How Many Articles Do You Want to Find?
Searching MEDLINE using the Ovid Web Gateway - Search Tips

Finding Too Many Articles?
TIP - How to REDUCE the Number of Articles You Find:

(1) Use the operator AND to combine 1 or more search terms together.
   Example: Mouth Neoplasms AND Tobacco, Smokeless

(2) Use the command "FOCUS" (*) to limit your articles to where the
    subject is the main point of the article.
   Example: *Lip Neoplasms

(3) Apply 1 or more subheading(s) to narrow the aspect of your subject.
   Example: *Lip Neoplasms/et, su (Would limit the articles about lip neoplasms to those that
discussed the etiology (et) and surgery (su) for lip neoplasms).

(4) Apply Limits, such as English Language, Human, Age Groups, etc.

Finding Too Few Articles?
TIP - How to INCREASE the Number of Articles You Find:

(1) Use the operator OR to combine synonyms to expand your subject.
   Example: Eye Neoplasms OR Eyelid Neoplasms

(2) Don't apply the FOCUS (*) command to your term.

(3) EXPLODE (Exp) your term to include other related subjects.
   Example: Exp Neoplasms would find articles about ALL the different types of neoplasms
   listed under that broad category.

(4) Apply ALL SUBHEADINGS. This is the default in Ovid MEDLINE.

(5) Apply LIMITS sparingly.

(6) Use TEXTWORDS with appropriate TRUNCATION.
   Ovid Truncation Symbols are the colon (:) or dollar sign ($)
   Example: snowboard$ (would find snowboard, snowboards, snowboarders, snowboarding)