

# Developing an Expert Finding System using Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)

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## Motivation

An expert finding system has many applications for research organizations. Most of the available experts finding systems are based on self-nomination, which can be biased and are unable to rank experts.

## Results

Using the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) terms associated with peer-reviewed publications we have developed an expert finding system. Our system is unique as (i) uses standard subject vocabulary, (ii) significantly unbiased as it uses peer-reviewed information, (iii) provide a quantitative measure to rank experts, (iv) provide measure of an experts past and present performance in given subject and (iv) can be used to develop co-author networks. The system has been tested using known subject experts from India and has been found useful.

## Conclusions

The system matches requirements of an ideal expert finding system i.e. unbiased, robust and provide quantitative measure of expertise.

## Availability

Can be accessed from <http://bmi.icmr.org.in>. The scripts used in this work can be obtained from [hsingh@bmi.icmr.org.in](mailto:hsingh@bmi.icmr.org.in).

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