Keeping up with the Literature: How Electronic Alerts Can Help

Do you want a better way to keep up with the dental literature? If so, electronic current alerts may be just what you are looking for!

Current awareness alerts are automated services that let you know when new articles on your topic(s) of interest or in your favorite journal have been published. It's an efficient way to keep up with the research. You can setup the alert once and then receive in your email the latest citations and abstracts. There are several alert services available.

PubMed's My NCBI allows you to set up e-mail alerts that can deliver results daily, weekly or monthly depending on your preference. Updates may also be saved as an RSS feed. Detailed instructions as to how to set up this service can be found at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/guide/howto/receive-search-results/.

e-TOCS stands for Electronic Table of Contents Service. E-TOCS automatically send alerts to your e-mail each time a new issue is published. To get alerts for e-journals, look for links to “e-mail table of contents” or “register for alerts.” You can receive alerts specifically for Pediatric Dentistry. Register for Pediatric Dentistry alerts here: http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/aapd/pd.

Google Scholar is a database of scholarly literature including: articles, theses, books, abstracts and court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities and other web sites. To receive alerts search for the topic of interest, e.g., “dental fashion;” click the envelope icon in the sidebar of the search results page; enter your e-mail address, and click “Create alert”. You will then be e-mailed newly published papers that match your search criteria. Google Scholar: http://scholar.google.com/.