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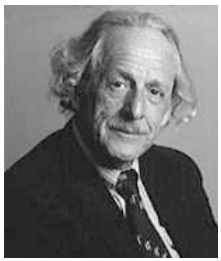

Current Comments®

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Announcing *Current Contents on Diskette with Abstracts*

Number 19 May 13, 1991

Just 18 months ago, we announced the launch of *Current Contents on Diskette* ® (*CC on Diskette*).[1] Since that time, this service has been widely adopted by our readers. So it is with a sense of added satisfaction that I can now announce *Current Contents on Diskette* ® *with Abstracts.*

This new service, inaugurated May 1, is available weekly in four multidisciplinary *Current Contents* ® (*CC* ®) editions, covering *Life Sciences*; *Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences*; *Physical, Chemical & Earth Sciences*; and *Clinical Medicine*. We like to think that *CC on Diskette with Abstracts* will save you additional time in keeping up with your field.

Of course, ISI ® has been in the abstracting business for more than 30 years. Both *Index Chemicus* ® and *Current Chemical Reactions* ® include abstracts, as does *Focus On: Global Change* ™. In the minds of most scientists, indexing and abstracting are equivalent activities. It is not surprising then that the trade association called the National Federation of Abstracting and Information Services was originally launched in the 1950s as the National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services.

In fact, *CC* is often described by readers as an abstracting service. Using the literal meaning found in *Webster's*, there is considerable room for interpretation of the term. *CC* is alternatively described as a current-awareness service, while some traditional scholars in the humanities regard it as a bibliographic tool.

Additional New Features—Author Keywords

In addition to abstracts, this new edition of *CC on Diskette* contains our *KeyWords Plus* ™ feature, which we described in detail previously.[2,3] It also includes all author supplied keywords. These features allow you to search beyond article title words. Keywords supplied by the author provide an added dimension of insurance in searching, as does *KeyWords Plus*, which is derived from titles cited in an article's bibliography.

Word search capabilities include left truncation for title words and keywords as well as floating stem searching. These features allow you to customize your search, broadening it or narrowing it as desired. For broad searches, for example, the user inserts the truncation symbol (*) within the search word at any point desired—beginning, end, or middle—and retrieves all article titles containing any form of the search word. For narrower searches, one uses Boolean operators (and, or, not) to locate only those articles most relevant to the search.

For the researcher's convenience, the electronic record also contains the address of the reprint author as well as the name and address of the journal publisher.

The number of abstracts contained in the four different diskette versions varies. In *Life Sciences*, for example, about 90 percent of the articles in the 1,200 journals covered contain abstracts. *CC on Diskette with Abstracts*

is only available in the 1,200 journal edition, not in the 600 edition.

The *CC on Diskette with Abstracts* series is available on 3.5 and 5.25 inch high-density diskettes for IBM and 100 percent compatibles, and 3.5 inch diskettes for Macintosh users. Both single-station and network editions are offered.

A Historical Perspective

My first experience with abstracting started in 1951 as a volunteer for *Chemical Abstracts*. In those days, I prepared abstracts for articles in Spanish pharmacology journals. This was an assignment I took on as part of my personal education to better understand the indexing and abstracting process. As a result, I also enjoyed friendships with E.J. Crane, Charles Bernier, and Russ Rowlett—all former editors of *Chemical Abstracts*.

In chemistry, there had been a long tradition of abstracting in the US and elsewhere. *Chemical Abstracts* began publishing more than 85 years ago. *Physics Abstracts* started in 1903. But abstracting in the US came to the biological sciences on a comprehensive basis a little later. *Biological Abstracts* was founded in 1926. In 1954, the editor, John Flynn, asked me to prepare a report on the possibilities for automation.[4]

As a newly graduated chemist in the late 1940s, I was introduced to *Chemical Abstracts* by my professor. But these were slower times. *Chemical Abstracts* and all abstracting services were relatively slow. Some abstracts might not appear until a year after publication. And journals were read cover to cover.

In medicine, *Excerpta Medica* was established in the late 1940s, primarily catering to practicing physicians, as it does today.[5] It published several sections containing abstracts covering various specialties of medicine. In more recent years, *Excerpta Medica* established EMBASE—a large-scale abstracting service available online. It is used extensively, especially by drug companies since it provides considerable in-depth indexing of drug entities.

Index Medicus, of course, is the most widely known medical indexing service. My association with *Index Medicus* goes back to the Welch Medical Library Indexing Project in the early 1950s.[6] At that time, the American Medical Association (AMA) was still publishing the *Quarterly Cumulative Index Medicus*. Eventually, the National Library of Medicine (NLM), which had published the *Current List of Medical Literature*—a contents page listing service—changed its format and name to *Index Medicus* by agreement with AMA. Much later, NLM created *MEDLINE*. Abstracts were added to this database more recently, but they are not available in the printed version.

As stated above, a significant characteristic of abstracting services has always been the inherent time lag. In 1960, when ISI introduced *Index Chemicus*, it was unheard of to provide abstracts with only a few weeks time lag. To this day, *Index Chemicus* and its sister publication *Current Chemical Reactions* have a remarkably short time lag.

We discussed the possibility of adding abstracts to the *Science Citation Index* ® (*SCI* ®) database from its outset in 1964. However, our primary problem in doing so in those days was the realization that capturing abstracts in English would delay our processing of *CC* and the *SCI*, especially as the indexing was integrated. We did not want to add even a week of delay to *CC*. And back then, the majority of papers did not contain author abstracts.

So, to maintain our reputation for timeliness, we postponed the addition of abstracts. However, with the advances in new technology, telecommunications, etc., the situation changed. We began to investigate methods for including abstracts as part of our existing input procedures without introducing any delay. Our research and development activity began with processing abstracts for our diskette product—*Focus On: Global Change*.[7] Then we gradually expanded the quantity of abstracts processed until the

Sample Record from *CC on Diskette with Abstracts*

CCOD with Abstracts (28 Jan 91) F1 = Help

View search results & select articles. Press (F9) for Search Session.

CC Issue | Browse | Search | Records | Orders

Full record : Search Results (Set #1)

Author	G Almahbobi, PF Hall
Title	The Role of Intermediate Filaments in Adrenal Steroidogenesis
Source	Journal of Cell Science 97: DEC (DEC 1990)
Page(s)	679
Keywords	Intermediate Filaments; Adrenal Cells; Steroidogenesis
KeyWords+	TUMOR-CELLS; LEYDIG-CELLS; LIPID DROPLETS; PROTEIN; CORTEX; MICROFILAMENTS; ORGANIZATION; VIMENTIN; CYTOSKELETON; MICROSCOPY
GA/Book#	EQ316
Discipl.	Microbiology & Cell Biology
Document	Article
Language	English
Address	G Almahbobi, Prince Wales Hosp, Dept Endocrinol, High St, Randwick, NSW 2031, Australia
Publisher	Company of Biologists Ltd, Univ Cambridge-Dept Zoology, Downing St, Cambridge CB2 3EJ, United Kingdom
Abstract	Available

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Contents View Abstract PIC GA RAP MarkAll File Print Esc=Menu

Abstract

Cholesterol is stored in adrenal cells as ester in lipid droplets, which are transported to mitochondria to provide a substrate for steroid hormone synthesis. Using mouse adrenal tumour cells (Y-1), we show here that approximately 33% of the adrenal cell cholesterol ester is bound tightly to intermediate filaments while the rest is either loosely attached or free in the cytosol. Specific binding of droplets to intermediate filaments was demonstrated by immunofluorescence and electron microscopy. Immunofluorescence was based upon Nile Red to stain lipid and antibodies to vimentin, actin and tubulin. Electron microscopy, including immunoelectron microscopy with protein A conjugated to gold particles (5 nm), was used to examine whole mounts of cytoskeletons and intermediate filaments. Immunofluorescence reveals that bound droplets are surrounded by a capsule containing vimentin and can be removed from the filaments by extraction with ethanol or 6 M urea. Negative staining of the urea extracts revealed isolated droplets. To the extent that cholesterol ester is the storage form of steroidogenic cholesterol, the knowledge that lipid droplets containing such esters are attached to intermediate filaments may prove important in unravelling the complex process of the transport of cholesterol to mitochondria.

Press (ESC) to leave abstract

procedures became routine, both for journals processed at ISI sites in the US and Europe (Ireland), without sacrificing timeliness.

Press a Single Key for Abstracts

CC on Diskette is now used widely throughout the world. Although most users of *CC* continue to read the printed version, a significant percentage now use the electronic service. However, we have not repeated here the detailed explanation for all of *CC on Diskette*'s features (see box facing page).

We have included typical screens from *CC on Diskette with Abstracts* on page 7. This is yet another dimension to a source that already provides a wide variety of access points. The command to display an abstract is as simple as pressing one key, and, once you have decided the reference is of value, the entire record can be downloaded—the full bibliographic data as well as the abstract.

For more information about *CC on Diskette with Abstracts*, write Institute for Scientific Information®, 3501 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Or call toll free 1-800-336-4477. In Europe, write ISI, 132 High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1DP, England. Telephone: 44-895-70016.

REFERENCES

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2. ----------. *KeyWords Plus*: ISI's breakthrough retrieval method. Part 1. Expanding your searching power on *Current Contents on Diskette*. *Current Contents* (32):5-9, 6 August 1990.
3. ----------. *KeyWords Plus* takes you beyond title words. Part 2. Expanded journal coverage for *Current Contents on Diskette* includes social and behavioral sciences. *Current Contents* (33):5-9, 13 August 1990.
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5. ----------. *Excerpta Medica*: abstracting the biomedical literature for the medical specialist. *Current Contents* (28):5-10, 14 July 1980. (Reprinted in: *Essays of an information scientist.* Philadelphia: ISI Press, 1981. Vol. 4. p. 522-7.)
6. ----------. Origins of *Current Contents*, ISI, and computer-aided information retrieval. How it all began at the Welch Medical Library Indexing Project. *Current Contents* (34):3-9, 26 August 1985. (Reprinted in: *Ibid.*, 1986. Vol. 8. p. 320-6.)
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Summary of *Current Contents on Diskette* ®

Current Contents on Diskette (*CC on Diskette*) provides the reader weekly access to bibliographic data from thousands of science and social science journals and books. *CC on Diskette* issues contain the same journal contents data as those appearing in the printed *Current Contents* ®. In addition to articles, diskette issues cover every document type, including editorials, letters, and reviews.

Key features include

- Simultaneous searching in two fields within an article's record—the Title field and the *KeyWords Plus* ™ field, which includes significant words appearing in the article's bibliography. Results of simple searches are returned in less than two seconds.
- Automatic browsing, providing you with full bibliographic descriptions of all articles. You can also browse by discipline.
- The ability to download selected references in text files to word processors and database programs.
- Automatic ordering capabilities through *Request-A-Print* ® and *The Geniune Article* ® functions.