

Embase®

Fact Sheet



ELSEVIER

Introduction

Pharmaceutical companies require access to reliable sources of up-to-date information on drugs and drug adverse events. Embase is a highly versatile, multipurpose and up-to-date biomedical database covering the most important literature and conference abstracts. Embase is designed to support literature research for drug development, including repositioning and safety studies, and literature monitoring for pharmacovigilance.

Embase is a highly versatile research solution that provides pharmaceutical R&D and drug safety teams with access to relevant answers from an unrivalled collection of information. The user-friendly interface includes a keyword-based quick search form as well as dedicated forms that help researchers to focus their search on drugs or diseases. Embase also offers the PV Wizard, which helps users to build a comprehensive search formula for successful drug safety-focused literature monitoring.

Deep indexing and synonym mapping

Embase enables users to search the widest possible pool of data with precision thanks to deep indexing of the full text of an article using the dedicated life sciences thesaurus Emtree® (Figure 1).

Emtree contains chemical names, trade names, lab codes and generic names for over 32,000 drugs and chemicals, along with disease terms and linked terms (e.g., hypertension, stroke, nausea).



Figure 1. Emtree is the life sciences thesaurus of terms used to index records in Embase.

Comprehensive content

Each search in Embase delves into:

32+
MILLION
records

8,200+
journals, including
over 2,900 journals
that are not contained
in MEDLINE

2.9+
MILLION
conference abstracts
from 2009 to present

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

Dedicated support for drug and disease searches

Embase has dedicated search forms for drug and disease searches, each providing dedicated search parameters: drug fields, subheadings and routes on the Drugs form (Figure 2) and disease subheadings on the Disease form. Subheadings are a very useful feature in Embase. They limit the records retrieved to specific pre-selected themes, such as adverse drug reaction, toxicity, clinical trials or complications. For example, searching for a drug by name with “Clinical trial” selected will limit the records retrieved to those describing clinical trials for that drug.

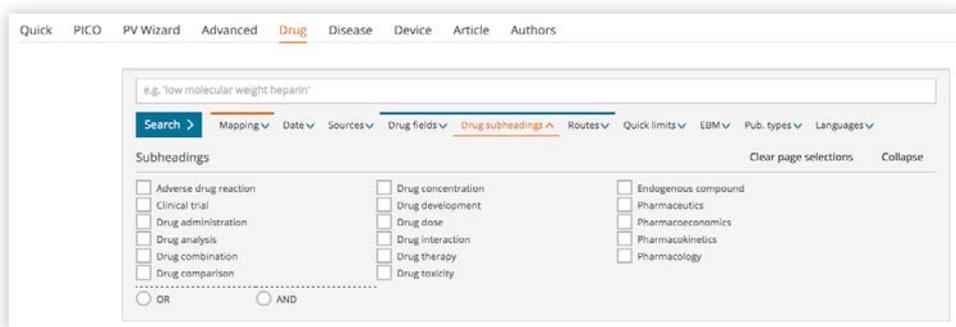
The screenshot shows the 'Drug' search form in Embase. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Quick, PICO, PV Wizard, Advanced, Drug (selected), Disease, Device, Article, and Authors. Below the navigation is a search bar containing the text 'e.g. low molecular weight heparin'. To the right of the search bar are several dropdown menus: Mapping, Date, Sources, Drug fields, Drug subheadings (selected), Routes, Quick limits, EBM, Pub. types, and Languages. Below the search bar is a section titled 'Subheadings' with a 'Clear page selections' and 'Collapse' link. This section contains a grid of checkboxes for various subheading categories: 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, Pharmaceuticals, Pharmacoeconomics, Pharmacokinetics, and Pharmacology. At the bottom of the subheadings section are radio buttons for 'OR' and 'AND'.

Figure 2. The *Drugs* search form showing the available drug subheadings

Guidance for success in literature monitoring

The PV Wizard (Figure 2) is an intuitive query builder with a pre-coded pharmacovigilance search strategy that was constructed in consultation with pharmaceutical industry partners. It simplifies the process of building searches by providing a structured framework.

The output is a literature search query with high recall and optimal precision, which can be used for pharmacovigilance-focused literature monitoring.

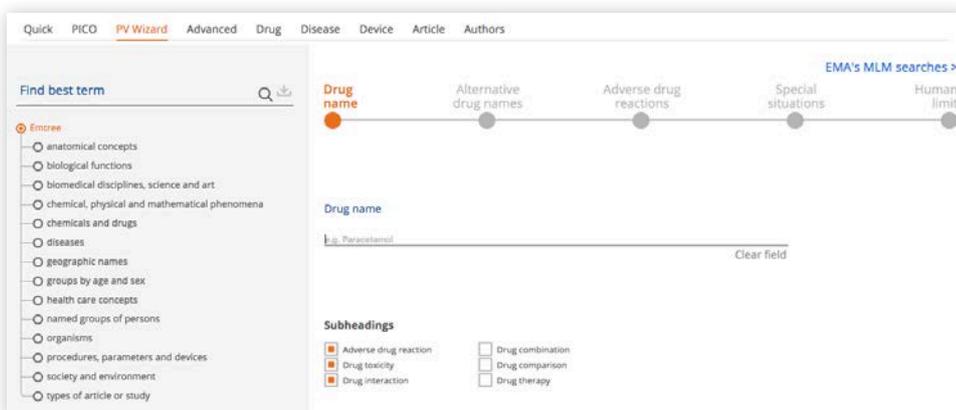
The screenshot shows the 'PV Wizard' search form in Embase. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Quick, PICO, PV Wizard (selected), Advanced, Drug, Disease, Device, Article, and Authors. Below the navigation is a search bar with the text 'Find best term' and a search icon. To the left of the search bar is a list of categories: Entree, anatomical concepts, biological functions, biomedical disciplines, science and art, chemical, physical and mathematical phenomena, chemicals and drugs, diseases, geographic names, groups by age and sex, health care concepts, named groups of persons, organisms, procedures, parameters and devices, society and environment, and types of article or study. To the right of the search bar is a horizontal line with five steps: Drug name (selected), Alternative drug names, Adverse drug reactions, Special situations, and Human limit. Below the horizontal line is a 'Drug name' field containing 'Paracetamol' and a 'Clear field' button. Below the 'Drug name' field is a 'Subheadings' section with checkboxes for Adverse drug reaction, Drug toxicity, Drug interaction, Drug combination, Drug comparison, and Drug therapy.

Figure 3. PV Wizard enables the step-by-step construction of a search query suitable for pharmacovigilance.

PV Wizard also contains the published search strategies of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for 300 active chemical substances and 100 herbal substance groups. With one click, you can retrieve the full list of search strategies with up-to-date records.

Embase is designed to help pharmaceutical companies to:

- Keep up-to-date with research trends and competitor products
- Get high-quality preclinical and clinical information for evidence-based decisions
- Comply with regulations for drug safety and pharmacovigilance
- Track drug and disease information, including adverse events and therapy trends

Embase

Embase helps customers uncover drug-disease relationships and drug-drug interactions by increasing the discovery of biomedical evidence and providing comprehensive relevant, up-to-date biomedical information.

For more information about Embase,
visit elsevier.com/solutions/embase-biomedical-research

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