

Keyword

Many years ago, before the [Internet](#) and the introduction of the [electronic publications](#), bibliographical [research](#) was conducted in physical libraries, and the most commonly used source of information was the regularly updated [Index Medicus](#), a multi-volume treatise that for 125 years summarized and indexed all published medical literature, classifying it by [keywords](#) and [subject headings](#). Whenever researchers or clinicians needed to read the indexed article that was not available in their library, they would mail the corresponding [author](#) a request for a reprint. Academic courtesy has routinely been shown by sending paper reprints to all those who requested them, regardless of where in the world such requests would come from.

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