AMA Citation Style Quick Guide

This handout serves as a quick reference to using American Medical Association style for citing common information sources. The complete AMA Manual of Style 10th Edition is located in the reference collection at the Forest Park campus of STLCC Libraries. See last page for in-text citations and reference list examples.

Citing Journal Articles

AMA style requires the use of standard National Library of Medicine [NLM] abbreviations for all journal titles when available. Abbreviations for medical journals can be found in the AMA Manual of Style (pp.473-479), or by searching the NLM Catalog [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/journals] to find the NLM title abbreviation.

Print Journal Articles

General format:

Online Journal Articles

The same general format is followed for an online journal article, but with the addition of either a DOI (digital object identifier) or URL/accessed date (only if no DOI is available) at the end.

General format with DOI:

General format without DOI:

- The accessed date will often be the only date available

For all reference entries, list all authors if six or less, otherwise list first three followed by “et al”
- 1-6 authors: Smith IS, Hanson JP, Adams WE.
- 7 or more authors: Wormser GP, Ramanathan R, Nowakowski J, et al.

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Citing Books

**Print Book**
*General format:*
Author(s). Chapter title. In: Editor(s). *Book Title*. Edition number (if applicable). City, State (or country) of publisher: Publisher’s name; copyright year: pages (if chapter of book).

**Electronic/Online Books**
*General format:*
Follow the same general format for a print book, but add the URL and accessed date at the end of the reference.
- If the reference is for an entire book, the information on the chapter title and page numbers is not included.

For all reference entries, list all authors if six or less, otherwise list first three followed by “et al”
- 1-6 authors: Smith IS, Hanson JP, Adams WE.
- 7 or more authors: Wormser GP, Ramanathan R, Nowakowski J, et al.

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Citing Other Electronic Sources

**Websites**

*General Format:*

Author(s). Title of the specific item cited (if none is given, use the name of the organization responsible for the site). Name of the website. URL. Published date. Updated date. Accessed date.

- Include the elements above as available.
  - Often the authors are not indicated, in which case leave that element out and start with the title of the item
- Include the Published/Updated/Accessed dates that are available. Often only the Accessed date can be determined

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**Government/Organization Reports**

Government and organization reports are generally treated like electronic journal or book references, depending on the type of report.

- Provide the published, updated, and accessed dates if available. However, the accessed date will often be the only date available

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**Citing Other Type of Sources**

**Class Notes**


**Interview (with radiologist)**

Interviewee. Pathology. Personal interview. Date.

Sample:


**Radiologist Report**

Radiologist report. Exam/study performed. Exam date (month/day/year). Time of exam.

Sample:

In-Text Citations and Reference List

In-Text Citations

Citations are to be included for any information quoted or paraphrased from a source.

- All citations should be marked in consecutive numerical order by means of superscript Arabic numerals
- Place the number directly after the fact, idea, or quotation that is being cited
- When citing the same source more than once, give the number of the original reference
- Use superscript numerals outside periods and commas, inside colons and semicolons.
- Use commas to separate multiple citation numbers in text, but use a hyphen if you are citing consecutive citation numbers
  - As reported previously,\textsuperscript{1,3-8,19}
  - The derived data were as follows\textsuperscript{3,4}.
- When referring to authors in the text, use last names only. If the reference has more than 2 authors, use the first author’s surname followed by “et al”
  - Smith\textsuperscript{1} reported...
  - Smith and Johnson\textsuperscript{2} reported...
  - Smith et al\textsuperscript{3} reported...
- Unpublished works and personal communications should be included parenthetically, but not in the reference list. Exception: STLCC faculty require students to add to case study reference list.
  - These findings have recently been corroborated (H. E. Marman, MD, unpublished data, January 2005).
  - In a conversation with H. E. Marman, MD (August 2005).

Additional In-Text Examples: (red font used for superscript numbers is for emphasis only below, do not use in paper)

Diabetes mellitus is associated with a high risk of foot ulcers.\textsuperscript{1-3}
Several interventions have been successful at increasing compliance.\textsuperscript{11,14-16}
The data of Smith et al\textsuperscript{18} is further evidence of this effect.
As reported previously,\textsuperscript{1,3-6} The results were as follows\textsuperscript{4}:

Reference List

Once all in-text citations have been added to the paper and are properly numbered, all corresponding references should be placed on a separate page at the end of the document, numbered consecutively in the order in which they are cited in the text.

Example Reference List


