International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Sample References

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors site

Articles in Journals (see also #36. Journal article on the Internet)

1. Standard journal article

List the first six authors followed by et al. (Note: NLM now lists all authors.)


As an option, if a journal carries continuous pagination throughout a volume (as many medical journals do) the month and issue number may be omitted.


More than six authors:


Optional addition of a database's unique identifier for the citation: [Edited 12 May 2009]


Optional addition of a clinical trial registration number: [Added 12 May 2009]

2. **Organization as author**


3. **Both personal authors and organization as author** *(List all as they appear in the byline.)*

[Edited 12 May 2009]


4. **No author given**

21st century heart solution may have a sting in the tail. BMJ. 2002;325(7357):184.

5. **Article not in English** [Edited 12 May 2009]


Optional translation of article title (MEDLINE/PubMed practice):


6. **Volume with supplement**


7. **Issue with supplement**


8. **Volume with part**


9. **Issue with part**

10. Issue with no volume


11. No volume or issue


12. Pagination in roman numerals


13. Type of article indicated as needed


14. Article containing retraction


Article containing a partial retraction: [Added 12 May 2009]


15. Article retracted


Article partially retracted: [Added 12 May 2009]


16. Article republished with corrections

17. Article with published erratum


18. Article published electronically ahead of the print version


Books and Other Monographs

19. Personal author(s)


20. Editor(s), compiler(s) as author


21. Author(s) and editor(s)


22. Organization(s) as author [Edited 12 May 2009]


23. Chapter in a book

24. Conference proceedings


25. Conference paper


26. Scientific or technical report

Issued by funding/sponsoring agency:


Issued by performing agency:


27. Dissertation


28. Patent


Other Published Material

29. Newspaper article


30. Audiovisual material

31. Legal Material

Public law:

Unenacted bill:

Code of Federal Regulations:

Hearing:

32. Map


33. Dictionary and similar references


34. In press or Forthcoming [Edited 12 May 2009]

(Note: NLM prefers "Forthcoming" rather than "In press" because not all items will be printed.)


35. CD-ROM


36. Journal article on the Internet [Edited 12 May 2009]

Optional presentation (omits bracketed phrase that qualifies the journal title abbreviation):


Article published on the Internet ahead of the print version:
See # 18.

Optional formats used by NLM in MEDLINE/PubMed:

Article with document number in place of traditional pagination:


Article with a Digital Object Identifier (DOI):


Article with unique publisher item identifier (pii) in place of traditional pagination or DOI:


37. Monograph on the Internet [Edited 12 May 2009]

38. Homepage/Web site [Edited 12 May 2009]


40. Database on the Internet [Edited 12 May 2009]
Open database:
Closed database:

41. Part of a database on the Internet [Edited 12 May 2009]

42. Blogs [Added 12 May 2009]


Contribution to a blog:


More detailed information on how to cite references can be found in Citing Medicine. Note Appendix F which covers how citations in MEDLINE/PubMed differ from the advice in Citing Medicine.

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