

Annex 4

Guidelines on how to write references for scientific papers

1. General

This Annex supplements information provided in Chapter 11, section 11.10, by providing examples on how different types of references can be cited. It is based on the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals issued by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. The Uniform Requirements style (the Vancouver style) is based largely on an ANSI standard style adapted by the NLM for its databases. (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html). Authors should ensure that they follow any examples of style given by the journal to which they are submitting a paper.

2. Journal articles

Standard journal article

Vega KJ, Pina I, Krevsky B. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease. *Ann Intern Med* 1996 Jun 1;124 (11): 980–3.

If the Journal carries continuous pagination throughout a volume (as many medical journals do), the month and issue number may be omitted.

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

If more than six authors, list the first six authors followed by et al.

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

Organization as an author

The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease. *Ann Intern Med* 1996;124: 980–3.

No author given

Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease [editorial]. *Ann Intern Med* 1996;124: 980–3.

Article not in English

Do not provide translation

Volume with supplement

Vega KJ, Pina I, Krevsky B, et al. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease. *Ann Intern Med* 1996;124 Suppl 1:980–3.

Issue with supplement

Vega KJ, Pina I, Krevsky B, et al. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease. *Ann Intern Med* 1996;124(1 Suppl 2):980–3.

Volume with part

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

80–3.

Issue with no volume

Vega KJ, Pina I, Krevsky B. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease. *Clin Ortho* 1996;(124): 980–3.

No issue or volume

Vega KJ, Pina I, Krevsky B. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease. *Curr Opin Gen Surg* 1996: 980–3.

Pagination in Roman numerals

Vega KJ, Pina I, Krevsky B. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreatobiliary disease. *Surg Clin North Am* 1996 April;124(2):xi–xii

3. Books and other Monographs

Formal author(s)

Ringsven MK, Bond D. Gerontology and leadership skills for nurses. 2nd ed. Albany (NY): Delmar Publishers; 1996.

Editor(s), compiler(s) as author

Ringsven MK, Bond D, editors. Gerontology and leadership skills for nurses. 2nd ed. Albany (NY): Delmar Publishers; 1996.

Organization as author and publisher

Institute of Medicine (US). Gerontology and leadership skills for nurses. Washington: The Institute; 1996.

Chapter in a book

Phillips SJ, Whisnant JP. An introduction to gerontology. In: Ringsven MK, Bond D, editors. Gerontology and leadership skills for nurses. 2nd ed. Albany (NY): Delmar Publishers; 1996. p. 465–78.

Conference proceedings

Ringsven MK, Bond D, editors. Gerontology and leadership skills for nurses. Proceedings of the 10th International Congress of Nurses; 1996 Oct 15–19; Kyoto, Japan. Albany (NY): Delmar Publishers; 1996.

Conference paper

Phillips SJ, Whisnant JP. An introduction to gerontology. In: Ringsven MK, Bond D, editors. Gerontology and leadership skills for nurses. Proceedings of the 10th International Congress of Nurses; 1996 Oct 15-19; Kyoto, Japan. Albany (NY): Delmar Publishers; 1996. p. 1561–5.

Scientific or technical report issued by funding/sponsoring agency

Smith P, Golladay K. Payment for durable medical equipment in skilled nursing facilities. Final report. Dallas (TX): Department of Health and Human Services (US), Office of Evaluation and Inspection; 1994 Oct. Report No: HHSIGOEI69200860.

4. Unpublished material

In press

(Note: NLM prefers “Forthcoming” because not all items will be printed)

Leshner AI. Molecular mechanisms of cocaine addiction. N Engl J Med, In press 1996.

*Electronic material**Journal article in electronic format*

Morse SS. Factors in the emergence of infectious diseases. *Emerg Infect Dis* [serial online] 1995 Jan–Mar [cited 1996 Jun 5]; 1(1):[24 screens]. Available from URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/eid.htm>

Monograph in electronic format

CDI, clinical dermatology illustrated [monograph on CD-Rom]. Reeves JRT, Maibach H. CMEA Multimedia Group, producers. 2nd ed. Version 2.0. San Diego: CMEA; 1995.

5. How to order references

Most journals in medicine and the other medical sciences use the Vancouver, or citation-by-reference number, system in which the references in the reference list are numbered in the order in which they are first cited in the text.

Some journals still use the citation-by-author-and-date system (also known as the Harvard system) in which the paper cited is identified by author name and year of publication.

In a combined Alphabet-Number System, references are listed in alphabetical order according to the primary author's name and cited by numbers in the text.

Even if the journal to which the paper is submitted uses the citation-by-reference number system, it is advisable to use the Harvard system for the citations in the first and other early drafts. If numbers are assigned to references at this early stage, those numbers will very likely have to be changed in subsequent drafts. With a word-processing program, the “search-and-replace” function, one can place at the beginning of each citation a character not used elsewhere in the text, for example an asterisk (*).