

Using Personal Injury Litigator

Personal Injury Litigator searches medical guides and summaries, medical journals and abstracts, legal texts and periodicals, cases and administrative decisions, jury verdicts, and news and industry information with a single search. Your search result is presented on a single, easy-to-read page, organized by type of information. In short, Personal Injury Litigator can help you assess claims, educate yourself and your client, find authoritative sources, and save time and money while you work on any case that requires medical information.

Note: Some material may be excluded from your Westlaw plan. For specific information about your plan, contact your West account manager or sales representative.

Accessing Personal Injury Litigator

You can access Personal Injury Litigator using the tabbed PI Litigator page. To add this page, click **Add/Remove Tabs** at the top of any page. At the Manage Tabs page, select the **PI Litigator** check box under *Topical* and click **Next**. At the Save Tabs page, select the page to be displayed first when you sign on to Westlaw and click **Save**.

Using Personal Injury Litigator

You can use Personal Injury Litigator to search both medical and legal sources with a single search. For example, to retrieve medical and legal information relating to a laminectomy for a herniated disk, follow these steps:

1. Go to the tabbed PI Litigator page.
2. In the *Search* text box, type **herniated disk laminectomy**. Note that Natural Language is the default search method. To select the Terms and Connectors search method, click its tab.
3. The Expanded Term Searching feature automatically adds synonyms and related terms to your search and is selected for you at the PI Litigator page. To turn off this feature, clear the **Use Expanded Term Searching** check box.
4. If desired, select a date restriction from the Dates drop-down list, e.g., **Last 3 Years**. The default is *Last 10 Years*.
5. If desired, restrict your search to specific jurisdictions by clicking **change** next to *Jurisdiction*. Then click **clear all**, select the check boxes for one or more jurisdictions, and click **Add to Search**.
6. Click **Search**.
7. If you used the Expanded Term Searching feature, you can refine your search by selecting additional terms from the list that is displayed. Click **Continue**.

Tabbed PI Litigator page

Westlaw is available on the Web at www.westlaw.com.

For technical assistance, call West Customer Technical Support at **1-800-WESTLAW** (1-800-937-8529).

For search assistance, call the West Reference Attorneys at **1-800-REF-ATTY** (1-800-733-2889).

If you are a law student, call **1-800-850-WEST** (1-800-850-9378) for assistance.

Reviewing Your Search Result

Documents in your Personal Injury Litigator search result are arranged by category, including the following: Learn About (which provides a basic description of the medical condition, device, or drug in your search); Medical Illustrations, Medical Guides and Summaries, Medical Journals and Abstracts, Drug/Device Guides and Summaries, Health Care Industry Information, Health Care Professional and Expert Witness Information, FDA Regulatory Information, Cases and Administrative Decisions, Briefs, Jury Verdicts, Litigation Reporters, Regulations Updates, Legal Analysis, Regulations, and News. Not every search retrieves documents in all categories.

The screenshot shows a search results page for the query "herniated disk laminectomy". At the top, there is a search bar with the query and a "SEARCH" button. Below the search bar, the results are categorized into four main sections: "Learn About" (18 results), "Medical Illustrations" (18 results), "Medical Guides & Summaries" (100 results), and "Medical Journals & Abstracts" (100 results). Each section has a "view all" link. The "Learn About" section is expanded, showing a list of results. The first result is titled "1. ECRH-HCSD 14509" and is a technology assessment report. The second result is titled "2. Gale Encyclopedia of Neurological Disorders" and is an encyclopedia entry. The "Medical Illustrations" section shows three results, each with a title and a brief description. The "Medical Journals & Abstracts" section shows one result titled "1. Choi, Jeong-Wook; Lee, Jung-Kil; Moon, Kyung-Sub; Hur, Hyuk; Kim, Yeon-Seong; Kim, Soo-Han".

To view the full text of a document, click its title.

To view all documents in a specific category, click **view all** next to the category.

Search Results page

When you click a document title at the Search Results page, the full text of the document is displayed in the right frame. To display the parts of the document in which your search terms appear, click the **Term** arrows at the bottom of the page. To view the next or previous document in the category that you are viewing, click the **Doc** arrows at the bottom of the page.

Searching Individual Databases at the PI Litigator Page

You can search a single database by clicking the database name in the *Search Individual Databases* section of the PI Litigator page. To search multiple databases, click **Search Entire Collection** under a category heading, then select one or more check boxes at the Search page. For example, to search specific medical journals, click **Search Entire Collection** under *Medical Journals and Abstracts*, then select the check boxes for the databases you want to search.

Retrieving a Case Evaluator Report at the PI Litigator Page

You can use the *Shortcuts* section of the PI Litigator page to obtain a Case Evaluator report, which provides information that enables you to evaluate a case, review court documents, locate experts, and learn about medical issues. To retrieve a report, click **Create Report** under *Case Evaluator*.