you a list of approximately 21,900 articles on Native health. Now, combine your search results with a specific topic. To do so, click on **Advanced** where you will have access to the search builder. You can type in new search terms and combine them with previous searched terms by clicking **Add**.

For example:

#### PubMed Advanced Search Builder

[YouTube](#) [Tutorials](#)

The screenshot shows the PubMed Advanced Search Builder interface. At the top, a search bar contains the query: `((inuit OR native american OR metis OR "first nations" OR "native peoples")) AND diabetes) AND canada`. Below the search bar are links for [Edit](#) and [Clear](#). The **Builder** section shows a list of search terms with dropdown menus for field selection and logical operators. The terms are: `inuit OR native american OR metis OR "first nations" OR "native peoples"`, `diabetes`, and `canada`. Each term has a [Show index list](#) link. At the bottom, there is a **Search** button and a link to [Add to history](#). The **History** section shows a table of previous searches.

Search	Add to builder	Query	Items found	Time
#1	<a href="#">Add</a>	Search inuit OR native american OR metis OR "first nations" OR "native peoples"	<a href="#">21937</a>	12:04:01

You may also use additional terms or synonyms to increase retrieval of new articles recently added to the PubMed database.

For example:

**Aboriginal\* OR Indigenous OR ojibw\* OR cree**

**NOTE:** You may want to add or subtract some terms. Other terms to consider are Oceanic Ancestry Group – for articles on Maori or Australian Indigenous peoples – American Native Continental Ancestry Group – for articles of Indigenous peoples in North America (including Inuit), Central and South America.

## Scopus

Scopus is an excellent database to use for Indigenous health research and circumpolar health research. It is interdisciplinary and easy-to-use. Access Scopus from the link provided in the [Indigenous Health Toolkit](#).

To get started, try typing the terms into Scopus as they appear below:

**“first nations” OR aboriginal\* OR cree OR ojibw\* OR metis OR inuit**

You can add additional terms as needed which may help to narrow and focus your search.

For example:

**“Native people” OR “native Canadian” OR native “American”**

Similar to searching in PubMed, you are able to combine your search results with a specific health topic. It is best to do this by clicking the Plus (+) symbol and searching new concepts in their own line.

Documents Authors Affiliations Advanced

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Search  
"first nations" OR aboriginal\* OR cree OR ojibw\* OR inuit X Article title, Abstract, Keywords ▾ +  
E.g., "heart attack" AND stress

AND ▾

Search  
diabetes X Article title, Abstract, Keywords ▾ - +

## [Native Health Database](#)

Provided by the University of New Mexico. This database contains citations to literature about the health of the North American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations and includes some citations to literature about Canadian Indigenous peoples. The database is good for searching for historical information.

## [MEDLINEplus](#)

This is a great website to locate information for patients as well as background information on many diseases and hot topics in medicine. Under **Health Topics** you can locate resources to over 700 topics, including Native American Health with links to US government and community-based websites.

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## Other Essential Canadian Resources

### [National Aboriginal Health Organization \(NAHO\)](#)

Keep up-to-date with research, news, and conference announcements. NAHO has three research groups: The First Nations Centre, Inuit Tuttarvingat, and The Metis Centre. This is an excellent website where you will find hundreds of scholarly and community-based publications.

[Go direct to Metis health statistics and literature databases](#)

[Go direct to Inuit health statistics, hosted by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami](#)

**NOTE:** This site is no longer being updated. The website will remain available until December 22, 2017.

### [Manitoba First Nations Centre for Aboriginal Health Research \(MFN-CAHR\)](#)

A joint initiative of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the University of Manitoba, CAHR has made most of their research reports available on their website (under **Research Activities**).

### [The Aboriginal Mental Health Research Team](#)

Provides comprehensive reports on suicide prevention, Native mental health and Inuit concepts of wellness in a series of publications entitled Working Papers.

### [First Nations, Inuit, and Aboriginal Health \(Health Canada\)](#)

### [Assembly of First Nations \(AFN\) Health Secretariat](#)

### [National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health](#)

Hosted by the University of Northern British Columbia. Provides excellent, unique resources to assist researchers and policy makers.

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## Online Journals

The following journals are freely available online and are key resources in Aboriginal Health Research.

### [Journal of Aboriginal Health](#)

Published by NAHO. This peer-reviewed journal includes articles from leading health scholars, academics and Aboriginal community members. In addition to offering in-depth analysis on emerging issues in the field, each issue includes original research, editorials and suggestions for further reading.

### [International Journal of Circumpolar Health](#)

Articles published in this journal are listed in PubMed. Includes excellent articles on First Nations health along with articles on the health of Inuit and other circumpolar peoples around the globe.

[Pimatisiwin](#) (last published 2013)

This is an excellent interdisciplinary journal that focuses on Aboriginal and Indigenous community health. Published twice per year by the Native Counselling Services of Alberta. See the [Journal of Indigenous Wellbeing - Te Mauri Pimatisiwin](#) for newer issues from 2013 - present.

[International Journal of Indigenous Health](#)

Hosted by the University of Victoria, BC, as part of the Aboriginal Health Research Networks Secretariat.

[American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Research](#)

Provides comprehensive coverage of mental health issues among Native people in Canada and the US. Articles listed in PubMed and most articles are available for free online.

[Canadian Medical Association Journal \(CMAJ\)](#)

Many articles on Aboriginal health have been published in the CMAJ. Browse topic collections to view articles published on Aboriginal Health and many other topics. Issues are available for free from the CMAJ website and are also indexed in PubMed.

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## **Circumpolar Health Research & Inuit Health**

There are many specialized journals, databases and websites for Northern health research.

[Circumpolar Health Bibliographic Database](#)

Hosted by the University of Calgary. This is a very useful reference to check out as it provides references to materials on Northern health that cannot be found in PubMed or other databases. Includes articles from The International Journal of Circumpolar Health and papers from the International Congress on Circumpolar Health (ICCH – 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> congresses). Provides links to the complete articles or reports for many of the items.

[Arctic Health Publications Database](#) (from the Arctic Health Website)

The Arctic Health Publications Database contains bibliographic information, abstracts, and links to full-text journal articles, reports, newspapers, conference proceedings, grey literature, and other documents and non-print materials.

[Inuit Tuttarvingat](#) (hosted by NAHO)

Available in Inuktitut and English, this website provides publications, audiovisual resources and links to excellent resources on all aspects of Inuit health. A great website to visit for an introduction to Inuit health or for health care providers and students who are interested in working in the North.

**NOTE:** This site is no longer being updated. The website will remain available until December 22, 2017.

[Inuit Qaujisarvingsat – The Inuit Knowledge Centre](#)

Hosted by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Ottawa. Provides excellent resources and statistics on Inuit health. Inuit Qaujisarvingat is working to bridge the gap between Inuit knowledge and western science and build capacity among Inuit to respond to global interests in Arctic issues.

### [Oral Health and the Aboriginal Child](#)

This is a unique website featuring excellent resources, teaching tools, program information and research articles on oral health and the Aboriginal child.

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## **Connecting with Researchers & Communities Across the North**

### [Arctic Health](#)

### [Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research](#)

### [The Institute for Circumpolar Health Research](#)

### [International Network for Circumpolar Health Research](#)

### [Circumpolar Health Research Network](#)

### [International Union for Circumpolar Health](#)