

NLM & ICMJE Style Guide – Citing Articles

APSU Writing Center Handout

NLM (National Library of Medicine) used by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)

In-text Citations

Use superscript numbers or numbers in parentheses.

Numbers correspond to the order of first appearance in the text.

Reuse the same number for repeated sources.

Example:

Hypertension has been associated with cognitive decline.¹

References List

Listed in numerical order that they appear in the paper (NOT alphabetical).

Use hanging indents.

Do not reorder by author or date.

Reference Example

1. Petitti DB. Blood pressure levels before dementia. Arch Neurol. 2005 Jan;62(1):112-6.

NLM Style - Citing Articles

In-Text Citation Format: Use superscript numbers or numbers in parentheses.

Sentence with In-Text Citation Example: This result was confirmed experimentally.¹

Article in Print, Single Author

Reference Format:

Author(s). Title of article. Abbreviated Journal Title. Year Month Day; vol(issue): pages.

Reference Example:

1. Petitti DB. Blood pressure levels before dementia. Arch Neurol. 2005 Jan;62(1):112-6.

Article in Print, Multiple Authors

Reference Format:

Author(s). Title of article. Abbreviated Journal Title. Year Month Day; vol(issue): pages.

- List all authors regardless of number.

Reference Example:

1. Menten P, Jeunemaitre X, de Wardener HE, MacGregor GA. Links between dietary salt intake, renal salt handling, blood pressure, and cardiovascular diseases. Physiol Rev. 2005 Apr;85(2):679-715.

Article in Online, URL

Reference Format:

Author(s). Title of article. Abbreviated Journal Title [Internet]. Year Month Day [cite date accessed];vol(issue): pages. Available from: URL

Reference Example:

1. Happell B. The influence of education on the career preferences of undergraduate nursing students. Aust Electron J Nurs Educ [Internet]. 2002 Apr [cited 2007 Jan 8];8(1):167-79.

Available from: http://www.scu.edu.au/schools/nhcp/aejne/vol8-1/refereed/happell_max.html

Article in Online, DOI**Reference Format:**

Author(s). Title of article. Abbreviated Journal Title [Internet]. Year Month Day [cite date accessed];vol(issue):pages. Available from: URL doi:DOI number

Reference Example:

1. Puri S, O'Brian MR. The *hmuQ* and *humu D* genes from *Bradyrhizobium japonicum* encode heme-degrading enzymes. J Bacteriol [Internet]. 2006 Sep [cited 2007 Jan 8];188(18):6476-82.

Available from: <http://jb.asm.org/cgi/content/full/188/18/6476?view=long&pmid=16952937> doi: 10.1128/JB.00737-06

References

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. (2026). *Recommendations for the conduct, reporting, editing, and publication of scholarly work in medical journals*.

<https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/>

University of Mississippi Medical Center. (n.d.). *ICMJE/NLM style*. UMMC Library.

<https://umc.libguides.com/citations/nlm>