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### Jane (Journal/Author Name Estimator)

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#### Recommended Citation

Leslie, S.L. (2011). Jane (Journal/Author Name Estimator). *The Charleston Advisor*, 13(2), 37-40.

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ADVISOR REVIEWS—STANDARD REVIEW

# Jane (Journal/Author Name Estimator)

doi:10.5260/chara.13.2.37

Date of Review: August 15, 2011

Composite Score:

★★★ 3/4

Reviewed by: Sharon Leslie

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## Abstract

Acceptance of a manuscript is a relief but often depends on submission to the appropriate journal. Jane is a Web-based resource to assess novelty or repetition of subject matter in MEDLINE. Researchers and scientists can use this Web site to help determine the best journal to approach for publishing a manuscript, discover who has done similar research in a specific field, and search for articles with related topics.

## Pricing

N/A. The product is available freely online.

## Product Description

As of this writing, MEDLINE contains 20 million citations from over 5,000 journals. Jane <<http://biosemantics.org/jane>> is a Web-based bibliometrics application that analyzes a sample text to help identify citation patterns. By entering a search on a topic, Jane finds unique writings per journal, repeated writings by authors, and articles on similar topics. Researchers can use Jane to search out appropriate journals to which to submit publications. Other potential users are journal editors seeking expert reviewers on a certain subjects, or international researchers who are not familiar with journals indexed in MEDLINE. Jane was developed by The Biosemantics Group, which is funded by the Netherlands Bioinformatics Center.

Jane has three basic search methods; by journal, by article, and by author (FIGURE 1). The user interface is clean and easy and, perhaps

because of this, implies an effortlessness that is deceptive. Jane uses Apache's open source text search engine Lucene to find similar records. "The similarity scores of all the articles belonging to a certain journal or author are summed to calculate the confidence score for that journal or author. The results are ranked by confidence score." Jane analyzes only first 50 results in active journals. For those who wish to use Jane in their own application an API (application programming interface) is available on the site.

Users begin by entering either a title or an abstract and choosing one of the three ways to search. Users may also choose to build a keyword search using Boolean. Jane states that citations included contain an abstract, were published in the last 10 years, and did not belong to one of these categories: "comment, editorial, news, historical article, congresses, biography, newspaper article, practice guideline, interview, bibliography, legal cases, lectures, consensus development conference, addresses, clinical conference, patient education handout, directory, technical report, festschrift, retraction of publication, retracted publication, duplicate publication, scientific integrity review, published erratum, periodical index, dictionary, legislation or government publication."

## Critical Evaluation

### SEARCH BY JOURNAL

Typing in a search term, for "instance influenza vaccine AND pregnancy," and then clicking the Find Journals button returns a page with journal titles ranked from the most to least number of articles on influenza vaccine and pregnancy (FIGURE 2). This results page has four columns: Confidence level, Journal Title, Article Influence, and Articles. The article influence score is calculated using Eigenfactor <<http://www.eigenfactor.org>> which uses data from Thomson Scientific's Journal Citation Reports (JCR). The score itself is hyperlinked to the Eigenfactor page where the details about the journal's scores and publication history may be found. The blue bar indicates the percentage of journals in MEDLINE that have a lower Article Influence score, according to Eigenfactor. Some journals may not show an article influence score because they are not

FIGURE 1. Main Jane Search Box

**FIGURE 2.** “Find Journal” Search Result

These journals have articles most similar to your input:  
"Influenza vaccine AND pregnancy"

Confidence	Journal	Article Influence	Articles
	American journal of obstetrics and gynecology	1.1157	Show articles
	J Obstet Gynaecol Can		Show articles
	Vaccine	0.8709	Show articles
	Obstetrics and gynecology	1.61465	Show articles
	The Journal of reproductive medicine	0.30016	Show articles
	Journal of women's health (2002) <b>PubMed Central: immediately</b>	0.73323	Show articles
	MMWR. Morbidity and mortality weekly report <b>Open access</b>		Show articles
	Clinical obstetrics and gynecology	0.59476	Hide articles

The confidence score for **Clinical obstetrics and gynecology** is based on these articles:

Similarity	Citation
	<a href="#">Gall SA</a> <b>Vaccines for pertussis and influenza: recommendations for use in pregnancy.</b> Clinical obstetrics and gynecology, 2008

[Explore more in PubMed](#)

	Kansenshogaku Zasshi		Show articles
	PLoS medicine <b>Open access</b> <b>PubMed Central: after 0 months</b>	5.97894	Show articles
	Expert review of respiratory medicine		Show articles
	J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med	0.5157	Show articles
	The Lancet infectious diseases	5.15954	Show articles
	The New England journal of medicine	19.8685	Show articles
	Epidemiologic reviews <b>PubMed Central: immediately</b>	5.18742	Show articles

**FIGURE 3.** “Find Author” Search Result

These authors have written articles most similar to your input:  
"Influenza vaccine AND pregnancy"

Confidence	Author	E-mail	Articles
	Steinhoff MC	E-mail	Hide articles

The confidence score for **Steinhoff MC** is based on these articles:

Similarity	Citation
	<a href="#">Omer SB, Goodman D, Steinhoff MC, Rochat R, Klugman KP, Stoll BJ, Ramakrishnan U</a> <b>Maternal influenza immunization and reduced likelihood of prematurity and small for gestational age births: a retrospective cohort study.</b> PLoS medicine, 2011
	<a href="#">Tamma PD, Ault KA, del Rio C, Steinhoff MC, Halsey NA, Omer SB</a> <b>Safety of influenza vaccination during pregnancy.</b> American journal of obstetrics and gynecology, 2009
	<a href="#">Tamma PD, Steinhoff MC, Omer SB</a> <b>Influenza infection and vaccination in pregnant women.</b> Expert review of respiratory medicine, 2010
	<a href="#">MacDonald NE, Riley LE, Steinhoff MC</a> <b>Influenza immunization in pregnancy.</b> Obstetrics and gynecology, 2009
	<a href="#">Zaman K, Roy E, Arifeen SE, Rahman M, Raqib R, Wilson E, Omer SB, Shahid NS, Breiman RF, Breiman RE, Steinhoff MC</a> <b>Effectiveness of maternal influenza immunization in mothers and infants.</b> The New England journal of medicine, 2008

[Explore more in PubMed](#)

	Omer SB	E-mail	Show articles
	Scott J	E-mail	Show articles
	Jamieson DJ	E-mail	Show articles
	Tamma PD	E-mail	Show articles

listed in the JCR or because they must “be cited in the last 5 years by some journal that is listed in the JCR.” Journals may also not be listed because they are “those publications that are smaller than a threshold size of 12 articles per year averaged over 5 years, ... or those journals that do not cite other journals listed in the JCR.”

Clicking on Show Articles opens a view of citations from that journal that are hyperlinked to the PubMed abstract. There is also an “Explore More in PubMed” link that goes to PubMed and shows those citations and others from that journal (a maximum of 20 articles are displayed). There are no additional ways to sort the results, such as by publication date, but the once the “Explore More in PubMed” link is clicked results may be sorted in PubMed.

### SEARCH BY AUTHOR

The Author Search (FIGURE 3) returns in descending order authors who have written repeatedly about the topic searched for. In these results you may click on Show Articles to view additional citations of

related articles written by that author. The author names in the citations are hyperlinked directly to PubMed. E-mail addresses may be available as well.

### SEARCH BY ARTICLE

Searching by article returns ranked results of the closest match to the text searched (FIGURE 4). Again, all citations are hyperlinked directly to PubMed.

### ADVANCED SEARCH

Clicking the “Show Extra Options” button (FIGURE 5) unveils refining capabilities, including type of publication type (e.g., Review, Meta-Analysis), and language. In the journal search only, Open Access or PubMed Central published journals may be chosen as limiters. Users should note that boxes remain checked off from search to search so be sure to clear your choices.

These articles are most similar to your input:  
 "influenza vaccine AND pregnancy"

Showing results 1 - 20

Similarity	Citation
	<a href="#">Gall SA</a> <b>Vaccines for pertussis and influenza: recommendations for use in pregnancy.</b> Clinical obstetrics and gynecology. 2008
	<a href="#">Yudin MH, Salaripour M, Sero MD</a> <b>Pregnant women's knowledge of influenza and the use and safety of the influenza vaccine during pregnancy.</b> J Obstet Gynaecol Can. 2009
	<a href="#">Yamanuchi K, Higano M, Horiya M, Watanabe N, Kubo T, Kato T, Murashima A</a> <b>[Influenza vaccination safety during pregnancy].</b> Kansenshogaku Zasshi. 2010
	<a href="#">Enalund JA</a> <b>Maternal immunization with inactivated influenza vaccine: rationale and experience.</b> Vaccine. 2003
	<a href="#">Omer SB, Goodman D, Steinhoff MC, Rochat R, Kluugman KP, Stoll BJ, Ramakrishnan U</a> <b>Maternal influenza immunization and reduced likelihood of prematurity and small for gestational age births: a retrospective cohort study.</b> PLoS medicine. 2011
	<a href="#">Tamma PD, Avit KA, del Rio C, Steinhoff MC, Halsey NA, Omer SB</a> <b>Safety of influenza vaccination during pregnancy.</b> American journal of obstetrics and gynecology. 2009
	<a href="#">Tamma PD, Steinhoff MC, Omer SB</a> <b>Influenza infection and vaccination in pregnant women.</b> Expert review of respiratory medicine. 2010
	<a href="#">Beigi RH, Switzer GE, Mewn LA</a> <b>Acceptance of a pandemic avian influenza vaccine in pregnancy.</b> The Journal of reproductive medicine. 2009
	<a href="#">McNeil SA, Dorids L, Allen VM, Scott J, Halperin B, MacDonald N</a> <b>Influenza vaccine programs and pregnancy: new Canadian evidence for immunization.</b> J Obstet Gynaecol Can. 2007
	<a href="#">MacDonald NE, Riley LE, Steinhoff MC</a> <b>Influenza immunization in pregnancy.</b> Obstetrics and gynecology. 2009
	<a href="#">American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Committee on Obstetric Practice</a> <b>ACOG Committee Opinion No. 468: Influenza vaccination during pregnancy.</b> Obstetrics and gynecology. 2010

FIGURE 4. "Find Articles" Search

highlycited.com> lists "the top 250 preeminent individual researchers in each of 21 subject categories in 21 broad subject categories in life sciences, medicine, physical sciences, engineering and social sciences." Google Scholar, which is free, is being rolled out and will allow authors to manage their own citation analyses. And PubMed itself has the "related citations" link.

Jane data is updated only once a month. Little information is available about the creators of the site but they are responsive to inquiries. An e-mail about the product was answered within one day. The vagueness of the information would be of concern if one were paying for this system. As it is, the content can be used as supplemental information without extreme ap-

There are other products, both fee-based and free of charge, that perform similar searches. eTBLAST <<http://etest.vbi.vt.edu/etblast3>> is another similar free product which searches several additional Open Access databases including, NASA, arXiv.org, NIH's funding database, RePORTER (Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tool), and even Wikipedia. Web of Science <<http://thomsonreuters.com>>, a fee-based site, has related records searching. ISIHighlycited <[prehesion. An "Additional Information About Jane" page gives short answers to a sparse number of questions.](http://isi-</a></p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

For investigators concerned about confidentiality of their research interests, the "Scramble" button "scrambles your text so nobody else can read it." Actually, the searches are just scrambled by putting the

words in alphabetical order. The site states, "The information sent to the Jane server is not stored. It is kept in memory for as long as needed to calculate the scores and formulate the response page, and then it is discarded from memory. The server itself is protected using standard protection measures. However, we understand that there is still the possibility that someone could intercept the transmission, and of course you do not know whether you can trust us. We therefore included an option in Jane to 'scramble' your input (see the button below the input box). Scrambling simply entails putting all the words in alphabetical order, and this is done by your browser (i.e. no information is sent for the scrambling). We admit that putting the words in alphabetical order does not completely disguise your input, but it does make it extremely hard to read,

Insert your title and/or abstract here: (or, click [here](#) to search using keywords)

<p>Choose the <b>language(s)</b> you want to publish in:</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> English   <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese  <input type="checkbox"/> French   <input type="checkbox"/> Russian  <input type="checkbox"/> German   <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish  <input type="checkbox"/> Italian                 </p>	<p>Select the <b>publication type(s)</b> best describing your manuscript:</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Case Reports   <input type="checkbox"/> In Vitro  <input type="checkbox"/> Classical Article   <input type="checkbox"/> Journal Article  <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Trial   <input type="checkbox"/> Letter  <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Trial, Phase I   <input type="checkbox"/> Meta-Analysis  <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Trial, Phase II   <input type="checkbox"/> Multicenter Study  <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Trial, Phase III   <input type="checkbox"/> Randomized Controlled Trial  <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Trial, Phase IV   <input type="checkbox"/> Review  <input type="checkbox"/> Comparative Study   <input type="checkbox"/> Twin Study  <input type="checkbox"/> Controlled Clinical Trial   <input type="checkbox"/> Validation Studies  <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation Studies                 </p>
<p>Choose your <b>open access</b> options:*</p> <p> <input checked="" type="radio"/> No preference  <input type="radio"/> Search only open access journals  <input type="radio"/> Exclude open access journals                 </p>	<p>Included only journals in <b>PubMed Central</b>?*</p> <p> <input checked="" type="radio"/> No preference  <input type="radio"/> Only journals with immediate access  <input type="radio"/> Only journals with a maximum access delay of 12 months  <input type="radio"/> Only journals in Pubmed Central                 </p>

\* these options only work when searching for journals

FIGURE 5. Extra Search Options



## Jane Review Scores Composite: ★★ ★ 3/4

*The maximum number of stars in each category is 5.*

**Content:** ★★ ★ 1/2

Jane pulls data only from MEDLINE. Other similar sites pull from additional sources. The site is updated with MEDLINE data only monthly.

**User Interface/Searchability:** ★★★★★

Jane utilizes a clean, user-friendly search interface. However, if a problem or questions arises, users must contact the developers as no "Help" button exists.

**Pricing:** NA

**Contract Options:** NA

and it has no effect on the performance of Jane." What if an archival/nemesis managed to get access to this text, either in scrambled or unscrambled form? Using text from an abstract as an example, if you cut and paste it into Google, the results returned show the PubMed citation link as the first result in three out four tries.

### Contact Information

#### Biosemantics Group Rotterdam

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URL: <http://www.biosemantics.org>

### Contract Provisions and Authentication

None; access to this database is free. There is no authentication required.

### Author's References

Eigenfactor.org–Ranking and Mapping Scientific Knowledge, accessed 8/12/2011, <<http://eigenfactor.org/faq.htm>> .

Schuemie, Martijn J, and Jan A Kors. 2008. "Jane: suggesting journals, finding experts." *Bioinformatics* (Oxford, England) 24 (5) (March 1): 727-728. doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btn006.

### About the Author

**Sharon Leslie** is an Assistant Professor and Public Health and Health Sciences librarian at Georgia State University. She received her MSLS from Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA. She is a member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals. ■