

- **Emtree 2026.01 release notes**

General improvements

Developments around COVID 19 / SARS COV II respectively are no longer a strong focus but are still being observed and added to the taxonomy.

Diseases

- ✓ We have made significant reshuffling in the “chromosomal disorders” branch, affecting multiple branches.
- ✓ A new “autosomal recessive autosomal disorders” branch has been created.
- ✓ We have been enriching the rare disease branch as part of the Elsevier’s Zebra Year.
- ✓ In total, we have 129 new concepts, and a similar number of synonyms being added to Emtree.
- ✓ In the upcoming release, the rare disease branch will be expanded and re-assessed while a new degenerating diseases branch and regenerative medicine branch will be introduced.

As a part of Taxonomy improvement of Genetic disorder, major changes have been made to “Genetic and Familial disorder”

The Genetic disorder hierarchy was reorganized to introduce two structured sub-branches: Hereditary genetic disorder and non-hereditary genetic disorder. The direct children of Genetic disorder were streamlined from 25 to 13.

- ✓ Previously scattered familial and hereditary concepts were consolidated under unified parent concepts, “familial disease” and “hereditary genetic disorder.”
 - The Familial disease branch expanded significantly, increasing from 12 to 45 child concepts.
 - The hereditary genetic disorder branch now comprises 51 child concepts.
- ✓ New high-level branches “Genetic kidney disease” and “Neurological genetic disorders”—were introduced to support future granularity.
- ✓ 20+ new disease concepts and related synonyms were added across the genetic and familial diseases.
- ✓ The upcoming release will focus on Hereditary tumour and cancer syndromes, Dental disorders, as part of continuous taxonomy improvement.

Drugs and chemicals

Updates regarding all routinely monitored sources were provided.

- The content of list 133 (published on 10/07/2025) of proposed INNs including the COVID-19 special edition as published by the WHO was incorporated (239 entries) and published corrections on previous lists were processed.
- The United States Adopted Names published from July 2025 until October 2025 (included) were incorporated.
- Names of newly approved drugs, drugs under consideration, orphan drug designations and drug trade names as published by the FDA, EMA and MHRA in the period June 2025 - September 2025 (included) were incorporated.

In total, 293 new concepts have been added.

Updates regarding proteins:

Some hierarchical improvements have been made for signaling peptides, Mitogen activated kinases and interferon regulatory factors among others.

In total: 39 new concepts have been added for proteins

Medical devices

- 32 new alternative labels have been added to the medical device branch of Emtree.
- Of these 32 new alternative labels 32 are new device trade names. Most of these device trade names were sourced directly from their corresponding manufacturers. This is an ongoing effort and will be continued in future releases.

Organisms

65 new terms have been added to the organism branch holding 141 new synonyms. These include:

- New MESH terms
- 3 new monkeypox virus strains/isolates, with 9 synonyms
- 31 new SARS CoV-2 related terms with 89 synonyms. These are the latest variants and new pseudotyped viruses used in research.