

Guidelines for Citing Sources AMA Style

Created by the Reference Department of the
Harriet K. & Philip Pumerantz Library
Western University of Health Sciences

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The Guide

- AMA Manual of Style: a guide for authors and editors, 10th edition
- The style is similar to the National Library of Medicine style that is used for many biomedical journals

Text Citations

- When a source is cited within the text, tables or figures, it needs to be referenced.
- Cite a passage in text by placing a superscript Arabic numeral following the citation.
 - Example: In previous studies, the effect on intraocular pressure appeared quickly.²³
- Number the citations in order as they appear in the text.
- A passage can contain more than one citation.
 - Example: Patients with various kinds of glaucoma have been found to have normal aqueous humor production.^{42,43}

Text Citations (cont.)

- The superscript numbers should be placed outside periods and commas, and inside colons and semicolons.
- If more than 2 references are cited in a row, use a hyphen to join the first and last numbers of a closed series. Use commas without a space to cite other numbers.
 - Example: The derived data were as follows,^{1,3-8,19}

Text Citations (cont.)

- If a citation has more than 23 characters, including spaces and punctuation, use an asterisk in the text and put the citation in a footnote at the bottom of the page.
 - Example:
As reported previously,*

**References 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 21, 24-29, 31.*

Quotations

- Enclose a direct quote of no more than 4 typewritten lines in double quotation marks.
- For quotes longer than 4 lines, use a block format in reduced type without quotation marks.
- A superscript number is added at the end of the quotation and listed with the other references.

Font Type

- Serif type font is generally used for the body of a document.
 - Times New Roman, Courier, etc.
- Sans serif type is used for contrasting and complementary elements. For example, department head, title, subtitle, abstract, etc.
 - Arial, Tahoma, etc.

Headings

- Format of headings should be consistent throughout the paper
- Headings are used in abstracts as well
- Typical headings
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Comment
- Introduction is usually not given a heading

References

- Authors
 - Last name, initials with no space or punctuation
 - For more than 6 authors, name the first 3 followed by et al.
- Article/chapter titles
 - Capitalize only the first letter of the first word
 - Subtitles begin with a lowercase letter
- Book titles
 - Capitalize first letter of every major word in title and subtitle
- Journal titles
 - Abbreviate and italicize according to *Index Medicus* or online using the PubMed journals list
- References are in numbered format. The first reference cited in text should be listed first
- Include the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) for electronic journal references, when available

Reference Examples

Journal Article

1. Aspray TJ, Unwin N. Clinical guidelines for older adults with diabetes mellitus. *JAMA*. 2006;296(15):1839-1840.

Journal Article, more than 6 authors

2. Silva SM, Castro RS, Costa FA, et al. Conidiobolomycosis in sheep in Brazil. *Vet Pathol*. 2007;44(3):314-319.

Book

3. Saladin KS. *Anatomy & Physiology: The Unity of Form and Function*. 4th ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2007.

Chapter in an Edited Book

4. Hak EB, Helms RA. Pediatric nutrition support. In: Helms RA, Quan DJ, Herfindal ET, Gourley DR, eds. *Textbook of Therapeutics: Drug and Disease Management*. Philadelphia, Pa: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2006:340-369.

Reference Examples

Electronic Journal with Digital Object Identifier (DOI)

5. Miller KA, Siscovick DS, Sheppard L, et al. Long-term exposure to air pollution and incidence of cardiovascular events in women. *N Engl J Med*. 2007;356(5):447-458. doi:10.1056/NEJMoa054409.

Electronic Journal with URL

6. Duchin JS. Can preparedness for biological terrorism save us from pertussis? *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med*. 2004;158(2):106-107.
<http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/158/2/106>. Accessed August 27, 2007.

Electronic Book Chapter (no page numbers)

7. Gonzalez FJ, Tukey RH. Drug metabolism: how humans cope with exposure to xenobiotics. In: Brunton LL, ed. *Goodman and Gilman's the Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics*. 11th ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2006:chap 3.
<http://www.accessmedicine.com/resourceTOC.aspx?resourceID=28> . Accessed February 15, 2007.

Reference Examples

Web site

8. Asthma's impact on children and adolescents. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site.

<http://www.cdc.gov/asthma/children.htm>. Accessed August 27, 2007.

Published Presentation from a Meeting

9. Bruyett D. Canine hyperadrenocorticism: deciding on treatment options. In: *Proceedings of the Northeast Veterinary Conference August 8-10, 2004*; Providence, RI: Tufts NEVC LLC; 2004:387-402.

Theses or Dissertations

10. Bhumireddy P. Characterization of Binding Sites and Inhibitory Mechanisms for Antidepressants on the Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor [master's thesis]. Pomona, CA: Western University of Health Sciences; 2006.

Links

- AMA Citation Style from the B. Davis Schwartz Memorial Library of Long Island University
<http://www.liunet.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citama.htm>
- AMA Style Guide from University of Washington HealthLinks
<http://healthlinks.washington.edu/hsl/styleguides/ama.html>
- AMA-Style Citations and References from American Journal of Public Health
http://www.ajph.org/misc/ama_references.shtml