Grey Literature Resources

Grey literature is a term for publications produced outside of usual commercial and academic channels. Searching Grey Literature is part of completing a systematic review. Below is a selection of sources for identifying clinical trials, government documents, conference proceedings, dissertations and theses, and other reports. Resources are freely available to all online unless noted by an asterisk, in which case they are available through library subscription.

Clinical Trials

ClinicalTrials.gov is a registry and results database of publicly and privately supported clinical trials.
https://clinicaltrials.gov/

Center Watch has the largest online database of industry-sponsored clinical trials actively seeking volunteers.
http://www.centerwatch.com/

Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials* offers reports of randomized and quasi-randomized controlled trials.
http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio10204994

IFPMA Clinical Trials Portal is a database of ongoing and completed trials.
http://www.ipha.ie/alist/ifpma-clinical-trials-portal.aspx

ISRCTN Registry is a clinical trial registry recognized by WHO and the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.
http://www.isrctn.com/editAdvancedSearch

NIH Research Portfolio Online provides access to reports, data, and analyses of NIH research activities, including results of NIH supported research.
https://report.nih.gov/

UK Clinical Trials Gateway is an NHS-sponsored listing of clinical trials.
https://www.ukctg.nihr.ac.uk/

WHO International Clinical Trials Registry contains trials from numerous international agencies.
http://apps.who.int/trialsearch/

Government Documents

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) offers data and publications on United States healthcare trends.
http://www.ahrq.gov/research/index.html

Agricola provides citations to agricultural literature.
http://agricola.nal.usda.gov/

CDC Wonder offers CDC statistical research data, reports, and guidelines.
http://wonder.cdc.gov/

FDSys provides access to official publications from all three branches of the Federal Government.
https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/home.action

GPO Metalib searches multiple U.S. federal government databases at once.
http://metalib.gpo.gov/

National Guideline Clearinghouse offers summaries of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines.
https://www.guideline.gov/

National Technical Information Service (NTIS) is a central resource for government-funded scientific, technical, engineering, and business-related information.
http://www.ntis.gov/

Conference Proceedings

Biosis* is a biological dataset through the database Web of Science that includes conference abstracts.
http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio10389037

Conference Proceedings Citation Index* helps researchers access the published literature from conferences worldwide.
http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio10381007

SCOPUS* is a biomedical database that allows you to select the search field "conference."
http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio6273999

Dissertations and Theses

EThOS is a doctoral dissertation search tool from the British Library.
http://ethos.bl.uk/Home.do

Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) promotes the adoption, creation, use, dissemination, and preservation of electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs).
http://search.ndltd.org/

Proquest Dissertations and Theses Global* is a database of global dissertations and theses.
http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?AQP0595

Theses Canada is a collaborative program between Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and nearly 70 universities.
http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/services/theses/Pages/theses-canada.aspx

Other Sources

Bielefeld Academic Search Engine (Base) is a multi-disciplinary search engine to online scholarly resources.
https://www.base-search.net/

NIHR Centre for Reviews and Dissemination offers systematic reviews and economic evaluations of health and social care interventions.
http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/CRDWeb/

Grey Literature Report is a database from The New York Academy of Medicine. It is no longer updated.
http://www.greylit.org/

Google and Google Scholar searches often turn up a number of reports. In Google, try searching with "filetype:pdf."
https://www.google.com/
https://scholar.google.com/

Health Sciences Online includes materials selected from accredited educational sources including universities, governments, and professional societies.
http://hso.info

Mednar is a free, medically focused deep web search engine.
http://mednar.com/

OAIster is a combined bibliographic catalogue of open-access material.
http://oaister.worldcat.org/

OpenDOAR is a directory of academic open-access repositories.
http://www.opendoar.org/

OpenGrey is a European database of science, technology, economics, social science and humanities.
http://www.opengrey.eu/

Organization websites offer self-published reports, newsletters, surveys, white papers, and more.

Virginia Henderson Global Nursing e-Repository is a repository dedicated to sharing works created by nurses.
http://www.nursinglibrary.org/vhl/