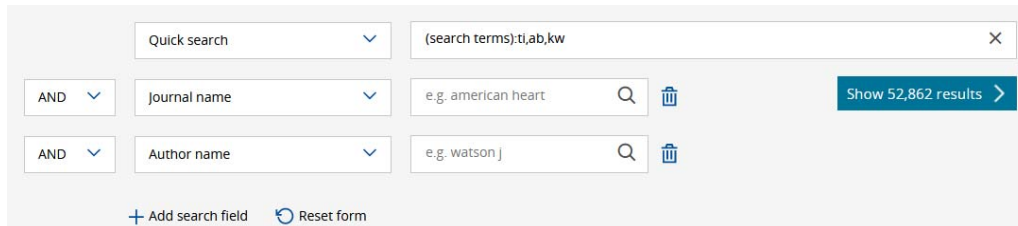


Tip Sheet - Embase

Suggested Field Tags:

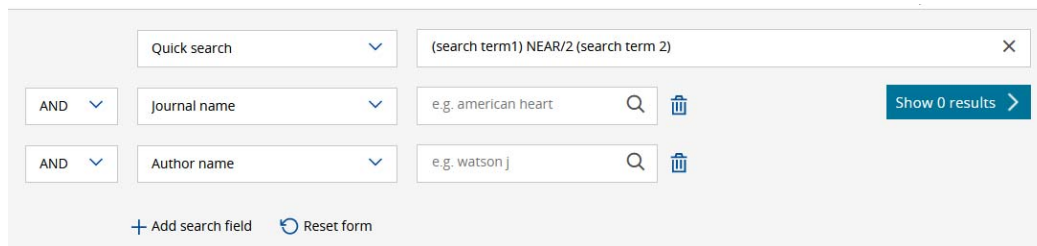
One of the ways that key word searches can be narrowed in databases when running a comprehensive and systematic search is through the use of field tags – most commonly those associated with title, abstract, and key words. The specific field tags that can/should be used differ by database. **In Embase, we recommend ti,ab,kw**, which searches the title, abstract, and keyword.



The screenshot shows the Embase search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "(search terms):ti,ab,kw". Below the search bar, there are two rows of search criteria. The first row has a dropdown menu set to "AND", a dropdown menu set to "Journal name", and a text input field containing "e.g. american heart". The second row has a dropdown menu set to "AND", a dropdown menu set to "Author name", and a text input field containing "e.g. watson j". To the right of the search criteria, there is a blue button that says "Show 52,862 results". At the bottom of the search interface, there are two buttons: "+ Add search field" and "Reset form".

Proximity Operators:

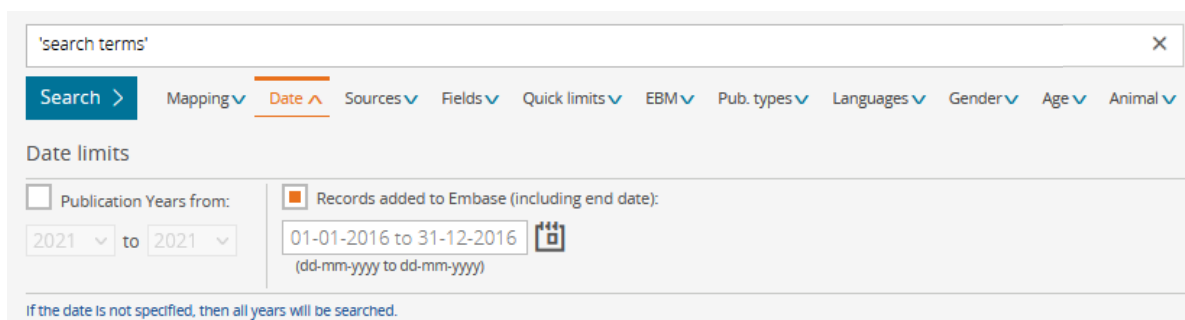
Proximity operators in databases allow you to search for one word/phrase within a certain proximity to another word. For example, you could use a proximity operator to find the word *systematic* *within two words of* the word *protocol*. Proximity operators are best used to create relationships or associations between words that cannot be accomplished through phrase searching and other search functions. **In Embase, the proximity operator is NEAR/#.**



The screenshot shows the Embase search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "(search term1) NEAR/2 (search term 2)". Below the search bar, there are two rows of search criteria. The first row has a dropdown menu set to "AND", a dropdown menu set to "Journal name", and a text input field containing "e.g. american heart". The second row has a dropdown menu set to "AND", a dropdown menu set to "Author name", and a text input field containing "e.g. watson j". To the right of the search criteria, there is a blue button that says "Show 0 results". At the bottom of the search interface, there are two buttons: "+ Add search field" and "Reset form".

Updating a Search:

When you need to update a search that you have previously performed, best practice is to use database commands that *capture the records entered into the database* after the date of the last search run where such commands are available. Due to a lag between an item's publication and its inclusion in the database, entry date is not always the same as publication date, making it a less precise search option that should only be used in cases where the database is not able to distinguish between the two. **In Embase, updates can be done using the "Records Added" feature under the Date drop down menu.**



The screenshot shows the Embase search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "'search terms'". Below the search bar, there is a navigation menu with several options: "Search", "Mapping", "Date", "Sources", "Fields", "Quick limits", "EBM", "Pub. types", "Languages", "Gender", "Age", and "Animal". The "Date" option is highlighted. Below the navigation menu, there is a section titled "Date limits". In this section, there are two radio buttons. The first radio button is labeled "Publication Years from:" and is currently unselected. The second radio button is labeled "Records added to Embase (including end date):" and is currently selected. Below the second radio button, there is a date range input field containing "01-01-2021 to 2021" and another date range input field containing "01-01-2016 to 31-12-2016". Below the second date range input field, there is a small icon of a calendar. At the bottom of the "Date limits" section, there is a note that says "If the date is not specified, then all years will be searched."