

### References: *Why important?*

---

- Why do we place emphasis on referencing  
*No scientific knowledge starts in thin air*
- The most original ideas take pre-existing observations and hypothesis and look upon them in a new perspective
- References connect your work to the existing body of thought. Form the starting point of your work

### References: *Purpose*

---

- **Introduction**
  - Support background information
  - Lacunae, gap in knowledge
- **Methods**
  - Previously described technique
  - Statistical methods
  - Use standard statistical software
- **Results: usually no references are cited**
- **Discussion**
  - Comparing, interpreting, justifying, analyzing

### References: *Bibliographic databases*

---

- **PubMed (Index Medicus)**
- <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed>
- **EMBASE (Excerpta Medica)**
- **Current contents**
- **BIOSIS Biological abstracts**
- **Cochrane reviews**
- <http://www.update-software.com>

### References

---

- **Do not under/over reference**
  - Common with reviews
  - Target: <50
- **Do not reference the obvious** eg. the population of India is rising...., but if it is important to mention that the population of India has risen x% in y years, then a reference is a must.
- **Do not forget to reference**
  - The only study... shows a trend...

### References: *Review Articles*

---

- These have certain features and referencing necessarily differs from original articles.
- A review article is a classification and evaluation of what accredited scholars and researchers have written on a topic (e.g. in peer reviewed journals, earlier reviews, monographs, reports, etc.)

### References: *Review Articles*

---

- *A review is organized around a guiding concept, problem or controversy.*
- Your objective is not to list as many articles as possible; rather it is to recognize relevant information, and to synthesize and evaluate it according to your basic theme

**References**

**Need to be accurate**

- journal offices tend to check citations
- in the list of references and in the text
- **Avoid abstracts**
- **Papers accepted for publication:** in press
- **Papers submitted for publication**
  - Place in text as unpublished observations/data
- **Personal communications**
  - Should have written consent

**References**

- [www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org); [www.nih.nlm.gov](http://www.nih.nlm.gov)
- Number consecutively in the order of first appearance in the text
- References in the tables and figures should be numbered sequentially with the text
- Identify references in text, tables and legends by Arabic numerals in superscript /parenthesis
- Abbreviate the journals as listed in the Index Medicus

**References: Text and Table**

The search for additional agents effective in KD for children who fail to respond to IVIG or are at high risk for coronary artery disease has rejuvenated the interest in corticosteroids.<sup>37</sup> Dale et al. used prednisolone to successfully control inflammation in patients who did not respond to repeated courses of IVI G.<sup>38</sup> Response to steroids in these severe cases argues for a relook at the use of steroids. Presently, steroids should be considered only when the child has received adequate IVIG (at least 2 courses) and still has persistent fever.

TABLE II. Long term management of Kawasaki disease<sup>39</sup>

Echocardiography	Drugs	Physical restriction
1 Normal	None after first 6-8 weeks	None beyond 6-8 weeks

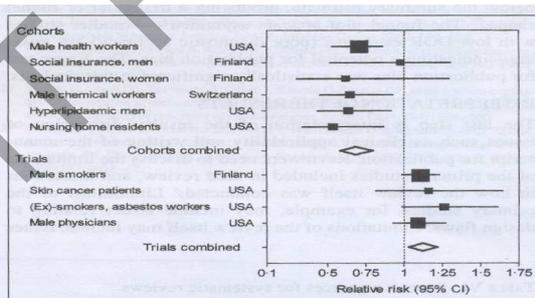


FIG 8. Meta-analysis on beta-carotene intake and cardiovascular mortality: example of subgroup analysis and exploration of heterogeneity. Source: Reference 26, reproduced with permission from BMJ Books

tion bias), more likely to be published in English (language bias), more likely to be published rapidly (time-lag bias) and cited more often (citation bias).<sup>6,27</sup> Also, studies that are easily accessible as

**References: ICMJE (Journal) Style**

Sackett DL, Rosenberg WM, Gray JA, Haynes RB, Richardson WS. Evidence based medicine: What it is and what it isn't. *BMJ* 1996;**312**:71-2.

McAlister FA, Clark HD, van Walraven C, Straus SE, Lawson FM, Moher D, et al. The medical review article revisited: Has the science improved? *Ann Intern Med* 1999; **131**: 947-51.

**References: ICMJE (Book) Style**

Guyatt GH, Rennie D (eds). *Users' guides to the medical literature. A manual for evidence-based clinical practice.* Chicago: American Medical Association Press; 2002.

Rowley AH, Shulman ST. Kawasaki disease. In: Behrman RE, Kliegman RM, Jensen HD (eds). *Nelson's textbook of pediatrics.* 17<sup>th</sup> ed. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders; 2004: 823-6.

### References: *ICMJE Style*

---

Pai M, McCulloch M, Enanoria W, Colford JM. Systematic reviews of diagnostic test evaluations: What's behind the scenes? *Evid Based Med & ACP Journal Club* 2004 (in press).

Population Reference Bureau. <http://www.prb.org/> accessed on 4 January 2006)

Fynan T. Medical improvements lower homicide rate: Study sees drop in assault rate. *The Washington Post*. 2002 Aug 12;Sect. A:2 (col. 4).

### References: *ICMJE Style*

---

- Dworkin SF. Somatization, distress and chronic pain. *Qual Life Res* 1994;3 (Suppl 1): S77-S83.
- National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO). Morbidity and treatment of ailments. NSS (NSS 52nd round). July 1995-June 1996, Report No 441. New Delhi: Government of India, Department of Statistics; 1998.
- EpiInfo2000. Atlanta: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2000.

### References: *Harvard Style*

---

#### *Journal article*

Author AB, Author BC, Author CD, Author DE (2000). How to write a reference correctly. *J Med Writing* **24**, 493-9.

### Ethical Issues

---

- Give credit to the key ideas and work of other scientists. Not doing so and giving an impression that it is your own work is **Plagiarism**
- If you include substantial portions of your own previous published results without references and give an impression that it is a new study—**Duplicate publication**
- Do not quote long stretches verbatim in a Review article even if you give References

### Recommendations

---

- Do not underestimate the importance of references
- Read target journal instructions
- Look at recent issue of journal
- Read ICMJE URM

Thank you

---