

Thank you for your feedback regarding how individuals with disabilities may experience the Web of Science when accessing through a screen reader or navigating by keyboard. As part of our renewed commitment to this important constituency, Web of Science is proactively implementing a program designed to make it WCAG 2.0 AA compliant in 2018.

To demonstrate our commitment to accessibility, Web of Science has re-introduced accessibility compliance checkpoints designed to identify areas of potential improvement, suggest new accessibility-friendly designs, and confirm new development conforms to accessibility recommendations.

In the initial step of this program, Web of Science reviewed the entire platform to identify areas of improvement to update their [Voluntary Product Accessibility Template](#) as recommended by Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act in February 2017.

Based on this review, Web of Science re-designed key functions to improve general usability as well as accessibility. The initial phase of these enhancements scheduled to be released in June 2017 include:

- **Select a database** functionality was re-designed to highlight the breadth of content available through clearer labeling
- **Access to Cited Reference Search and other searches easier to see** with new design that exposes links to these search form
- **Updated, more accessible drop-down boxes** that support keyboard navigation and screen readers on major areas of the site such as basic search, sort search results, and export search results.
- **Highlighting the active field in focus** to make it easier to determine the cursor location on the screen when navigating by keyboard or using a screen reader.

The screenshot displays the Web of Science search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Web of Science', 'InCites', 'Journal Citation Reports', 'Essential Science Indicators', and 'EndNote'. On the right side of the navigation bar, there are links for 'Sign In', 'Help', and 'English'. Below the navigation bar, the 'Web of Science' logo is prominently displayed on the left, and the 'Clarivate Analytics' logo is on the right. A 'Search' button is located in the top right corner of the main content area. Below the search bar, there is a 'Select a database' dropdown menu currently set to 'Web of Science Core Collection'. To the right of this dropdown is a 'Learn More' link. Below the database selection, there are tabs for 'Basic Search', 'Author Search', 'Cited Reference Search', and '+ More'. The 'Basic Search' tab is active. The search input field contains the text 'oil spill'. To the right of the search input is a 'Search' button. Below the search input, there are links for '+ Add Another Field' and 'Reset Form'. To the right of the search input, there is a 'Topic' dropdown menu with a list of search criteria: 'Topic', 'Title', 'Author', 'Author Identifiers', 'Group Author', 'Editor', 'Publication Name', and 'DOI'. The 'Topic' option is currently selected and highlighted. Below the search input, there is a 'TIMESPAN' section with a radio button for 'All years' and a 'From' field set to '1900' and a 'to' field set to '2017'. Below the 'TIMESPAN' section is a 'MORE SETTINGS' link. On the right side of the search interface, there is a link that says 'Click here for tips to improve your search.'

Accessibility will remain a top priority as new enhancements are introduced throughout the remainder of 2017. Only designs that have passed our accessibility review will be considered for new

enhancements, and conformance to those accessibility standards will be tested during our pre-release quality assurance efforts.

Future releases will continue to emphasize accessibility across the entire platform. While all new functionality will be tested as it is released, accessibility will be a primary focus of our early 2018 releases. For example, the insufficient color contrast will be addressed in this time period when the product color palette is updated to new Clarivate branding guidelines.

We welcome the opportunity to partner with you to achieve compliance with WCAG 2.0 AA guidelines.