



EMBASE: WHAT IS IT AND WHY IS IT NEEDED?

INTRODUCTION

In the biomedical domain users are looking for answers based on comprehensive, up-to-date information. With over 8,300 currently published biomedical journals, including all titles covered by MEDLINE, this is just what Embase is able to offer. All articles are indexed in depth using the Elsevier Life Science thesaurus ('Emtree'), and the entire database is available on multiple platforms.

On the Elsevier platform, (www.embase.com), users looking for drug and disease-related information (and much more besides), are provided with the intuitive search tools they need to find answers to their research questions.

FEATURES

Embase coverage in a nutshell

- Journal coverage, when Embase Classic is included, back to 1947
- Over 28 million records, including 1.8 million records from Embase Classic and records from all MEDLINE titles
- Over 8,300 journals from over 90 countries are currently indexed, including all MEDLINE titles
- Over 2,500 currently indexed journals are unique to Embase, i.e. are not available from MEDLINE
- Each year over 1.3 million records are added to Embase, with on average more than 5,000 records each working day
- Coverage includes more than one million conference abstracts indexed from over 3,500 conferences (from 2009)
- In addition, Embase now includes indexed Articles in Press and In-Process records for over 25% and 45% of records respectively



Embase indexing

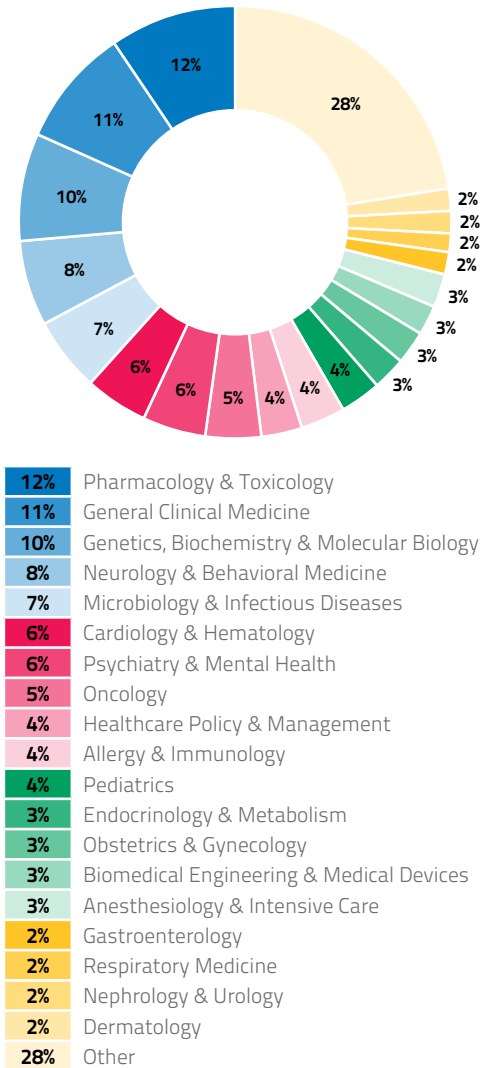
- All records are indexed in depth with Emtree terms
- Emtree includes over 65,000 preferred terms half of which are drug and chemical terms: over three times as many as listed by MeSH
- In addition, Emtree now lists over 3,000 medical devices
- All MeSH terms are mapped to Emtree
- Drug and disease index terms are qualified by subheadings which define the context of use of each term
- Five key drug subheadings are further qualified to show the linked drug or disease terms (from 2009)
- Additional index terms include drug and medical device trade names and manufacturer names, CAS registry numbers and molecular sequence numbers

Embase functionality

- All records in Embase, including all MEDLINE content, are searchable with a single query; deduplication by the user is not required
- Choice of Emtree or MeSH terminology to carry out searches
- Emtree explosion searches for retrieval of records indexed with the same class, particularly for drugs, diseases and devices
- Daily updates for high currency
- Provisionally indexed "in process" and pre-publication ("articles in press") records ensure the best possible currency
- Email alerts and RSS feeds can be run on any schedule as defined by the user
- Search results can be refined using biomedical and bibliographic filters
- Search results are linked to full text data (e.g. via OpenURL), subject to availability
- Data exports are available in a variety of formats (including RIS)

Embase scope and content

Embase has a broad biomedical scope, with in depth coverage of pharmacology, pharmaceutical science and clinical research. Basic biomedical science, veterinary science and extensive allied health topics are also included.



SUMMARY DATA

- With a total content over 8,300 journal titles, Embase covers over 60 topic areas
- 30 core pharmacology and clinical topics* represent over 70% of Embase content (from over 5,000 journal titles)
- Over 25% of Embase journal titles are unique**, including 30% of titles covering core pharmacology and clinical topics

* the pie chart shows the core topics, grouped into 19 super categories

** i.e. not covered by MEDLINE