

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. In the search bar, the query '(search terms):ti,ab,kw' is entered. Below the search bar, there are two search fields: 'Journal name' containing 'e.g. american heart' and 'Author name' containing 'e.g. watson j'. Both fields have dropdown menus above them labeled 'AND'. At the bottom of the search form, there are buttons for '+ Add search field' and 'Reset form'. To the right of the search results, a button 'Show 52,862 results >' is visible.

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. In the search bar, the query '(search term1) NEAR/2 (search term 2)' is entered. Below the search bar, there are two search fields: 'Journal name' containing 'e.g. american heart' and 'Author name' containing 'e.g. watson j'. Both fields have dropdown menus above them labeled 'AND'. At the bottom of the search form, there are buttons for '+ Add search field' and 'Reset form'. To the right of the search results, a button 'Show 0 results >' is visible.

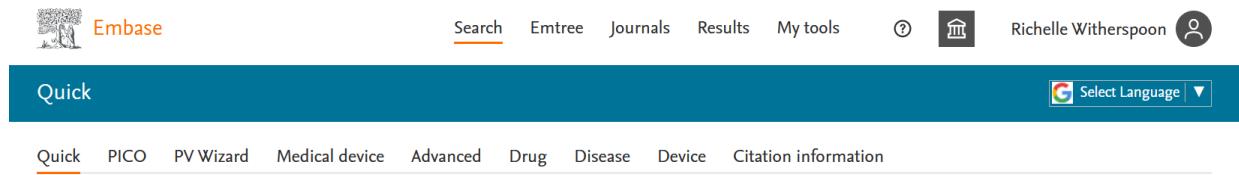
Updating a Search:

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 items 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 with the 'Date' tab selected. In the search bar, the query 'search terms' is entered. Below the search bar, there is a section titled 'Date limits' with a checkbox 'Publication Years from:' and a date range '2021 to 2021'. Next to it is a checkbox 'Records added to Embase (including end date):' with a date range '01-01-2016 to 31-12-2016' and a calendar icon. At the bottom of the 'Date limits' section, a note says 'If the date is not specified, then all years will be searched.' Other tabs visible include 'Search', 'Mapping', 'Sources', 'Fields', 'Quick limits', 'EBM', 'Pub. types', 'Languages', 'Gender', 'Age', and 'Animal'.

Subject Terms:

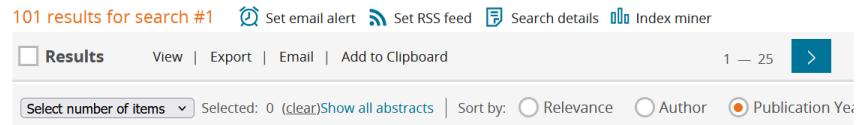
Subject terms – or controlled vocabulary – go by **Emtree** in Embase, and can be accessed by selecting Emmtree option in the upper right hand section of the screen.



The screenshot shows the Embase search interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Search, Emmtree, Journals, Results, My tools, a help icon, a library icon, and a user profile for Richelle Witherspoon. Below the navigation bar is a blue header bar with the word "Quick" in white. Underneath the header bar is a horizontal menu with links for Quick, PICO, PV Wizard, Medical device, Advanced, Drug, Disease, Device, and Citation information. The "Quick" link is underlined, indicating it is the active search mode.

Exporting your RIS File:

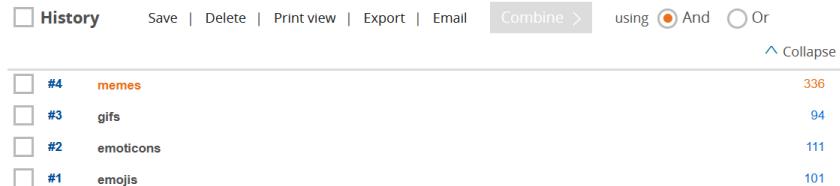
The fastest way to export your search results in RIS format (which is used by both Zotero and Covidence) is to **Select number of items** in your search and then **Export**.



The screenshot shows the search results page with 101 results for search #1. At the top, there are links for Set email alert, Set RSS feed, Search details, and Index miner. Below these are buttons for Results, View, Export, Email, and Add to Clipboard. A pagination bar shows pages 1 through 25. At the bottom, there is a dropdown menu for "Select number of items" set to 0, and buttons for "Show all abstracts", "Sort by: Relevance", "Author", and "Publication Year".

Saving & Exporting your Search History:

The search history is located at the top of the screen. You can save your search using the **Save** option at the top of the history. You can save your search history by using the **Export** option at the top of the history.



The screenshot shows the search history page. At the top, there is a header with a checkbox for "History", links for Save, Delete, Print view, Export, and Email, a "Combine" button, and radio buttons for "And" and "Or". Below this is a "Collapse" button. The main area lists four saved searches: "#4 memes" (336 results), "#3 gifs" (94 results), "#2 emoticons" (111 results), and "#1 emojis" (101 results). Each entry has a checkbox to its left.