

GUIDE FOR REFERENCE LISTS USING AMA STYLE

In her Foreword to the *AMA MANUAL OF STYLE, A Guide for Authors and Editors, 10th Edition*,¹ Catherine D. DeAngelis, MD, MPH (Editor in Chief of *JAMA*) writes:

I never cease to be amazed by the general inability of physicians, other health professionals, and scientists to communicate through the written word. Their scholarly and creative ideas and insightful data interpretation often seem to get lost in the translation from brain to page.

The *AMA MANUAL OF STYLE* gives comprehensive guidance in its 1010 pages for every possible formatting question regarding scholarly writing.

To assist authors with preparing their articles for publication in *The International Journal of Safe Patient Handling & Mobility*, what appears below is a basic and hopefully accessible guide for the AMA minimum required data for citing and referencing journals, books, online publications, and Web sites. Please carefully note the spaces (or lack thereof), punctuation, and font styles:

HOW TO LIST AUTHOR NAMES:

- **Six or less authors:**

Last name[sp]Initials.

Example:

Ferguson JJ, Califf RM, Antman EM, Hennis A, Wu SA, Taylor Z.

- **Seven or more authors: list first three followed by et al.**

Example:

Ferguson JJ, Califf RM, Antman EM, et al.

- **Two authors:**

Example:

Ferguson JJ, Califf RM.

JOURNAL NAME ABBREVIATIONS:

Abbreviate and italicize all *journal names* according to the US Library of Medicine. Consult the Pub Med Web site to look up a journal's abbreviation at: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>.

A list of journal abbreviations is also accessible at section 14.10 Names of Journals (p. 472) in the *AMA Manual of Style* 10th Edition.

Note: Single-word journals titles are not abbreviated, i.e., *Cancer*.

JOURNALS:

- **Print:**

Author(s). Article title. *Journal Name*. Year;vol(issue No.):inclusive pages.

Example:

Ranier S, Thomas D, Tokarz D, et al. Myofibrillogenesis regulator 1 gene mutations cause paroxysmal dystonic choreoathetosis. *Arch Neurol*. 2004;61(7):1025-1029.

- **Online:**

Author(s). Article title. *Journal Name*. Year;vol(issue No.):inclusive pages. URL. Accessed [date].

Example:

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 June 1, 2004.

BOOKS:

- **Print:**

Author(s). *Book Title*. Edition number (if it is the second edition or above). City, State (or Country) of publisher: Publisher's name; copyright year.

Examples:

Sacks O. *Uncle Tungsten*. New York, NY: Alfred A Knopf; 2001.

Rogers, EM. *Diffusion of Innovations*. 5th ed. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, Inc.; 2003

- **Online:**

Author(s). *Book Title*. Edition number (if it is the second edition or above). City, State (or Country) of publisher: Publisher's name; copyright year. URL. Accessed [date].

- **Web Site:**

Author (or, if no author is available, the name of the organization responsible for the site).

Title (or, if no title is available, the name of the organization responsible for the site).

Name of the Web site. URL. Accessed [date].

UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL:

Author(s). Article Title. Paper presented at: [name of meeting]; date; City, State.

For further details about unpublished material, see 3.13.8, Special Print Materials.

CITATIONS IN ARTICLE TEXT:

Section 3.6 in *AMA Manual of Style* states that references should be cited in the text, tables, or figures in consecutive numerical order using superscript Arabic numerals. Use superscript numerals *outside periods and commas* and *inside colons and semicolons*. Use commas *without spaces* in multiple-reference citation.

Examples:

As reported previously,^{1,2,4}

The derived data were as follows^{3,4}:

The results were consistent with those of previous studies.^{5,6,7}

References:

1. American Medical Association. *AMA MANUAL OF STYLE, A Guide for Authors and Editors*. 10th ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press; 2007:v-vi.