Embase for biomedical searching – An introduction
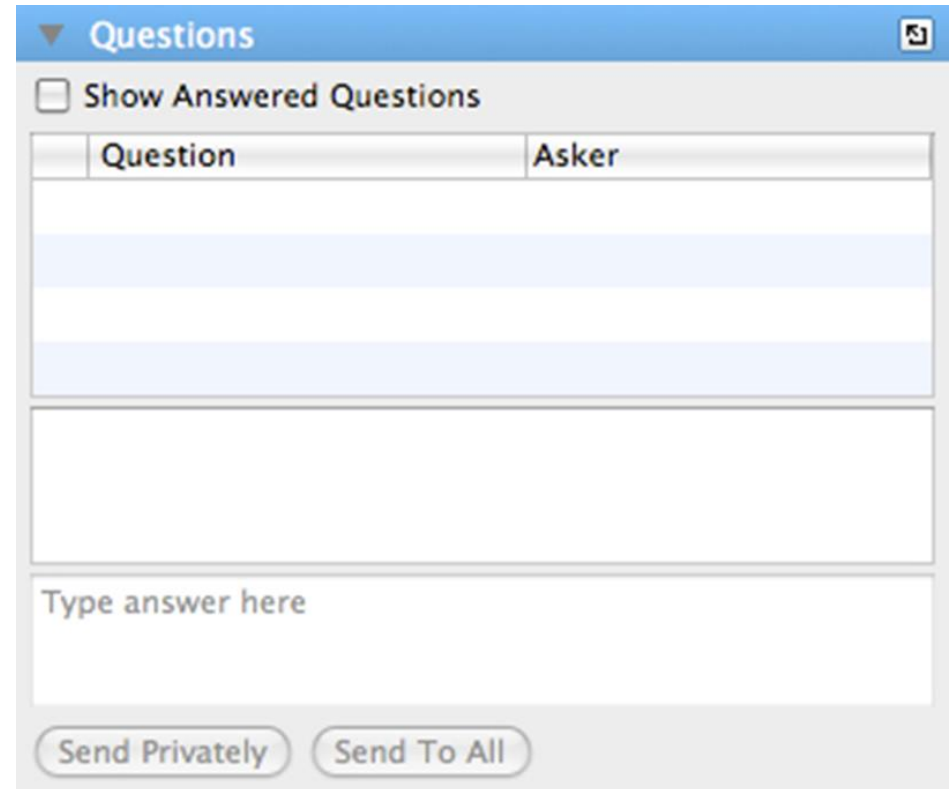
Presented by Sherry Winter
January 27, 2015

Need to know

Webinar control panel:

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

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 Embase?

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

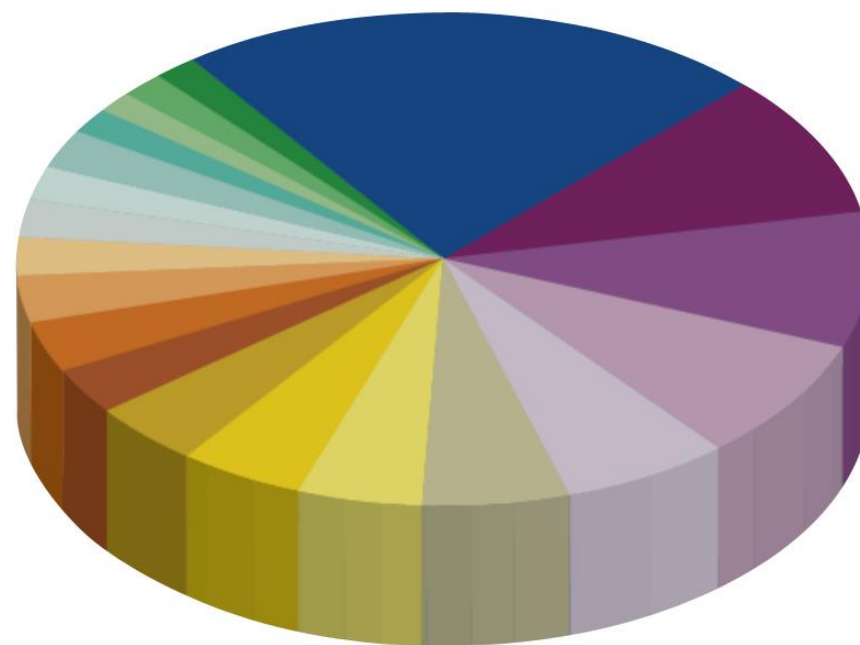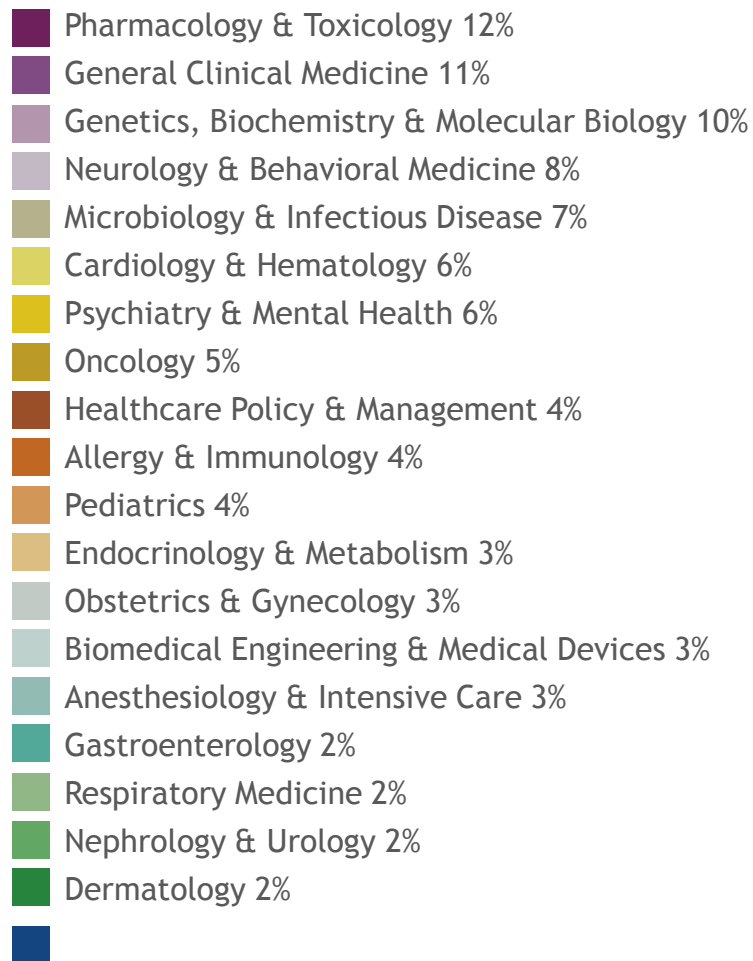Deep and focused research using the most powerful retrieval tools

Why do people use Embase?
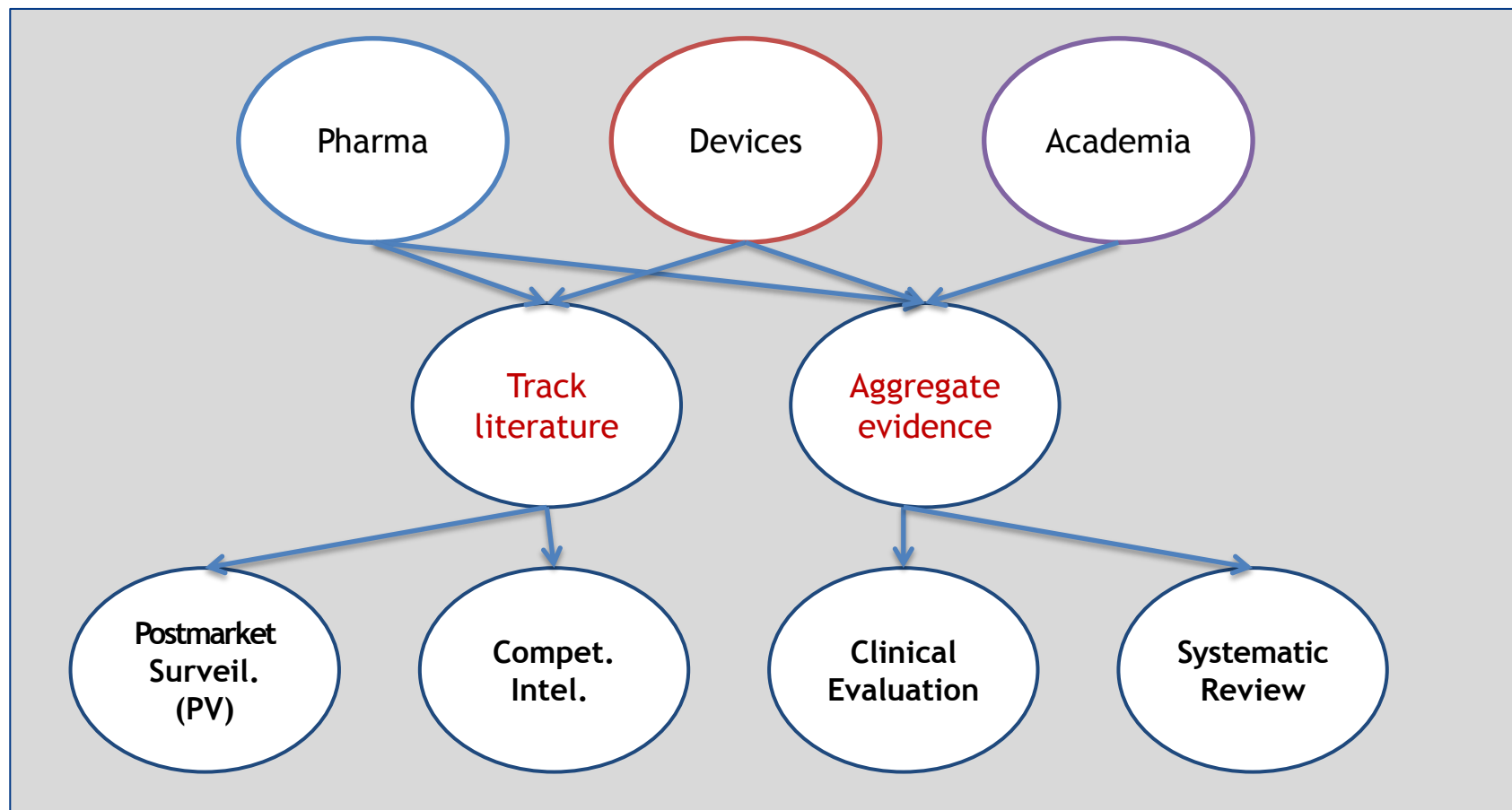
Comprehensive content

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

- Pharmacology & Toxicology 12%
- General Clinical Medicine 11%
- Genetics, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology 10%
- Neurology & Behavioral Medicine 8%
- Microbiology & Infectious Disease 7%
- Cardiology & Hematology 6%
- Psychiatry & Mental Health 6%
- Oncology 5%
- Healthcare Policy & Management 4%
- Allergy & Immunology 4%
- Pediatrics 4%
- Endocrinology & Metabolism 3%
- Obstetrics & Gynecology 3%
- Biomedical Engineering & Medical Devices 3%
- Anesthesiology & Intensive Care 3%
- Gastroenterology 2%
- Respiratory Medicine 2%
- Nephrology & Urology 2%
- Dermatology 2%

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

☐ Article	☐ Erratum
☐ Article in Press	☐ Letter
☐ Conference Abstract	☐ Note
☐ Conference Paper	☐ Review
☐ Conference Review	☐ Short Survey
☐ 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	**Over 3,000 journals**	**Over 2,400 journals**
Indexed at Embase Unique to Embase	Indexed at Embase Also covered by MEDLINE	Indexed by MEDLINE Also in MEDLINE
Search:	**Search:**	**Search:**
[embase]/lim NOT [medline]/lim	[embase]/lim AND [medline]/lim	[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

Embase – Over 8,500 Journals

Embase
2,900 journals not available on MEDLINE

MEDLINE

Indexing of trial- and study types, reviews and meta-analysis

Content focuses on key areas for drug, disease and device research

>31m records, including 2.1m+ conference abstracts

Unique coverage of non-English RCTs
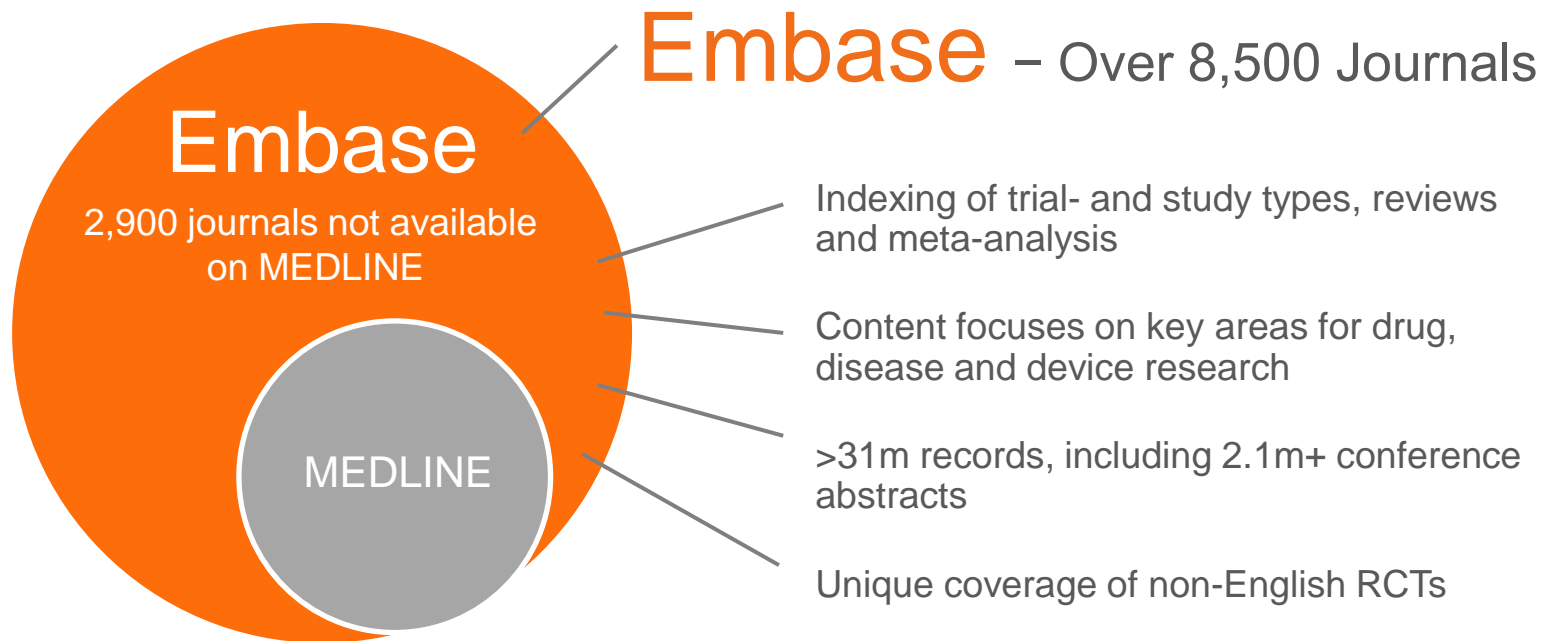
How is Embase indexed?

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

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

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

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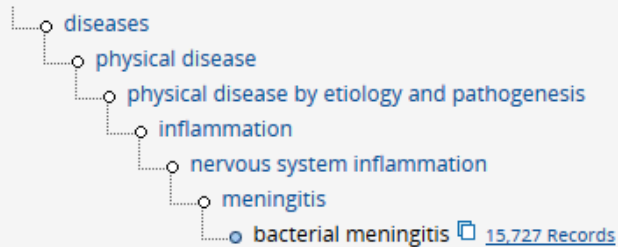
Identify a preferred term (subject heading) for searching, when available

Review the Emtree Record

Take note of any **Synonyms** listed

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

diseases
  physical disease
    physical disease by etiology and pathogenesis
      inflammation
        nervous system inflammation
          meningitis
            bacterial meningitis 15,727 Records

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

Apply limits to investigate data for evidence-based medicine

Use filters to focus search results

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

Keep up-to-date with automated results management tools

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

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
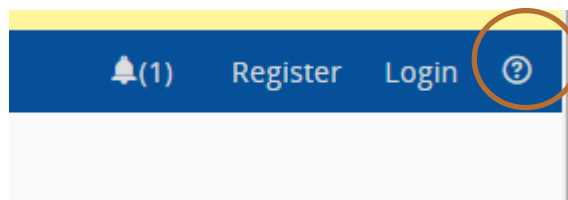
- www.Elsevier.com/Embase - for an overview on Embase or for links to Embase content (Indexing Guide, Journal and Conference Coverage lists)

- 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 24th – 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!