

# How to get the most out of Candidate Search

Candidate Search on ResearchGate supports Boolean search queries with AND, OR, NOT, “ ”, and ( ).

Use **Boolean operators** to optimise your queries

- AND: Search for candidates that match both search terms
- OR: Broaden your search by searching for candidates matching any term
- NOT: Use to exclude candidates matching a specific term

Without the use of any operators, all search terms will automatically be “OR” connected.

Using Boolean operators helps find candidates that match a specific combination of search terms.

**Example:** *Microglia AND Huntington's disease*

Use **quotation marks “ ”** to search for candidates who match an exact phrase

Quotation marks can help narrow down the list of search results to the most relevant candidates

**Example:** *Huntington's disease* returns candidates who are matching either the exact phrase 'Huntington's disease' or any part of it, both 'Huntington's' or 'disease'; whereas *"Huntington's disease"* in quotations returns only candidates who are matching the exact phrase.

Use **parentheses ( )** to create a more complex search:

Candidate Search recognizes AND as the primary operator, meaning that search terms with AND will be connected together first.

Therefore, if you use a combination of AND and OR operators in your search, use parentheses for all the words you want to be “OR” connected.

**Examples:** *(Java OR Python) AND (Kafka OR Hbase OR Flink OR Hive)*

*"Brain stimulation" AND (Parkinson OR Dystonia)*

Once you have found a candidate you would like to contact using Candidate Search, you will find the blue Message button on the top right-hand side of their profile.