

# Research plan

## 1. What information do I need?

**Title/topic:**

parathyroid hormone in relation to hypocalcaemia in post parturient cows

### What are the concepts/ ideas/ themes that make up my topic?

*Think of synonyms, alternative spellings and variant forms of words.*

*Consider narrow, specific and broad words related to the concept.*

**First Concept:**

**Parathyroid hormone**

Endocrine (broader)  
PTH (abbreviation)

**Second Concept:**

**hypocalcaemia**

Hypocalcemia (- Low blood calcium)

Note – 2 different spellings!

**Third Concept:**

**post parturient**

After giving birth, calving, postpartum

**Fourth Concept:**

**Cows**

Bovine /cow /cattle

*Write down relevant date limits, language limits, geographic region, format of information eg: video, web page*

English Language, Last 20 years

## 2. What do I already know/where should I look for more information?

### Knowledge and resource brainstorming

*Write down known key facts, authors, organisations, recommended reading, Web sites, experts, including your Liaison Librarian that will be useful for researching your topic.*

Hyperparathyroidism – condition as a result of too much PTH

Hypercalcemia - high blood calcium, do not confuse the two terms

hypocalcaemia - clinical situation cows can find themselves in after giving birth

VEIN links page - Endocrinology

Reading List for ASF3A



# Research plan

Name of database	Type of search
1.  <b>Medline</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Search string using keywords  <input type="checkbox"/> Subject headings parathyroid hormone Hypocalcemia Postpartum Period Cattle <i>Combine sets:</i> 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 = 1 result 1 and 3 and 4 = 4 results 1 and 2 and 4 = 59 results  <input type="checkbox"/> Other types of searches eg: author, journal title.
2.  <b>Cab Abstracts</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Search string using keywords bovine or cattle or cow or cows parathyroid hormone or parathyrin post parturient or calving or birth hypocalc?emia <i>Combine sets:</i> 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 = 12 results  <input type="checkbox"/> Subject headings   <input type="checkbox"/> Other types of searches eg: author, journal title.
3.  <b>Web of Science</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Search string using keywords  (bovine or cattle or cow or cows) and (parathyroid hormone or parathyrin) and (post parturient or calving or birth) and hypocalc\$emia = 11 results  <input type="checkbox"/> Subject headings <i>Web of Science does not have subject headings</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> Other types of searches eg: author, journal title.
4.	<input type="checkbox"/> Search string using keywords        <input type="checkbox"/> Subject headings   <input type="checkbox"/> Other types of searches eg: author, journal title.
5.	<input type="checkbox"/> Search string using keywords        <input type="checkbox"/> Subject headings   <input type="checkbox"/> Other types of searches eg: author, journal title.

# Research plan

<b>Reflection</b>		<b>Database searches: notes</b>	
<p><i>Too little information?</i> Try different words. Think about different ways to approach the topic.</p> <p><i>Too much information?</i> Try limiting by language, date or other options offered by the database. Try adding more words to the search.</p>		<p>In OVID databases the ? is the wildcard character used to substitute one or no characters. In Web of Science the symbol is a \$.</p> <p>These wildcard characters are useful for finding both the British and American spellings of the same word.</p> <p>Parathyrin – used for parathyroid hormone in CAB Abstracts.</p>	
<b>Internet</b>			
<b>Tips</b>			
<p>Use the help button on each search tool to find out about its unique features and the best way to construct your search.</p> <p>Some search tools allow the use of AND/OR functions, nesting and truncation.</p> <p>Use advanced search functions where available to make your search more specific</p> <p>Use search engines for finding specific information using uncommon words or if you wish to search a large number of websites</p> <p>Use subject directories for finding reviewed sites or if you want to browse through resources by category</p> <p>Use information gateways if you want information compiled by subject specialists</p> <p>Use several search tools for wider coverage</p>			
<b>Name of search tool</b>		<b>Type of search</b>	
<p><b>1. Name:</b> <b>Google scholar</b> <b>Type of search tool:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> search engine <input type="checkbox"/> subject directory <input type="checkbox"/> information gateway</p>		<p><b>Search string</b> parathyroid+hypocalcaemia+post parturient+cows – 12 results – prompts you to look for US spelling</p> <p>parathyroid+hypocalcemia+post parturient+cows – 30 results – no prompt!!!</p>	
<p><b>2. Name:</b> <b>Scirus</b> <b>Type of search tool:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> search engine <input type="checkbox"/> subject directory <input type="checkbox"/> information gateway</p>		<p><b>Search string</b> <b>Only searched All Web sources in Scirus.</b></p> <p>(parathyroid and cows) AND ((hypocalcemia or hypocalcaemia) AND post parturient– 4 journal results and 18 web results</p>	
<p><b>3. Name:</b> <b>Vetgate</b> <b>Type of search tool:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> search engine <input type="checkbox"/> subject directory <input type="checkbox"/> information gateway</p>		<p><b>Search string</b> Parathyroid - 2 Hypocalcemia - 1 Cows – 37 Cow* - 46 (* - truncation symbol)</p>	
<b>Reflection</b>		<b>Internet search: notes</b>	
<p><i>Too little information?</i> Try another type of search tool. Try different words. Think about different ways to approach the topic.</p> <p><i>Too much information?</i> Try limiting by language, date or other options offered by the search tool. Try adding more words to the search. Try using more specific words</p>		<p><b>Vetgate – pointed to a useful site: Pathophysiology of the endocrine system</b> <b>Focus is human but gives useful introduction to the parathyroid hormone</b></p> <p><b>Remember to search for both spellings of hypocalcaemia</b></p> <p><b>VEIN links page – Endocrinology</b></p>	
<b>Experts</b>			
<p>Use experts as additional sources of information.</p> <p>Prepare by thoroughly researching the topic beforehand.</p>		<p><i>List people who are expert in this area and their contact details</i></p>	
<b>Need Help?</b>			
<p>Check <a href="http://www.library.usyd.edu.au/contacts/">http://www.library.usyd.edu.au/contacts/</a> for the name of your Liaison Librarian</p>		<p>Alison Turner, Badham Library Tel: 935 13629 Email: A.Turner@Library.usyd.edu.au</p>	