Introduction

Various methods and systems are available for citing the pharmacy/medical literature. Manuals of style for authors and editors have been developed by the American Medical Association (AMA), American Psychological Association (APA), Modern Language Association (MLA), National Library of Medicine (NLM) and others. In addition, programs such as EndNote and Zotero store references and allow the user to insert them into Word documents using AMA and many additional styles.

This document provides selected examples using AMA style. If you cannot find an example that for the type of publication you would like to cite, consult the AMA Manual of Style: A Guide for Authors and Editors, 10th ed. (available at Gumberg or the Pharmaceutical Information Center).

Electronic Publications – Important Note

When citing electronic publications, include the same elements used for a print citation followed by the DOI (doi:10.1001/jama.2015.6358) or URL and accessed date (http://www.iep.utm.edu/bioethic. Accessed June 25, 2015). When possible, AMA recommends using DOIs since they are less transient than URLs. New PubMed records usually contain DOIs.

Journal Articles

In general, if there are more than six authors, list the first six followed by et al. Include all authors if six or less. AMA style uses periods after journal titles/abbreviations. In addition, AMA style places journal issue numbers between parentheses after the volume and uses the first and entire last page number of the article.

Print

Electronic – DOI Present

Electronic – No DOI

1 If you don’t know the official abbreviation, go to http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/journals and enter the journal’s full name. If the journal is not listed, go to http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/constructitle.html or see the AMA Manual of Style, 10th edition, p. 472.
Books

Personal author(s)

Chapter in a Book

Edited

Drug Information & Medical Resources

General Form for Citing Databases (AMA Manual of Style, 10th ed.)
Author(s). Title of the database [database online]. Publisher’s location (city, state, or, for Canada, city, province, country, or, for all others, city, country): publisher’s name; year of publication and/or last update. URL [provide URL and verify that the link still works]. Accessed Month, Day, Year.

General Notes:
- When a database has a common name, include “[database online]” after its title to help the reader understand what you are citing. AMA uses square brackets for explanatory notes.
- When listing URLs, provide the database’s primary URL (listed below for each database). Do not use the long URL that you see when accessing the database.
- Some databases do not list authors. If no author is listed, start your citation with the name of the drug or page you are citing.

Clinical Pharmacology

Database Specific Notes
- Use the drug name (or page title) for the information you are citing.
- Make sure to cite the current publication date, which is listed on all Clinical Pharmacology pages (2015 in the above example).
- Change the access date to the date you read the information.
Facts & Comparisons


Database Specific Notes
- Use the drug name (or page title) for the information you are citing.
- List the “book” that you are citing (e.g., Drug Facts and Comparisons, Review of Natural Products, Off-Label Drug Facts in the above examples).
- Make sure to cite the updated date for the specific the drug monograph (or page) listed on each page (March 2014, July 2015, and February 2011 in the above examples).
- Change the access date to the date you read the information.

Lexi-Comp Online


Database Specific Notes
- Use the drug name (or page title) for the information you are citing.
- List the “database” that you are citing (e.g., Lexi-Drugs, AHFS Essentials: Adult and Pediatric, Lab Tests and Diagnostic Procedures in the above examples).
- Make sure to cite the latest copyright date, which is listed on all Lexi-Comp pages a range of dates (the above example uses 2015, the latest date listed).
- Change the access date to the date you read the information.
- The explanatory note “[database online]” is not included because it’s self-evident from the database name.
Micromedex


**Database Specific Notes**
- Use the drug name (or page title) for the information you are citing.
- Indicate the section or book that you are citing (e.g., Quick Answers, In-Depth Answers, Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference, and RED BOOK Online in the above examples).
- Make sure to cite the latest publication or copyright date (2015 in the above examples). Look at the bottom of the monograph or page for a publication/update date; if none is listed go to the very bottom of the page and use the Micromedex copyright date listed.
- Change the access date to the date you read the information.

UpToDate

**Database Specific Notes**
- Use the “topic” that you are citing as the title.
- UpToDate is both the database and the publisher name, which is why it’s listed twice.
- Since UpToDate is updated every four months, use the current year as the publication date (2015 in the above example).
- UpToDate recommends using a different method of citing its topics, but the above method is consistent with the *AMA Manual of Style*, 10th ed., approach to citing databases.
Government Publications

Print


Electronic

Package Insert

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