

# Embase for biomedical searching – An introduction

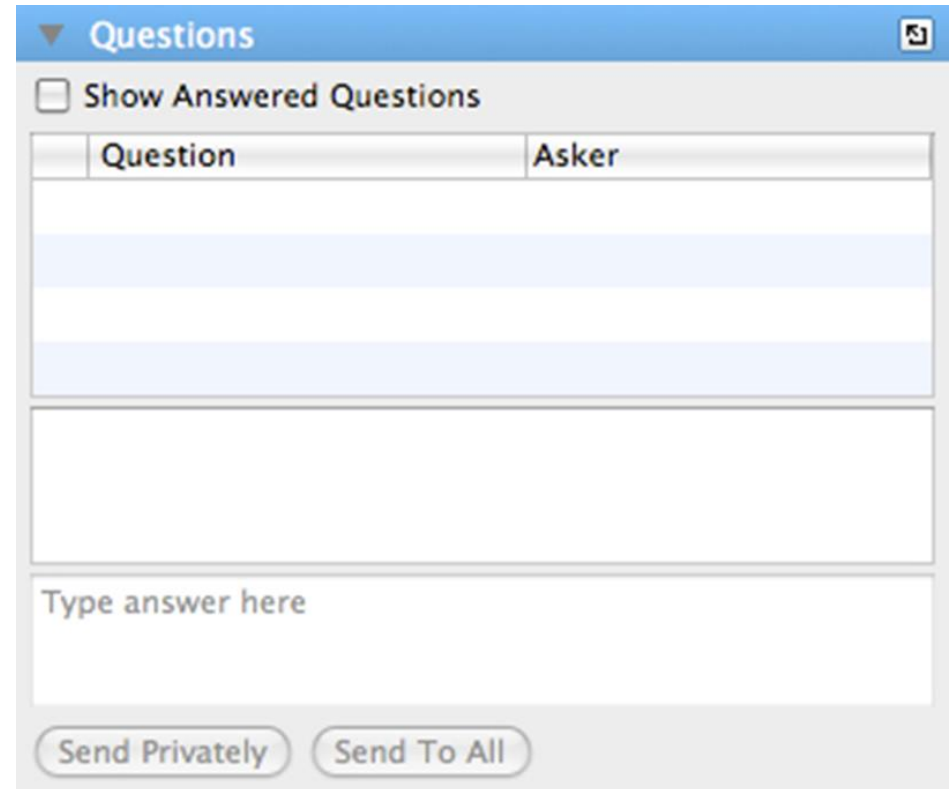


Presented by Sherry Winter  
January 27, 2015

## Need to know

### Webinar control panel:

- 'Ask a question' for questions and comments
- Option for full screen view
- Q&A at the end



The screenshot shows a 'Questions' control panel with a blue header bar. Below the header is a checkbox labeled 'Show Answered Questions'. The main area contains a table with two columns: 'Question' and 'Asker'. The table is currently empty. Below the table is a large text input field with the placeholder text 'Type answer here'. At the bottom of the panel are two buttons: 'Send Privately' and 'Send To All'.

Question	Asker
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Type answer here

Send Privately Send To All

# Agenda

- Why use Embase?
- Embase content and coverage
- How is Embase indexed?
- How to search in Embase
- Demo
- Tips and tricks for searching
- Any questions??



# Why Embbase?

## What is Embase?

*A biomedical literature database with comprehensive journal and conference coverage and deep indexing*

**Content: Be confident you aren't missing important information**

Find all relevant articles that may not otherwise be found by using alternative databases

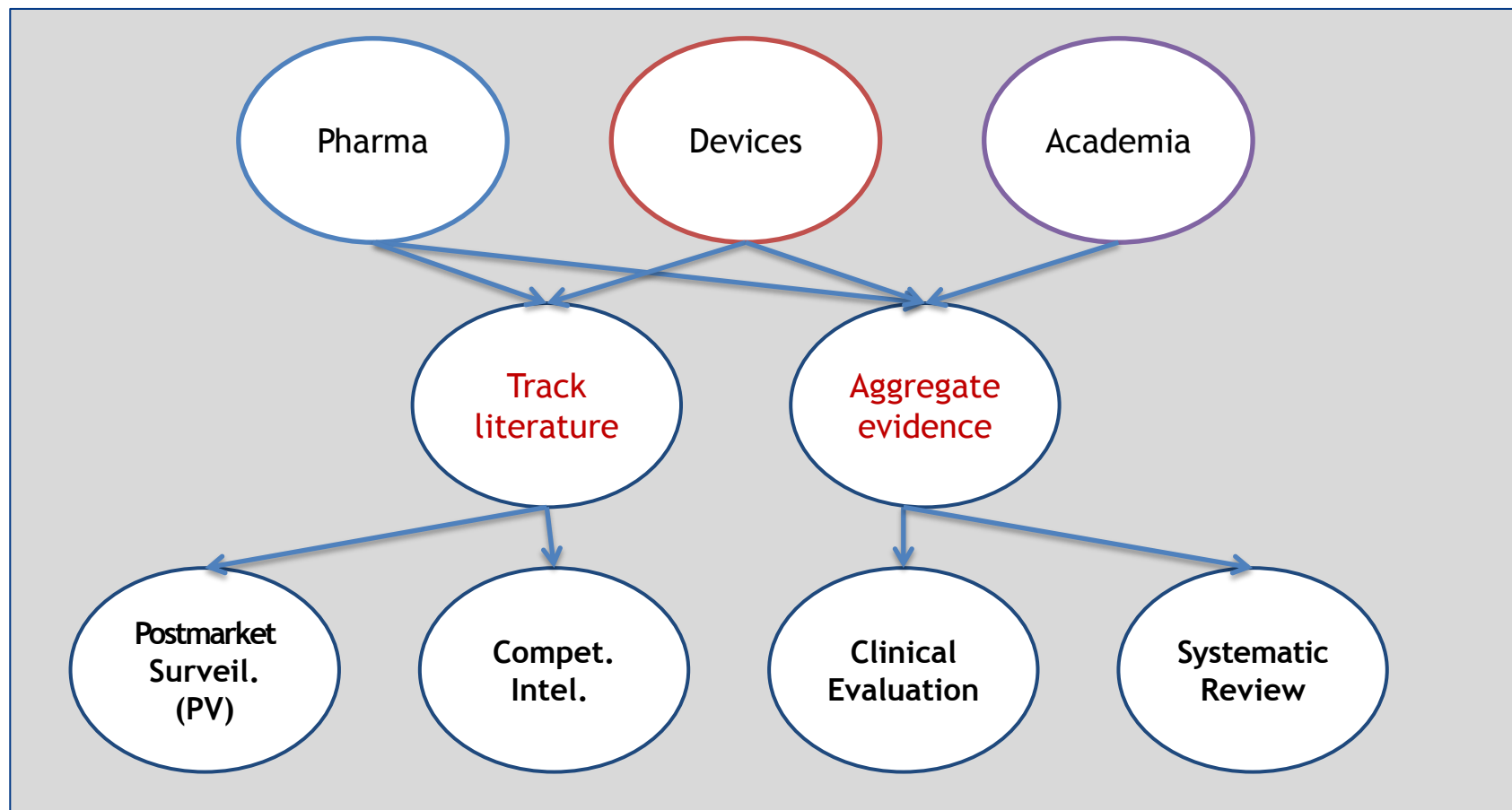
**Deep full-text indexing: Find relevant articles, no matter where a term is mentioned**

All relevant, up-to-date, biomedical information from the research literature

**Precise retrieval: Pinpoint the most relevant results**

Deep and focused research using the most powerful retrieval tools

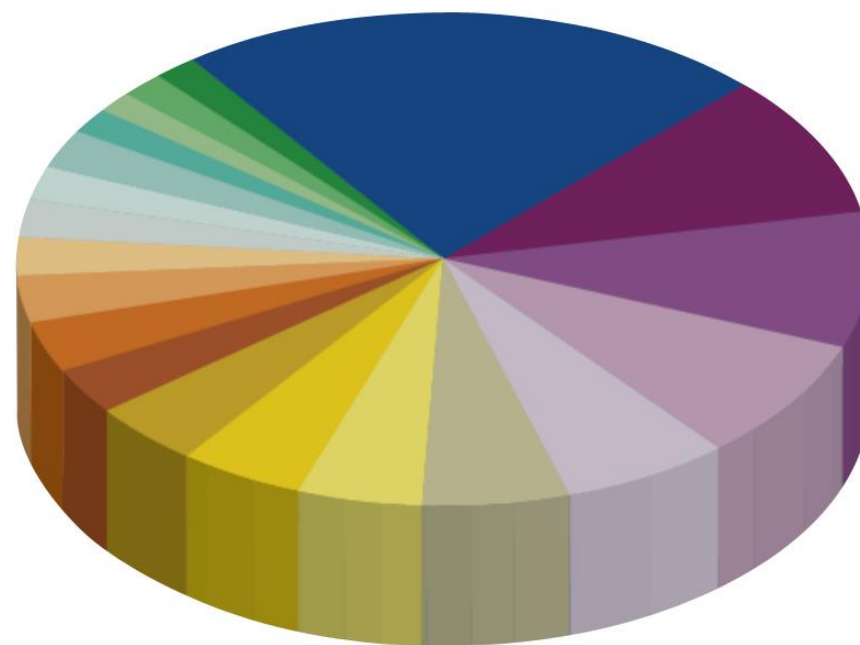
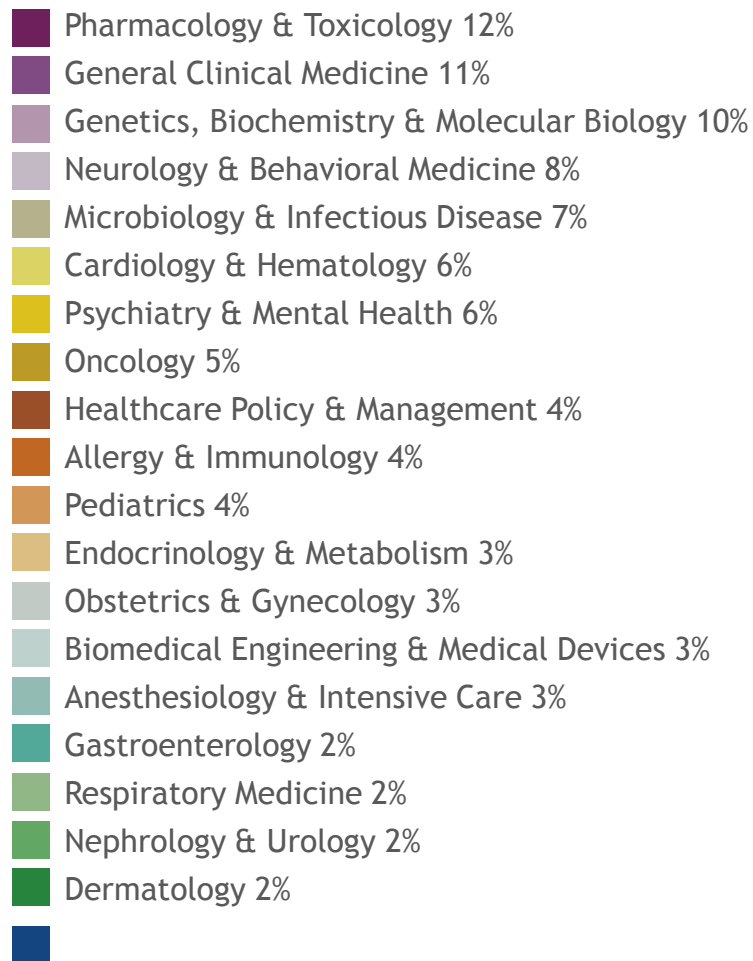
## Why do people use Embase?





**Comprehensive  
content**

## Embase focuses on biomedical literature in key areas for drug, disease and device research



**Other topics 28%**

Including public health, basic biomedical science and topics included from MEDLINE



# Unique coverage of conference abstracts

## Field labels

Abbreviated journal title :ta	CAS registry number :rn
Abstract :ab	Clinical trial number :cn
Accession number :an	CODEN :cd
Article title :ti	Conference date :dc
Author address :ad	Conference editor :ed
Author email :em	Conference location :lc
Author name :au	Conference name :nc
Index term :de	Page range :pg
ISSN :is	Publication date :pd
Issue :ip	Publication type :it
Language of article :la	Publication year :py
Language of summary :ls	Source title :jt
Molecular sequence number :ms	Source type :pt
Original non-English title :tt	Start page :sp

## Publication types

<input type="checkbox"/> Article	<input type="checkbox"/> Erratum
<input type="checkbox"/> Article in Press	<input type="checkbox"/> Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference Abstract	<input type="checkbox"/> Note
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference Paper	<input type="checkbox"/> Review
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Short Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Editorial	

## Coverage began in 2009

Conference coverage is unique to Embase.

- Access to research before it's published in a journal article
- Over 2.1m conference abstracts\*
- Over 6300 conferences included\*

\* As of January 2016

Click here for an up to date list (<http://www.elsevier.com/solutions/embase/coverage>)

# What's the overlap between Embase & MEDLINE?

**Embase:** Covers over 8,500 journals

Indexed at Embase (over 5,900 titles)

Indexed by MEDLINE (over 5,500 titles)

**Over 2,900 journals**

Indexed at Embase  
Unique to Embase

**Search:**

[embase]/lim NOT  
[medline]/lim

**Over 3,000 journals**

Indexed at Embase  
Also covered by MEDLINE

**Search:**

[embase]/lim AND  
[medline]/lim

**Over 2,400 journals**

Indexed by MEDLINE  
Also in MEDLINE

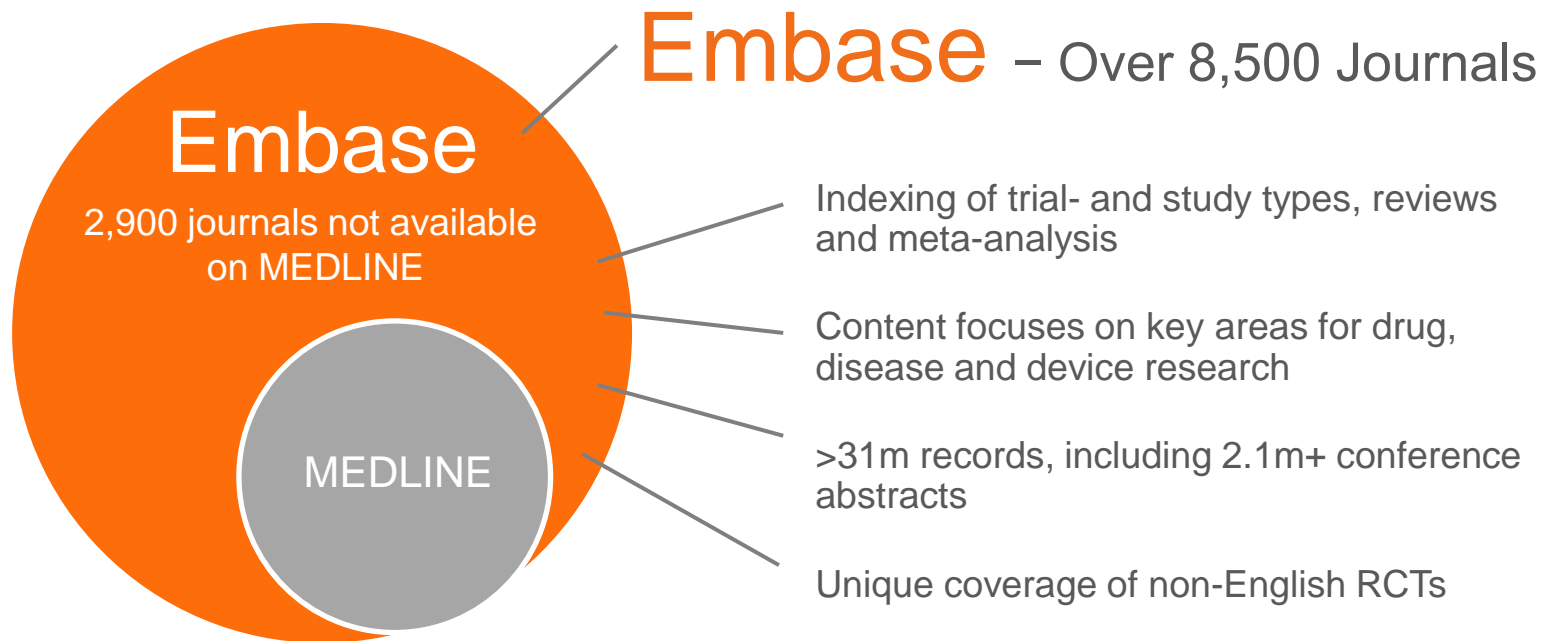
**Search:**

[medline]/lim NOT  
[embase]/lim

Search: [embase]/lim

## Embase is internationally recognized and recommended

Embase is recommended by the Cochrane Collaboration as a key international general healthcare databases to use when generating Systematic Reviews and is mentioned in EMA regulatory guidelines as a database to search for drug adverse events





# How is Embase indexed?

# Embase includes information from the full text of articles so critical information isn't missed

Embase focuses on full text indexing of biomedical content — the entire article is read and 'tagged' with searchable terms

Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics 481 (2009) 169–176

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics

Journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/yabbi](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/yabbi)

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Comparison of NMR structural and dynamics features of the urea and guanidine-denatured states of GED

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Resonance assignment  
Self-assembly  
Urea-denatured state

**ABSTRACT**

Denatured states of proteins, the starting points as well as the intermediates of folding *in vivo*, play important roles in biological functions. In this context, we describe here urea unfolding and characterization of the denatured state of GTPase effector domain (GED) of dynamin created by <sup>15</sup>N atoms. These are compared with similar data for guanidine induced denaturation reported earlier. The unfolding characteristics in the two cases, as measured by the optical probes, are significantly different, urea unfolding proceeding via an intermediate. The structural and motional characteristics, determined by NMR, of the two denatured states are also strikingly different. The urea-denatured state shows a combination of  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -preferences in contrast to the entirely  $\beta$ -preferences in the guanidine-denatured state. Higher <sup>15</sup>N cross-relaxation rates suggest higher folding propensities in the urea-denatured state. The implications of these to GED folding are discussed.

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Denatured states of proteins are beginning to be recognized as important entities in the biological world—a denatured state of a protein is defined as the lowest energy ‘non-native’ state under a given set of conditions [1]. Inside a living cell, the environmental conditions like local intracellular ion concentrations, interaction with various ligands etc. can vary significantly from organelle to organelle [2], and even within the same organelle there can be variations due to signaling processes and interactions with different molecules. All these processes tightly regulate the translational and post-translational processes which dictate the fate of the newly synthesized polypeptide chain. Thus a particular protein may see different environments which lead to different denatured states during the course of its function. Some of the denatured states may lead to soluble aggregates, which occasionally lead to diseases [3].

When a polypeptide chain begins to fold starting from a denatured ensemble, each molecule in the ensemble can, in-principle, fold along a different path. In this scenario, the starting state in terms of the conformational preferences across the polypeptide chain will have a significant influence on the path the molecule adopts; different denaturing environments inside a cell can create different initial states for the protein to fold from. If the chain already has some structure, that may form the nucleus for additional structure to build upon, and this will reduce the search options for the polypeptide chain in the multi-dimensional conformational space. It can also happen that the existing structure may have to be removed for a new structure to get formed for the protein to move towards the native state. Thus the number of folding paths for a given protein would be dictated by the number and nature of structural preferences across the length of the chain.

In view of all these, it is important to understand the characteristics of the various denatured states, with regard to their topologies, heterogeneities and motional characteristics, their modulations due to changes in environmental conditions, etc. at atomic level detail. *In vitro*, different denatured states can be created by use of different denaturants, such as Gdn-HCl, urea, SDS, extreme pH conditions, etc. Although these may not exactly represent the denatured states, *in vivo*, they help sample the ensemble quite widely and thus allow investigation of the folding processes, in general.

In this background, we present here a comparative study of the structural and dynamic characteristics of urea-denatured and Gdn-HCl-denatured states of the GTPase effector domain (GED)<sup>1</sup> of dynamin, a crucial protein in clathrin mediated endocytosis. GED plays important roles both in dynamin assembly around the neck of the clathrin coated vesicles, and assist the N-terminal GTPase domain in GTP hydrolysis required for dynamin function [4,5]. The recombinant form of GED has been shown to self-assemble and form large megadalton-sized oligomers *in vitro* [6,7] even at micro-molar concentrations. We first describe the global characteristics of urea-mediated unfolding of GED, as studied by optical techniques including CD and fluorescence and then the residue-le-

Fluorescence measurements

Bis-ANS [4,4'-Bis(1-anilino)phthalene 8-sulfonate] Molecular Probes, OR, USA) was prepared and the concentration was determined using the extinction coefficient,  $\epsilon_{280} = 23,000 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ M}^{-1}$ . Steady-state fluorescence emission spectra were recorded with  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 395 \text{ nm}$  on a Spex Fluorolog-dM300 spectrophotometer at 27°C, using a 1 cm path length cuvette with a band pass of 1.5 nm for both excitation and emission. The emission spectra were measured from 450 to 550 nm at a scan rate of  $1 \text{ nm s}^{-1}$ . The denaturation profiles of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  protein in Tris buffer (20 mM, pH 7.4), pre-equilibrated with varying concentration of the denaturant urea or bis-ANS (4  $\mu\text{M}$ ) for 1 h, were measured by monitoring the emission at 491 nm. The data were smoothened by three-point averaging to minimize errors due to denaturant concentration adjustments and were normalized using the following equation [10]:

$$F_{\text{app}} = \frac{F - S_{\text{app}}}{S - S_{\text{app}}} \quad (2)$$

**References**

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Other literature databases only focus on Abstracts and Citations — critical information in the full text is missed

# Embase indexing – Deep, full-text indexing to retrieve all relevant results

## Easy to search

- Over **73,000** preferred terms and more than **310,000** synonyms that map to the preferred term when searched

## Comprehensive drug and Medical Device searching

- Chemical names, trade names, laboratory/research codes, and more than **31,000** generic drugs and chemicals (FDA, EMEA and WHO)
- Over **3,000** specific terms for general and medical devices (e.g. endoscopes, catheters, prostheses) as well as several thousand terms for related medical procedures, (e.g. endoscopy, catheterization)

## Up-to-date

- The latest drugs, diseases, organisms and procedures are indexed and added **3x** per year (with back-posting of older records). Includes all drug generic names described by FDA and EMA, all International Non-Proprietary Names (INNs) described by WHO from 2000

## Inclusive terminology

- All MeSH terms and links to more than **23,000** CAS registry numbers

# Build powerful searches by browsing in Emtree

**Browse Emtree**

**Query Builder**  
Build a multi-term search query

Find Term Browse by Facet

For term: **'hypertensive agent'**  
Extend your search:  Explosion  As major focus  
or

Take this query to Drug Search Add to Query Builder

**Emtree**

- chemicals and drugs
  - cardiovascular agent
    - hypertensive agent** [17,450 Records](#)
      - 4, 8 bis (diethylamino) 2, 6 bis (2 hydroxyethyl 2 methoxyethylamino) pyrimido [5, 4 d] pyrimidine
      - digitalis like factor
      - dimetofrine
      - etilefrine
      - etilefrine pivalate
      - gepefrine
      - gepefrine tartrate
      - hypertensive factor
      - marinobufagenin
      - midodrine
      - oxilofrine

**History**  
This term was added to Emtree in 1974

**Synonyms**  
antihypotensive agent; antihypotonic agent; hypertensive drug; pressor agent; vasopressor agent; vasopressor drug

Explore Emtree to see **relationships** between terms

Drug and disease terms are qualified by **searchable sub-headings** (e.g. **adverse drug reaction**) describing their precise role in the article

Mapping means that searchers get **the same results** regardless of which term they use, e.g. Vioxx (synonym) or rofecoxib (the preferred term)



**Precise results  
retrieval**



## Start searching

Quick Search

heart

Search

heart aberrant conduction use: heart arrhythmia	353,469 record(s)
heart abnormalities	218 record(s)
heart abscess	599 record(s)
heart accessory conduction pathway	1,589 record(s)
heart accessory pathway conductance use: heart accessory conduction pathway	1,589 record(s)
heart action	61 record(s)
heart action potential use: heart muscle potential	5,800 record(s)
heart activation	23 record(s)
heart activity use: heart contraction	55,204 record(s)
heart afterload	3,951 record(s)

Find the best terms for your search and include synonyms automatically with autocomplete in Quick Search

## Start with Emtree

Identify a preferred term (subject heading) for searching, when available

### Browse Emtree

**Query Builder**  
Build a multi-term search query

Find Term **Browse by Facet**

Type word or phrase (without quotes)

**Find Term**

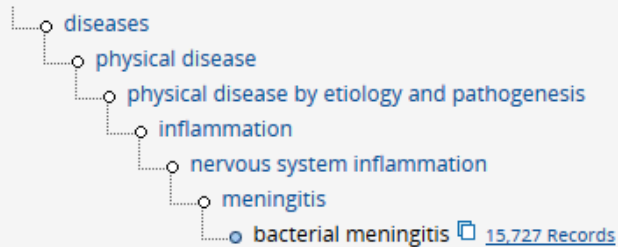
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antibiotic agent

# Review the Emtree Record

Take note of any **Synonyms** listed

Read the entry provided from **Dorland's dictionary**



## History

This term was added to Emtree in 1974

## Synonyms

e. coli meningitis; escherichia coli meningitis; meningitis purulenta; meningitis, bacterial; meningitis, escherichia coli; meningitis, pyogenic; purulent meningitis; pyogenic meningitis

## Dorland's dictionary

*bacterial meningitis* = meningitis caused by bacteria, usually characterized by fever, headache, a stiff neck, and altered mental status. Common pathogens are *Haemophilus influenzae* (see *Haemophilus influenzae m.*), *Neisseria meningitidis* (see *meningococcal m.*), *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (see *pneumococcal m.*), and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (see *tuberculous m.*). Called also *purulent* or *pyogenic m.* Cf. *viral m.*

*purulent meningitis* = bacterial m.

Definition from *Dorland's Medical Dictionary*, 32nd edition, copyright © 2011 by Elsevier. For more information please go to [www.dorlands.com](http://www.dorlands.com)

# Apply limits to investigate data for evidence-based medicine

## Drug Search

e.g. 'low molecular weight heparin'

Search

Mapping

Date

Sources

Drug fields

Drug subheadings

Routes

Quick limits

EBM

Pub. types

Languages

Search tips

### Drug subheadings

Clear page selections

Collapse

- Adverse drug reaction
- Clinical trial
- Drug administration
- Drug analysis
- Drug combination
- Drug comparison

- Drug concentration
- Drug development
- Drug dose
- Drug interaction
- Drug therapy
- Drug toxicity

- Endogenous compound
- Pharmaceutics
- Pharmacoeconomics
- Pharmacokinetics
- Pharmacology

OR

AND

## Use filters to focus search results

The diagram illustrates the process of using filters to focus search results. It shows two panels, both titled "STANDARD FILTERS", connected by a red arrow pointing from left to right.

**Left Panel (Standard Filters):** This panel shows a list of filter categories. At the top, there are links for "Expand" and "Collapse all", and an "UPDATE" button. The filter categories are listed vertically, each with a colored bar on the left: DRUG (green), DISEASE (yellow), MEDICAL DEVICE (orange), STUDY TYPE (red), JOURNAL TITLE (purple), PUBLICATION TYPE (blue), PUBLICATION YEAR (teal), AUTHOR (light blue), SUBHEADING (light green), CONFERENCE (light yellow), and AGE (yellow).

**Right Panel (Standard Filters):** This panel shows the same filter categories, but the "DRUG" category is expanded. It displays a list of drug names with their corresponding counts. The list is as follows:

Drug Name	Count
<input type="checkbox"/> trastuzumab	21502
<input type="checkbox"/> epidermal growth factor receptor 2	7070
<input type="checkbox"/> paclitaxel	6132
<input type="checkbox"/> docetaxel	5013
<input type="checkbox"/> doxorubicin	4998
<input type="checkbox"/> unclassified drug	4640
<input type="checkbox"/> cyclophosphamide	4547
<input type="checkbox"/> antineoplastic agent	4426
<input type="checkbox"/> fluorouracil	4259
<input type="checkbox"/> bevacizumab	4198

Below the list, there is a pagination control showing "10 | 20 | max". The "DISEASE" and "MEDICAL DEVICE" categories are partially visible below the drug list.

**Central Text:** A white box with a blue border contains the text: "Exportable filter data provides ways to analyze results".

## Identify relationships using filters

Click on key subheading text (e.g., adverse drug reactions) and select individual linked terms (e.g., thrombosis, stroke) for a drug

The screenshot displays a web application interface with three main panels. The left panel, titled 'Drugs', lists various drug categories and specific drugs with their respective counts. The middle panel, titled 'Key subheadings', lists categories like 'adverse drug reaction' with a count of 3499. The right panel, titled 'Adverse drug reaction', shows a search bar and a list of specific adverse events with their counts. Three black arrows point from the 'adverse drug reaction' subheading in the middle panel to the 'thrombosis', 'gastrointestinal hemorrhage', and 'cerebrovascular accident' items in the right panel.

Drugs	Count
rofecoxib	3499
nonsteroid antiInflammatory agent	2412
celecoxib	2308
cyclooxygenase 2 inhibitor	2193
naproxen	1616
acetylsalicylic acid	1501
ibuprofen	1462
diclofenac	1308
valdecoxib	891
placebo	842

Key subheadings	Count
adverse drug reaction	3499
drug combination	232
drug comparison	1294
drug interaction	132
drug therapy	2046

Adverse drug reaction	Count
all	
heart infarction	337
cardiovascular disease	264
stroke	102
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> thrombosis	81
cardiotoxicity	75
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gastrointestinal symptom	72
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gastrointestinal hemorrhage	68
unspecified side effect	67
hypertension	60
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cerebrovascular accident	52
drug fatality	48
acute heart infarction	43
gastrointestinal toxicity	33
digestive system perforation	31
digestive system ulcer	31
thromboembolism	31
heart failure	30
gastrointestinal disease	26
nausea	22
peripheral edema	22

## Keep up-to-date with automated results management tools

The screenshot displays a search interface. At the top right, there is a notification bell icon with '(1)', and buttons for 'Register' and 'Login'. Below this is a search bar containing the text 'pancreatic cancer'. Underneath the search bar is a navigation menu with options: Search, Mapping, Date, Fields, Sources, Quick limits, EBM, Pub. types, Languages, Gender, Age, and Animal. Below the navigation menu is a search history section. It includes a 'History' header with options: Save, Delete, Print view, Export, Email, Combine, using And (selected), Or, Basic, and Advanced. The history table lists three items:

Item	Search Query	Count	Actions
#3	'thrombosis'	161,037	
#2	'pancreatic cancer'	10,774	
#1	'pacemaker'/exp OR 'pacemaker'		Edit, Email alert, RSS feed

Click anywhere on the query bar to re-run the search. The query is automatically entered into the search bar

Export, print or share results - choose from formats including RIS, text or CSV

Register to set up email alerts to automatically receive new search results (frequencies range from daily to yearly)

## Saving your search

Use Save Searches for regular use of repeated search strategies

- e.g., study design, updating a search
- Or alternatively, set up an Email Alert

### Saved Searches Info

Private Shared Ivan Krstic / PICO / Back to results

Folder Options: New Edit Delete

- Ivan Krstic
  - Adverse drug reaction
  - Amoxicillin
  - Flu
  - PICO**
  - Slow search
  - Subheadings
  - Swallow (bird) vs Swallowing
  - Test
  - Testing
  - Trastuzumab PV
  - Weekly upload
  - chronic disease
  - ivadantin
  - testnew

#### PICO

Edit Rerun Delete View Details Set Email Alert Set RSS Feed

<input type="checkbox"/>	Your Query	Name	Last Update	Creation Date	Results
<input type="checkbox"/>	#14 #13	rna	2015-06-18	2015-02-24	13268
<input type="checkbox"/>	#13 'pneumonia'/de OR 'pneumonia' AND ('community acquired infection'/exp OR 'community acquired infection' OR 'community acquired disease' OR 'community associated disease' OR 'community associated infection' OR 'community-acquired infections') OR 'community acquired pneumonia'/exp OR 'community acquired pneumonia' AND 'health' AND [2014]/py	rna	2015-06-18	2015-02-24	412
<input type="checkbox"/>	#12 #9 AND #10 AND #11	prognosispico-4	2015-02-09	2015-02-09	581
<input type="checkbox"/>	#11 'incidence'/exp OR 'mortality'/exp OR 'follow up study':ab,ti OR 'follow up studies':ab,ti OR prognos*:ab,ti OR predict*:ab,ti OR course*:ab,ti OR 'cohort analysis'/de OR 'cohort analysis' OR 'cohort study':ab,ti OR cohort:ab,ti OR 'prognosis'/exp OR 'prognosis'	prognosispico-4	2015-02-09	2015-02-09	3470913





ELSEVIER

Demo

## Tips for searching

When performing an abstract and title search for any synonyms listed in an Emtree record, consider using **truncation or wildcard** characters (\*, ?) as needed.

When conducting a search of Article title and Abstract for author free-text expressions consider using **proximity operators** (**NEXT**, **NEAR**) as appropriate

When performing free-text searches, remember to **consider variant spellings** including British and American spellings and terminology

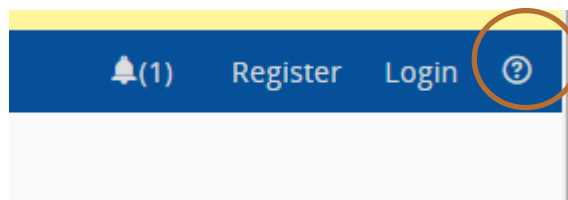
- e.g., tumor vs tumour; diaper vs nappy; pediatric vs paediatric; otorhinolaryngology vs ear, nose and throat; overuse injury vs repetitive strain injury

## Build and combine searches

- Use single quotes to capture a phrase 'diabetes mellitus' for example (not with Autocomplete in Quick Search)
- Break up your search into individual searches, such as a drug search (in Drug Search form) and a disease search (in Disease Search form) and combine your results in Session Results
- Truncation and operators, AND, OR, NOT, NEXT, NEAR
- Note: when using the PICO search form (starting in February), the different P, I, C and O elements are automatically combined into one search, using the AND operator

## Where Can you Learn More?

- Start with Embase Help – for answers to Frequently Asked Questions, Guides, Instructional Videos and links to archived webinar recordings



- [www.Elsevier.com/Embase](http://www.Elsevier.com/Embase) - for an overview on Embase or for links to Embase content (Indexing Guide, Journal and Conference Coverage lists)
- In-Product Messaging gives links to the latest resources, news and upcoming webinars

## Thank You!

- Q&A will be sent to you by email. For more information and questions please contact your regional office
- Our next Embase webinar is on February 24<sup>th</sup> – watch in-product messaging for more details
- Please fill out the survey that appears on your screen after leaving the webinar.



**Any questions?**



Thank you!