

Supplementary table 4: Scoring system for comparison of miscellaneous features

Parameters	Maximum score given	Justification for scores	Score distribution	Examples of tools
Temporary storage	2	Temporarily storing selected articles in clipboard helps to export or email them.	Feature present (0.5 to 2, depending on the number of articles that can be stored and the time of storage).	PubMed and PMC store citations in clipboard and searches in history for 8 hours. Scopus stores citations and searches for the current session. BioAsk and HWP also have this feature but are less efficient.
Long term storage	3	User may need to frequently analyze a specific search results. The stored searches can even be re-run later to get the updated results.	Feature present (0.5 to 2, depending on the number of articles that can be stored and the time of storage allowed).	Scopus provides options for storing searches and documents for long-term. BioAsk, PubMed, PMC and GoPubMed have the feature but are relatively less efficient. PubMed Assistant stores PMIDs of citations. Scirus stores only 25 results until replaced.
Organizing, tagging and annotation possible	2	Organizing, tagging and annotating results make it easier to analyze them.	All three available (2). Organizing and tagging possible, annotation not possible (1.9).	BioAsk, PubMed and PMC have this feature. Scopus allows grouping results in lists which can be saved and managed.
Export/ import/ downloading	2	Exporting, importing or downloading results in a desired format helps one to save, manage and analyze results in a better way.	Depending on the number of import/export formats available:	Scopus and PubMed provide multiple options. ALIBABA, BioIE, Brij.in, EBIMed, PubFocus, PubMed Interact and XplorMed do not have this feature.

Number of import/export formats	Score
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6	0.9
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5	0.8
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4	0.7
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3	0.6
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2	0.5
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1	0.4
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If

text format available (+ 0.1)

Possible to mail and / or print results (1).