

In the name of God

Citation & References

By

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Agenda

- ✓ Definition of citation
- ✓ Function of citation
- ✓ How to cite
 - *Selection of citing sources*
 - *Stating information/facts*
 - *Referring to the sources*
- ✓ Common errors and problems of citation

Definition of citation

- A practice consists of
 1. Stating information from others' works (using a summary, a paraphrase or a quotation)
 2. Referring to the sources (using in-text referencing and bibliographic details)

Components of citation

Stating an information/fact/definition from others

The title is the “single most important line of a publication” (1) Although the title is a very small part of a research paper, it plays a key role in connecting the writer with potential readers. It also determines whether the paper is read or not (2). The title of a paper acts as a billboard,

In-text referring to the source

Providing bibliographic details in reference list

References

1. Langford CA, Pearce PF. Increasing visibility for your work: The importance of a well-written title. *J Am Assoc Nurse Pract.* 2019;31(4):217-8. doi: [10.1097/JXX.0000000000000212](https://doi.org/10.1097/JXX.0000000000000212). [PubMed: [30964827](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30964827/)].
2. Haggan M. Research paper titles in literature, linguistics and science: Dimensions of attraction. *J Pragmat.* 2004;36(2):293-317. doi: [10.1016/s0378-2166\(03\)00090-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0378-2166(03)00090-0).

Function of citation (authors' point of view)

Introduction

Refines the research question (5 - 10 references)

Provides sufficient background about the study question

Shows current knowledge relevant to the study question

Shows how the study question has been previously studied

Presents concepts and variables associated with the research question

Material and methods

Elaborating the research method (5 - 15 references)

Describes new or previously published methods, protocols, or standards

Describes complex or less-known statistical analyses

Defines diagnostic criteria used in the study

Rationalizes sample size estimation

Justifies specific research design or methods

Result section has no reference.

Discussion

Supports interpretations of outcomes and conclusions (10 - 20 references)

Compares the study findings with the others

Reflects current view of the question/problem (conflicting, consensus or controversial opinions)

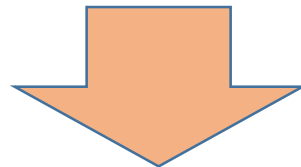
Supports possible explanations and implications

Contextualizes the study findings

Function of citation (readers' point of view)

Citation helps the readers:

- Get informed about **background and related material** of the work
- To understand and able **critical analysis** of the work
- **To justify** the conclusions
- To critically **evaluate** what contribution the study makes
- **To access to original sources** of information



Most gaining from the paper

Function of citation (editors' point of view)

Citation helps the editors:

- To judge manuscripts and published articles fairly
- Pick potential reviewers from the reference lists

Citation helps the reviewers:

- To judge the novelty and scope of the manuscripts

How to cite?

How to cite?

Three steps need to be followed precisely to make accurate and valid citations for writing a scientific paper

- 1) **Selecting** relevant and valid sources
- 2) **Stating** information/facts from others' work accurately and ethically
- 3) **Referring** to others' work accurately

Selection of citing sources

- **Sources of citation**

- Journal articles
- Entire books or part of books
- Contributions to books
- Technical or scientific reports
- Conference papers
- Dissertations and theses
- Patents
- Newspaper articles
- Unpublished Material
- Maps
- Bibliographies
- Audio and visual Media (audiocassettes, videocassettes, slides, photographs)
- Websites



Selection of sources

- **Use valid sources** (peer-reviewed journal articles rather than theses, conference abstracts, personal communications, unpublished data)
 - **Use less valid sources if** they contain essential information not available from public sources, for supporting the results of preliminary studies or citing parallel results in another study population

In case of referring to 'unpublished sources' or 'personal communications', the written permission of the author is require to ensure the accuracy of the data and approval from the authors

Selection of sources

- **Authors are responsible** for checking that the references cited **not be retracted articles**.

Can be identified by searching PubMed for “Retracted publication [pt]”

- **Use available sources** (Published journal articles rather than conference abstracts, submitted but not published article)

Selection of sources

- **Primary sources** (i.e. research articles written by those who conducted research)

Should be predominant sources used

- **Secondary sources** (articles where a researcher describes the work of other)

Where primary sources are unavailable
To provide a review of what is known about study question

- **General sources** (text book)
 - Basis for describing a hypothesis, statistical methods

Selection of sources

- **Points for using secondary sources**

- ✓ Citing a high quality systematic review may be appropriate for giving a summary of literature
- ✓ Acknowledge **it in the text as a review paper** to prevent misleading of casual reader about the originality of the work.

Appropriate number of cited sources for a paper

- Accepted number of references for an original research paper ~ **25-40**
 - **Introduction** ~ 5-10 references
 - **Material and Method** up to 5-15 references
 - **Result** section has no reference
 - **Discussion** ~10-20 references

To keep the number of references as few as possible, use the first, the most important, the most elegant and the most recent ones should be selected

Citation in abstract

Format: Abstract ▾

Send to ▾

[Bio Protoc.](#) 2014 Oct 5;4(19). pii: e1254.

Hypoxia Studies with Pimonidazole *in vivo*.

Aguilera KY¹, Brekken RA².

[+](#) Author information

Abstract

Therapy-induced hypoxia drives changes in the tumor microenvironment that contribute to the poor response to therapy. Hypoxia is capable of driving the expression and/or activation of specific signaling cascades (e.g., c-Met, Axl, CTGF), the recruitment of tumor promoting immune cells, and the induction of cell survival pathways including autophagy (Phan *et al.*, 2013; Hu *et al.*, 2012; Ye *et al.*, 2010). We have recently shown that anti-VEGF therapy-induced hypoxia can result in changes in the extracellular matrix that contribute to the aggressiveness of tumors post therapy (Aguilera *et al.*, 2014). Importantly, therapies that induce hypoxia do not always increase epithelial plasticity and tumor aggressiveness (Ostapoff *et al.*, 2013; Cenik *et al.*, 2013). We have used pimonidazole to evaluate hypoxia in tumors and herein provide a detailed protocol for this useful tool to interrogate the levels of hypoxia *in vivo*. The utility of the Hypoxyprobe™ (pimonidazole hydrochloride) immunohistochemical analysis approach allows for the assessment of hypoxia in different tissues as well as cell types. Pimonidazole is a 2-nitroimidazole that is reductively activated specifically in hypoxic cells and forms stable adducts with thiol groups in proteins, peptides, and amino acids (Cenik *et al.*, 2013; Arnold *et al.*, 2010; Raleigh and Koch, 1990; Raleigh *et al.*, 1998). Furthermore, the amount of pimonidazole that is detected is directly proportional to the level of hypoxia within tumors.

PMID: 27453908 PMCID: [PMC4956402](#)

Stating information/facts/ideas

- A summary
- A paraphrase
- A direct quotation

Stating information/facts/ideas

Summary

- A brief statement of the main points of others' work by one of the three approaches:
 - 1) Neutral approach to the knowledge
 - 2) Affiliating with the knowledge
 - 3) Distancing from the knowledge



Critical summary

Not only summarizing existing knowledge but offering a stance on it

Stating information/facts/ideas

Paraphrase (rewording of something written or spoken)

- Express **the meaning of something** by different words (synonyms and rephrasing), for greater clarity
- Be cautious about **‘patch-writing’** that is the act of making small changes and substitutions to copied source material

Both paraphrasing and summarizing are complex and critical academic skills and depend on one's knowledge of the content

Stating information/facts/ideas

- **Direct quotation** (exactly copied statement with **more than six consecutive words**)
 - Use “ ” around the repeated phrases and reference the original source
 - Check that every word and punctuation mark is exactly same as the original version
 - If a part of the quotation is omitted, use ‘...’ instead of the omitted part
 - If your words or different words are inserted into a quotation, put them in a [...]
 - For block quote (**quote \geq 25-30 words**), it should be set off from the main text as a separate indented paragraph and omit “ ”

Stating information/facts/ideas

Use quotations where

- The original words express an idea **distinctively**
- The original sentence is **more concise** than your summary
- For the **well-known** statements
- Would like to give **historical context** for a particular theory or construct

Don't use quotations where

- To report **findings** of published research
- To provide **operational definitions** and **variable names**

To cite more accurately

- Don't cite references after **skimming results of the abstract** rather considering the whole text
- Be careful to keep the intent or **meaning of the original** author
- Don't use **secondary sources** (never refer to documents that you have not read)
- Don't give multiple similar references to support a single statement or, conversely, using a single source to support multiple statements

Which statement needs to be supported by a reference?

- The numbers (prevalence, incidence), facts, or findings of other's work
- Statements like *'the literature suggest that...'* or *'there is general agreement that...'*

- Common knowledge in a field
- Facts that can be found publicly and are likely to be known by many people

How to refer?

How to refer to the sources

1) Providing in-text references, i.e. abbreviated format of individual references referring back to the reference list

2) Providing bibliographic details as a reference list at the end of a paper

Common referencing systems and styles

- Referencing systems link statements in a text to the bibliographical details of the documents that support those statements
- **Commonly used systems in medicine**
 - Vancouver (consecutive-numbering system)
 - Harvard (author name-publication year system)
- **Other styles:** MLA, AMA, APA, CMS

In-text referencing (general rules)

- ✗ Although carcinoembryonic antigen is a good prognostic marker for colon cancer, it can also be found in cancer of the pancreas, breast, ovary, or lung (1– 8).
- ✓ Although carcinoembryonic antigen is a good prognostic marker for colon cancer (1-3), it can also be found in cancer of the pancreas (4), breast (5,6), ovary (7), or lung (8).

To referring to multiple references for a fact, listed them **chronologically, or alphabetically** (last name of the first author) for same year

Place reference immediately after the idea or fact

In-text referencing (name-year system)

- Quoting directly from an author, or citing a specific idea or piece of information, include the page number in the in-text reference, e.g. (Smith 2001, p.15)
- Citing secondary sources, name the original source, and also provide a citation for the secondary source, e.g. (Schweer, cited by Harrison, 1992, p. 774)

In-text referencing (name-year system)

- Two references with same first author, list them chronologically e.g. (Annesley, 2010; Annesley, 2011)
- Two references with same first author and same publication year, differentiat them by alphabetical letters after the year of publication, e.g. (Annesley, 2010a; Annesley, 2010b)
- **No author's name**, include the the **title of the work** (or first words the title followed by an ellipsis [...]), e.g., (**Biological research ... 2007**)
- No date of publication → **'no date' after author's name**
- Neither author nor date → **title followed by 'no date'**

Weighting bibliography

Papers of special note have been highlighted as either of interest (●) or of considerable interest (●●) to readers.

- ▶ 88. Bryan NS, Fernandez BO, Bauer SM, et al. Nitrite is a signaling molecule and regulator of gene expression in mammalian tissues. *Nat Chem Biol* 2005;1:290-7

- **This study demonstrates that nitrite had unique signaling properties independent of NO.**

- ▶ 89. Zweier JL, Wang P, Samouilov A, Kuppusamy P. Enzyme-independent formation of nitric oxide in biological tissues. *Nat Med* 1995;1:804-9

- ▶ 21. Liu L, Hausladen A, Zeng M, et al. A metabolic enzyme for S-nitrosothiol conserved from bacteria to humans. *Nature* 2001;410:490-4

- **First demonstration of the enzymatic denitrosation and regulation of nitrosothiols as a transient post-translational modification.**

- ▶ 22. Friedman A, Friedman J. New biomaterials for the sustained release of nitric oxide: past, present and future. *Expert Opin Drug Deliv* 2009;6:1113-22
- ▶ 23. Stevens EV, Carpenter AW, Shin JH, et al. Nitric oxide-releasing silica

Common errors of citation

Citation errors

Citation content errors

- **Inaccuracy** (e.g. incorrect quotes, misinterpretation of original information, inaccurate attribution of a material to an author, citing second-hand sources)
- **Referring to invalid sources** e.g. predatory journals
- **Referring to unavailable sources** (unpublished materials, proceeding abstracts/posters)

Citation errors (biased citation)

- **Over-citation of colleagues**
- **Ignoring the work of rivals**
- **Gratuitous citations** to impress potential referees
- **Excluding contrary evidence**
- **Unethical practice in citation**
 - Use of citation to promote self-interests (e.g. over self-citations)

When a researcher works on a specific topic for years, 25% self-citation is not uncommon

Thanks for your
attention