Referencing modification in *Mens Sana Monographs* from 2012

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Full Text

Authors must check authenticity of references and other facts quoted before submission. They must specially check that all references in text are included in reference list and vice versa. [In other words, carefully cross check that every reference cited in text is in the reference list, and every reference in the reference list is cited in the text.] Do not prepare a separate bibliography or Internet citation list. They should be incorporated, if at all, in the reference list itself, and only if quoted in the text.

Modification in Referencing Format from MSM 2012

At Mens Sana Monographs (MSM), we have been using the modified Harvard referencing system until 2011. Most biomedical journals use the Vancouver system.

Both systems have their plus points and their drawbacks.

We have decided to modify our referencing system from 2012 to incorporate the best of both.

We shall continue to have authors' names with year in the text, but will add a number, which matches that number in the reference list alphabetically arranged at the end of the paper. Also, the individual citation in the reference list will be modified to make it easy for PubMed to pick up and also for our Webmaster to establish links at html pages of respective articles.

In a nutshell,

As before, we shall continue to have authors' surnames in the text, but will now change to add numbers along with it, for instance, for one name (Fulford, 2011 6 ); for two names (Singh and Singh, 2011 21 ); and for more than two...
names (Drubach et al., 2011 8). These numbers in superscript must correspond to the number of the individual reference in the reference list at the end of the paper. Reference list should continue to be arranged in alphabetical order. Reference style for individual references of journal articles should be changed as follows:

For Journal articles in general:


Further referencing details are as follows:

1. For References of Same Author in One Year

For two or more references from the same author/authors in the same year, (a) and (b) maybe used after the year of publication. For example:

Woodruff T. Letters: The medical profession and the pharmaceutical industry: when will we open our eyes? eMJA 2004a;18:458-9.


2. For Editorials


3. For Papers:

3.a. For a single author:


3.b. For more than one author [all names preferred; et al may be used only after naming 6 authors]:


Or


4. For Books and Monographs:

4.a. Reference of a book:


4.b. Reference of a monograph series:

4.c. Where a book chapter is referenced:


4.d. Where an encyclopedia entry is referenced:


4.e. Where a book in translated:


4.f. Where an older book is republished:


4.g. Where a book has been edited:


4.h Where a book has been edited by someone other than the author:


4.i. Where a book has been published by two publishers:


4.j. Where a book is published by one but reprinted by another:


5. For Web References:


6. For Newspaper/Magazine Articles/News Agency/Channels with URLs:

6.a. Newspaper/Magazine:


6.b. News agency:


6.c. News channel:

7. Personal communications:

Personal communication may not ordinarily be quoted as a reference. If at all done, it should be with the written permission of the communicator.

**MSM Style of Referencing**

Therefore, now the reference style is Harvard-Vancouver [modified as per MSM].

This style, let’s call it the MSM Style, incorporates the number and individual citation of the Vancouver System [both help in web referencing], while it incorporates the authors’ names/year in text and alphabetical order in reference list from the Harvard System [helping in article/reference list browsing and critical/analytical study of text].

Someday, hopefully, other journals may realize the usefulness of this change and accept it for their journals.

All other author guidelines are as per

Template for MSM Submissions at http://www.msmonographs.org/article.asp?issn=0973-1229;year=2011;volume=9;issue=1;spage=320;epage=323;aulast=SinghInstructions to contributors at http://www.msmonographs.org/contributors.asp

Hope you find the clarification useful.

Best wishes.