



# Current Awareness Tools - Keeping up with Everyone and Everything

## Introductions & Class Overview

- Automated methods of receiving relevant professional [or other] information resources
- Has been especially relevant in health sciences and special libraries
- Can/should be very personalized; choices for content, methods, tools
- Commercial services/apps are available and allow some customization. Some services make choices for you.
- Traditional high-impact things like journal articles, lesser impact things like professional blogs/websites, and other "lesser" material like social media
- Can be considered a librarian service – encouraging and assisting with customizing materials and methods

## Tools for Keeping Current with Journal Literature & More!

- Saved Searches – ex. My NCBI (PubMed), email or RSS alerts
- BrowZine – authenticated for full-text via academic affiliation; integrates with citation managers, saved reading list
- Commercial alerting services, e-mail alerts
- Apps, widgets and subject-specific tools

## Reasons to Use RSS

- Save time & effort - one stop shopping
- Reduce inbox clutter
- Easy to scan lots of material – "awareness" may or may not lead to deeper learning, but can help you impress your friends & colleagues, get funded, get tenure, be the life of the party
- Reader options – standalone or browser-based

## Examples of What You Can Get with RSS

- Journal Tables of Contents (i.e. JAMA, BMJ)
- Saved Searches (e.g., TRIS, PubMed, Ebsco/CINAHL Plus, Google)
- Blogs & other "non-publication" updates (i.e. news, YouTube)
- Podcasts (i.e. Cochrane, Nature, BMJ, CDC)
- Funding Opportunities (i.e. Grants.gov, NIH RePORTER)

## Feedly Demo (& a little InoReader)

- Account can be created at Feedly.com
- Adding, viewing & managing feeds
- Full text through possible with library subscriptions

## Pushing Further – Power Users, Librarians and other Info Hubs

- Filtering, Combining, creating feeds (FeedRinse, Feedly & OPML bundles, etc)
- BrowZine web app and local integration
- Feedly group tools