

Philadelphia University
Learning & Advising Center

ICMJE DOCUMENTATION STYLE



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ICMJE DOCUMENTATION STYLE

General Guidelines*

1. Number references, using Arabic numerals in parentheses, in the order in which they first appear in the text. References cited in a table/figure should appear in numeric order relative to the first citation of the table/figure in the text. For example, if the last reference cited before the table/figure in question is mentioned as reference 14, and that table/figure contains 5 references that have not been cited, the references in the table/figure would be numbered 15 through 19. Reference citations in the text would then recommence with number 20.
2. Appendix material should not have separate reference sections. References that appear in both the text and the appendix should be numbered as they appear in the text. Any references that appear only in the appendix should be added consecutively to the end of the text reference list.
3. Use the reference style of the National Library of Medicine, including the abbreviations of journal titles.
4. List all authors when there are 6 or fewer; with 7 or more authors, list only the first 6 and add "et al."
5. Do not use *ibid.* or *op cit.*
6. Include an "available from" note for documents that may not be readily accessible.
7. Cite symposium papers only from published proceedings.
8. When citing an article or book **accepted** for publication but **not yet published**, include the title of the journal (or name of the publisher) and the year of expected publication.
9. Include references to unpublished material in the text, not in the references (for example, papers presented orally at a meeting; unpublished work [personal communications, papers in preparation]), and submit a letter of permission from the cited persons to cite such communications (in general, avoid citations to unpublished scientific results).
10. Ensure that URLs used as references are active and available (the references should include the date on which the author accessed the URL—for an example, see Citations of Electronic References below).
11. Avoid citing a Web site with content that in print would be considered unscholarly, and avoid using an online reference if a more scholarly print reference is available. Archive (preferably in a durable governmental or institutional archive) Web references and cited Web pages when creating bibliographies.

to see sample references..... →→→→

Sample References*

Journals

1. Standard article (List all authors when there are 6 or fewer; when there are 7 or more authors, list only the first 6 and add "et al.")

Vega KJ, Pina I, Krevsky B. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease. *Ann Intern Med.* 1996;124:980-3.

2. Corporate author

Clinical exercise stress testing. Safety and performance guidelines. The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. *Med J Aust.* 1996;164:282-4.

3. Supplement

Shen HM, Zhang QF. Risk assessment of nickel carcinogenicity and occupational lung cancer. *Environ Health Perspect* 1994;102(Suppl 1):275-82.

4. Special format (also applies to abstracts and editorials)

Enzensberger W, Fischer PA. Metronome in Parkinson's disease [Letter]. *Lancet.* 1996;347:1337.

Books

List all authors or editors when 6 or fewer; when there are 7 or more authors, list only the first 6 and add "et al."

1. Author

Ringsven MK, Bond D. *Gerontology and Leadership Skills for Nurses.* 2nd ed. Albany, NY: Delmar; 1996.

2. Editors

Norman IJ, Redfern SJ, eds. *Mental Health Care for Elderly People.* New York: Churchill Livingstone; 1996.

3. Chapter in a book

Phillips SJ, Whisnant JP. Hypertension and stroke. In: Laragh JH, Brenner BM, eds. *Hypertension: Pathophysiology, Diagnosis, and Management.* 2nd ed. New York: Raven Pr; 1995:465-78.

4. Published proceedings paper

Bengtsson S, Solheim BG. Enforcement of data protection, privacy and security in medical informatics. In: Lun KC, Degoulet P, Piemme TE, Rienhoff O, eds. *MEDINFO 92. Proceedings of the 7th World Congress on Medical Informatics; 6-10 September 1992; Geneva, Switzerland.* Amsterdam: North-Holland; 1992:1561-5.

more sample references..... →→→

Other Citations in Reference List

1. In press (must have journal title)

Leshner AI. Molecular mechanisms of cocaine addiction. N Engl J Med. 1996; [In press].

2. Magazine article

Roberts JL. Villain or victim? Newsweek. 1996;4 Nov:40-1.

3. Personal communication (to be placed within parentheses)

(Strott CA, Nugent CA. Personal communication.)

Citations of Electronic References**

1. Journal article on the Internet

Aboud S. Quality improvement initiative in nursing homes: the ANA acts in an advisory role. Am J Nurs [serial on the Internet]. 2002 Jun [cited 2002 Aug 12];102(6):[about 3 p.]. Available from: <http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htm>.

2. Monograph on the Internet

Foley KM, Gelband H, editors. Improving palliative care for cancer [monograph on the Internet]. Washington: National Academy Press; 2001 [cited 2002 Jul 9]. Available from: <http://www.nap.edu/books/0309074029/html/>.

3. Homepage/Web site

Cancer-Pain.org [homepage on the Internet]. New York: Association of Cancer Online Resources, Inc.; c2000-01 [updated 2002 May 16; cited 2002 Jul 9]. Available from: <http://www.cancer-pain.org/>.

4. Part of a homepage/Web site

American Medical Association [homepage on the Internet]. Chicago: The Association; c1995-2002 [updated 2001 Aug 23; cited 2002 Aug 12]. AMA Office of Group Practice Liaison; [about 2 screens]. Available from: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/1736.html>.

5. Database on the Internet

Who's Certified [database on the Internet]. Evanston (IL): The American Board of Medical Specialists. c2000 - [cited 2001 Mar 8]. Available from: <http://www.abms.org/newsearch.asp>.

* taken from Information for authors. Annals of Internal Medicine 2006. Accessed at www.annals.org/shared/author_info.shtml on 30 July 2006.

** taken from Bibliographic Services Division, National Library of Medicine. 16 May 2006 www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html on 31 July 2006.