

Biomedical Files Quick Comparison

MEDLINE® (File 155), EMBASE® (File 73), BIOSIS Previews® (File 5), and SciSearch®: A Cited Reference Science Database (Files 34,434)

Dialog offers a broad spectrum of databases of importance to those interested in the life sciences, chemistry, pharmacology, engineering and intellectual property. Four databases have the broadest coverage of the biomedical literature: MEDLINE, EMBASE, BIOSIS Previews and SciSearch: A Cited Reference Science Database.

Each database has a slightly different orientation and subject matter focus. Searched together, these files return highly accurate and comprehensive results. Dialog features, such as Remove Duplicates (RD command), EXPAND, RANK, and MAP are powerful tools that enable precision searching, saving researchers valuable time in gathering and analyzing medically critical information.

	MEDLINE® (File 155)	EMBASE® (File 73)	BIOSIS Previews® (File 5)	SciSearch®: A Cited Reference Science Database (Files 34, 434)
Producer	U.S. National Library of Medicine	Elsevier, B.V.	Thomson Scientific	Thomson Scientific
Coverage	1950–present	1974–present	1926–present	1974–1989 (File 434) 1990–present (File 34)
Content	<p>Contains more than 15 million references to journal articles in life sciences, with a concentration on biomedicine.</p> <p>The online database includes records from three print counterparts: <i>Index Medicus</i>, <i>Index Dental Literature</i>, and <i>International Nursing Index</i>.</p> <p>Subjects include: Clinical medicine Experimental medicine Dentistry Nursing Hospital literature Paramedical professions Medical specialties (cardiology, neurology, endocrinology, pediatrics, surgery) Anatomy and physiology Psychiatry Psychology Behavioral and mental disorders</p>	<p>The most current biomedical database available today, EMBASE has very strong international coverage in drug-related literature. It covers about 5,000 journals from approximately 70 countries.</p> <p>Powerful indexing allows quick determination of preferred drug nomenclature, and the file provides fields for companies and brand names.</p> <p>Subjects include: Drug research Human medicine Basic biological research Pharmacology Public, occupational, and environmental health Substance dependence and abuse Psychiatry Forensic science Biomedical engineering and instrumentation</p>	<p>The most comprehensive reference database for life-science research, with nearly 5,000 primary journal and monograph titles. BIOSIS covers both original research reports and reviews in biological and biomedical areas. Very strong coverage of meetings, symposia and conferences.</p> <p>Citations cover traditional areas of biology, such as botany, zoology and microbiology, as well as related fields, including biomedical, agriculture, pharmacology and ecology.</p> <p>Subjects include: Bacteriology Bioengineering Biology Cell biology Medical devices Microbiology Nutrition Pharmacology Radiation Biology Toxicology Virology</p>	<p>An international, multidisciplinary index to the literature of science, biomedicine, technology and related sciences. Indexes all significant items (articles, review papers, meeting abstracts, editorials, book reviews) from more than 6,100 scientific and technical journals.</p> <p>An important feature of SciSearch is citation indexing, which allows for searching of cited references.</p> <p>Rapid journal processing provides very timely data.</p> <p>Subjects include: Biochemistry Biomedical sciences Chemistry Genetics Medicine Microbiology Pharmacology Psychiatry Psychology Zoology</p>
Updates	Daily	Daily	Weekly	Weekly

	MEDLINE® (File 155)	EMBASE® (File 73)	BIOSIS Previews® (File 5)	SciSearch®: A Cited Reference Science Database (Files 34, 434)
Additional Search Information	<p>MeSH® vocabulary</p> <p>Use the (L) operator to link descriptors with subheadings:</p> <p>SELECT ANTIOXIDANTS (L) PHARMACOLOGY</p> <p>Use EXPLODE (!) to search narrower descriptors in the MeSH vocabulary:</p> <p>SELECT INSULIN!</p> <p>Use the online thesaurus to find MeSH preferred terms:</p> <p>EXPAND (MIGRAINE DISORDERS)</p> <p>Use LIMITS to restrict retrieval to specific criteria:</p> <p>/HUMAN for human subjects /MAJ for major descriptor /ENG for English language</p>	<p>EMTREE vocabulary</p> <p>Use the (L) operator to link descriptors with subheadings:</p> <p>S TAMOXIFEN (L) DRUG INTERACTION</p> <p>Use EXPLODE (!) to retrieve all narrower descriptors:</p> <p>SELECT DIABETES MELLITUS!</p> <p>Use the online thesaurus to find EMBASE preferred terms:</p> <p>EXPAND (ROGAINE)</p> <p>Use LIMITS to restrict to specific criteria:</p> <p>/HUMAN for human subjects /MAJ for major descriptor /ENG for English language</p>	<p>Natural language keyword searching on the Title (/TI) or Descriptor (/DE) fields:</p> <p>SELECT DIABETES(W)MELLITUS/ TI,DE</p> <p>Major Concepts (/MC) applied to records</p> <p>SELECT PHARMACOLOGY/MC</p> <p>Use the BIOSIS online thesaurus</p> <p>E (EXO BIOLOGY)</p> <p>Use the (L) operator to link terms with their modifiers or roles:</p> <p>SELECT HYMENOPTERA(L)NEW SPECIES/DE</p> <p>Use LIMITS for human subjects, conferences</p> <p>/HUMAN /CONF</p>	<p>EXPAND CR= to find references to important papers:</p> <p>EXPAND CR=AMBROSE JA, 1997</p> <p>Search SC= to find a subject category:</p> <p>S SC=BIOMEDICAL</p> <p>The Descriptor field (/DE) is compiled from author keywords.</p> <p>The Identifier field (/ID) is comprised of Keywords Plus, computer-generated, frequently occurring terms extracted from the titles of documents cited by an author in the bibliography.</p> <p>S GENE()THERAPY/DE</p> <p>S CHOLESTEROL/ID</p> <p>Use RANK on the Author field (AU) following a search on a specific topic to uncover experts in a subject area.</p> <p>RANK AU</p>
Alerts	Default Alerting feature is daily, with weekly, monthly, or biweekly custom scheduled Alerts available.	Default Alerting feature is daily, weekly, and biweekly, with monthly custom scheduled Alerts available.	Default Alerting feature is weekly, with biweekly, monthly, or daily custom scheduled Alerts available.	Default Alerting feature is biweekly, with weekly, or custom daily or monthly scheduled Alerts available.
Formats and Pricing	See HELP FORMAT 155 or HELP RATES 155, or the online Bluesheet (http://library.dialog.com/bluesheets/html/bl0154.html)	HELP FORMAT 73 or HELP RATES 73, or the online Bluesheet (http://library.dialog.com/bluesheets/html/bl0073.html)	HELP FORMAT 5 or HELP RATES 5, or the online Bluesheet (http://library.dialog.com/bluesheets/html/bl0055.html)	HELP FORMAT 34 or HELP RATES 34, or the online Bluesheet (http://library.dialog.com/bluesheets/html/bl0034.html)

Investigate archival data as well as recent research. MEDLINE (File 155) carries “Old MEDLINE” records (1950–1965); EMBASE Classic (File 772) covers 1947–1973; BIOSIS Previews provides records from 1926–1968 in File 552 as well as in File 5. SciSearch (File 434) has records from 1974–1989.

For a look at the future, EMBASE® Alert (File 172) contains unindexed records of current awareness pharmacological and biomedical literature. It is updated weekly and contains the most recent eight weeks of data.

Contact the Dialog Knowledge Center

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