

Basic Reference Format

*****NOTE: This document has been updated, and many changes have been made to various referencing formats. Most changes involve journal articles and online drug databases. Please double-check formats.*****

The following Referencing Format is adapted from the AMA Manual of Style, 11th edition.¹ If you have questions about referencing an item, please refer to the AMA Manual of Style, 11th ed., located in the DIS/LSS. There are, however, a couple notable exceptions. *This document takes precedence over the AMA Manual of Style, 11th ed.*

- **Do not italicize the titles of journal or books.**

References are listed in the order that they are first cited in the text. Each reference is assigned a consecutive Arabic number. **Each reference is listed once in the bibliography regardless of how many times it is cited in the document.** All citations from the same reference use the original reference number. Reference numbers in the text should be **superscripted** and located after the sentence that contains the fact being referenced. Sentences with multiple references should have the references listed at the end of the sentence or throughout the sentence if each part is from a separate reference. If the sentence mentions the authors' names, the reference number immediately follows the names.

Examples:

Drug X has been shown to cause green rash with purple spots.^{1,2}

Drug Y is used to treat hypertension, congestive heart failure, and arrhythmias.^{1,3-5}

Drug Z is compatible with normal saline⁶ and dextrose 5% in water.⁷

Smith and Jones¹¹ found that diet and exercise lead to weight loss.

General Rules:

1. Avoid using abstracts as references. Always use the primary source for your papers when possible.
2. Use authors'/editors' last name followed by initials. No periods after initials. No titles (ex. MD, PharmD). Do not use the word "and" between names. Separate names with commas.
3. List all authors/editors unless there are more than six. If there are more than six authors/editors, list the first three then use "et al."

1. JAMA Network Editors. AMA Manual of Style. 11th ed. Oxford University Press; 2020.

Journal Articles:

****NOTE: Use the Cite button on PubMed for easy citation formatting. Just make sure you use the AMA Format (dropdown box for format styles) then Copy.**

****NOTE: The period after the journal abbreviation is optional. But do not use periods inside the journal abbreviation (for example: Br J Cancer. but NOT Br. J. Cancer.)**

1. List all authors unless there are more than six. If more than six authors, list first three then “et al.”

Examples:

Parkin DM, Clayton D, Black RJ, et al. Childhood leukaemia in Europe after Chernobyl: 5 year follow-up. Br J Cancer. 1996;73:1006-1012.

Stratta P, de Cataldo S, Bonanni R, Valenti M, Masedu F, Rossi A. Mental health in L'Aquila after the earthquake. Ann Ist Super Sanita. 2012;48(2):132-137.

2. The journal title is abbreviated according to the style used in the NCBI NLM Catalog database. Go to PubMed (pubmed.com), then click on the Journals on the right side of the screen (under Explore) and enter the journal name. If you are unsure of a journal's abbreviation, **ASK!**

3. For journals with continuous pagination, use this format: year;volume:first page-last page. No spaces. Do not omit digits from page numbers. Use the issue number when available.

4. Identify abstracts, letters, and editorials as such at the end of the title.

Example:

Bartle WR, Walker SE. Effect of cimetidine on phenytoin metabolism [abstract]. Clin Pharmacol Ther 1982;31:202.

5. DOI numbers may be included in the citation. If the DOI is included, it goes at the end of the citation. The DOI is provided immediately after “doi:” with no space. Do **NOT** use a period after the DOI.

Example:

Fauci AS, Lane HC, Redfield RR. Covid-19 – navigating the uncharted. N Engl J Med. 2020;382:1268-1269. doi:10.1056/NEJMe2002387

6. For **online journals** with no page information, use the following format: Author(s). Article title. Journal abbreviation. year;volume:article#.

Example:

Travlos DV, Baumgartner JL, Rouse M, Wadelin JW, Vlasses PH. Forty Years of ACPE CPE Accreditation. Am J Pharm Educ 2017;81(9):5998.

7. For articles published **online prior to print** publication (and have not yet been printed in an issue of the journal), use this format: Author(s). Article title. Journal abbreviation. Year;volume (if known):page numbers or article number (if known). Epub [date].

Example:

Livingston E, Bucher K. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Italy. JAMA. 2020;10.1001/jama.2020.4344. Published online March 17, 2020. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.4344

8. For articles originally published **online prior to print publication, but which have been printed**, use the normal format. Do NOT include the Epub date.

Correct: Rose AJ, Park A, Gillespie C, et al. Results of a regional effort to improve warfarin management. Ann Pharmacother. 2017;51(5):373-379.

NOT: Rose AJ, Park A, Gillespie C, et al. Results of a regional effort to improve warfarin management. Ann Pharmacother. 2017;51(5):373-379. Published online Dec 17, 2016.

Books and Book Chapters:

1. **FOR ENTIRE BOOKS:** list author/editor information (if more than 6 authors/editors, list first 3 then “et al.”), then title of book, edition number (if applicable), name of publisher, and year of publication. **Do not include the location of the publisher.**

Example:

Adkinson NF Jr, Bochner BS, Burks W, et al., eds. Middleton’s Allergy: Principles and Practice. 8th ed. Saunders; 2014.

2. **FOR BOOK CHAPTERS:** list author information then title of chapter followed by the word “In:” and the book information. Add the page numbers for the **entire** chapter after the publication year.

Example:

Armstrong EP, Barton LL. Bone and joint infections. In: DiPiro JT, Talbert RL, Yee GC, Matzke GR, Wells BG, Posey LM, editors. Pharmacotherapy. A Pathophysiologic Approach. 6th ed. McGraw Hill;2005:2119-2127.

3. **FOR ELECTRONIC BOOK:** use the same format for print books and chapters with the addition of the accessed date and URL.

Example:

Blake KV, Lang JE. Asthma. In: DiPiro JT, Yee GC, Posey L, Haines ST, Nolin TD, Ellingrod V, eds. Pharmacotherapy: A Pathophysiologic Approach. 11th ed. McGraw-Hill; 2019. Accessed April 21, 2020.
<http://accesspharmacy.mhmedical.com/content.aspx?bookid=2577§ionid=2289014>

Web Documents:

1. When citing internet documents, provide enough information for others to find the document. The citation should include the author (if known), the title of the page, the date the page was written or updated (**or n.d. if the date is not given**), the name of the website, the date you accessed the information, and the web address. **Do NOT use a period after the URL.**

2. If the web page has an author and date listed, use this format: Author. Title (date). Website. Accessed [date]. [URL]

Example:

Allen Jr LV. Veterinary compounding (n.d.). Paddock Laboratories website. Accessed April 3, 2008. http://www.paddocklabs.com/forms/secundum/volume_7_2.pdf

3. If the document does not have an author/editor listed, then use the basic format: Name of web page (date). Host name Web site. Accessed [date]. [web address]

Example:

Is it time for chronotherapy? Compliance with antihypertensive therapy (5/18/2002). Medical Association Communications website. Accessed April 11, 2008. http://www.cmecorner.com/macmcm/ash/ash2002_01.htm

4. Remove the hyperlink by highlighting the URL, right-click, and select "Remove Hyperlink." This will make the URL appear (and print) in black without underlining.

Example:

<http://www.cdc.gov>

NOT: <http://www.cdc.gov>

5. Break a URL that goes to another line after a slash or before a period. Do not insert (or allow your word processing program to insert) a hyphen at the break.

Example:

GVU's 8th WWW Survey Team. User survey (n.d.). Georgia Institute of Technology Web site. Accessed August 8, 2000. <http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/usersurveys/survey1997-10/>.

6. Write out the date you accessed the page.

Examples:

Accessed August 6, 2007.

NOT: Aug. 6, 2007 OR 8/6/07 OR August 6th, 2007

7. Use the URL of the **EXACT** page where the information was found:

Example:

Outbreak: polio, Ethiopia (4/4/05). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site. Accessed June 28, 2005. http://www.cdc.gov/travel/other/polio_wafrica.htm.

NOT: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Online Drug Databases:

1. For both **Facts & Comparisons eAnswers** and **Lexicomp Online**, use the following format:

Name of database. Title of reference book. Hudson, Ohio: Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information, Inc.; date updated. Accessed [date].

****Please make sure you use the correct reference book title!!**

Examples:

Facts & Comparisons eAnswers, Drug Facts and Comparisons, Hudson, Ohio: Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information, Inc.; 5/18/2023. Accessed May 23, 2023.

Lexicomp Online, AHFS DI, Hudson, Ohio: Wolters Kluwer Clinical Drug Information, Inc.; 2023; April 21, 2023. Accessed May 23, 2023.

2. For **Natural Medicines**, use this format (do not use entire web address):

Name of document (date). Natural Medicines website. Accessed [date].

<https://naturalmedicines.therapeuticresearch.com/>.

Example:

Cannabidiol (CBD) (5/19/2023). Natural Medicines website. Accessed May 23, 2023. <https://naturalmedicines.therapeuticresearch.com/>

3. For **Pharmacist's Letter** articles accessed online, use the following format:

Project Leader(s) [if provided]. Title of Document. Pharmacist's Letter year month.

Document No.: (insert number). Accessed [date].

<https://pharmacist.therapeuticresearch.com/>

Example:

Managing Beta-Lactam Allergies. Pharmacist's Letter 2023 May. Clinical Resource #390503. Accessed May 23, 2023. <https://pharmacist.therapeuticresearch.com/>

4. For **Micromedex**, use the following format to cite the entire database:

Micromedex® (electronic version). Merative, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Available at: <https://www.micromedexsolutions.com/> (cited: month/day/year).

For an individual monograph, use this format:

Name of Monograph. In: Merative™ Micromedex® DRUGDEX® (electronic version).

Merative, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Available at:

<https://www.micromedexsolutions.com/> (cited: month/day/year).

Example:

Potassium chloride. In: Merative™ Micromedex® DRUGDEX® (electronic version).

Merative, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Available at:

<https://www.micromedexsolutions.com/> (cited: March 13, 2023).

5. For **Clinical Pharmacology**, refer to this website: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8pxw5z>
Clinical Pharmacology powered by ClinicalKey. Philadelphia (PA): Elsevier. insert
current year of copyright- [insert cited date]. Available from: <http://www.clinicalkey.com>.

Example:

Clinical Pharmacology powered by ClinicalKey. Philadelphia (PA): Elsevier. c2021-
[cited 2021 April 4]. Available from: <http://www.clinicalkey.com>.

6. For **UpToDate**, refer to this website:

<https://uptodate-communities.force.com/customers/s/article/How-do-I-cite-an-UpToDate-topic>

Other Documents/Sources of Information:

1. **Package inserts**, even if viewed on-line, should be cited in the following manner:
Brand name of drug [package insert]. City, state: name of drug company; year month.
The city and date are located at the end of the insert.

Example:

Accutane [package insert]. Nutley, NJ: Roche Laboratories;1982 May.

2. References to **personal communication** should be included in the text. Include the
date of the communication, whether the communication was oral or written, and the
affiliation of the person.

Example:

According to the manufacturer (L. Smith, Eli Lilly & Co., oral communication, April 30,
2015), the drug should not be used in pediatric patients.

3. **App** format: Name of App. Version number. Name of Publisher. Update date.
Accessed date.

Example:

Davis's Drug Guide with updates & calculators app. Version 1.18. Unbound Medicine
Inc. Updated September 25, 2015. Accessed October 12, 2015.

4. **Podcast** format: Speaker's name. Title of podcast episode. Name of podcast.
Producer of podcast. Date of podcast. Web address (if available at a specific web
address)

Example:

Miller D, host. Author Mohsin Hamid live at Literary Arts. Think Out Loud
podcast. Oregon Public Broadcasting. April 5,
2018. <https://www.opb.org/radio/programs/thinkoutloud/segment/mohsin-hamid-pakistan-literary-arts-portland-think-out-loud/>