

ACORN referencing guide

Vancouver style

ACORN publications, including the *Standards for Perioperative Nursing in Australia* and *Journal of perioperative Nursing*, use a citing and referencing style based on the Vancouver system of referencing.

The Vancouver style is a numbered referencing style and consists of:

1. numbers that indicate citations of someone else's work in the text
2. a reference list at the end of the document in which references are sequentially numbered and provide full details of the corresponding in-text citation.

Citation

ACORN publications use superscript Arabic numerals as citation numbers in text. The superscript numerals are placed outside full stops and commas and inside colons and semicolons.

Citing more than one source

When more than one source is cited the numerals are listed together with commas, but no spaces, in between them (...^{3,5,7}) or, if the numerals are consecutive, with an en dash, also without spaces (...³⁻⁷).

Citing multiple works by the same author

Each individual work cited has its own reference number, even if it is by the same author and published in the same year as another work that has been cited.

Including page numbers

Page numbers are not usually included with the citation number; however, use the following format should you wish to specify the page (...^{3 p.105}), e.g. if you include a direct quote.

Citing secondary sources

If you are citing an author whose ideas are published in another author's work, and you have not accessed or read the original piece of work, this is a secondary citation. You should cite the author of the work you have read and include this source in your reference list.

Naming author(s)

Use only the surname if naming an author as part of a citation (e.g. Duff³ noted ...). If there are only two authors, use both their names (e.g. Duff and Ralph³ noted ...). If there are more than two, use 'et al.' (e.g. if naming Duff, Ralph and Hamlin you would use Duff et al.³ noted ...).

Referencing

Present your references as a numbered list at the end of your document. References should be in the order in which they are cited in the text.

The reference list should include all the references you have cited and only the references you have cited. (Sources you have used but not cited may be included in a bibliography.)

ACORN's referencing style is based on the Vancouver system of referencing.

In text, superscript Arabic numerals identify sources in the text. In ACORN publications the superscript numerals are placed outside commas and full stops and inside colons and semi-colons. When more than one source is cited the numerals are listed together with commas, but no spaces, in between them (...^{3,4,5}).

In the reference list:

- do not use quotation marks or italics
- abbreviate journal titles according to the most recent bibliographic index in the relevant subject field
- list all authors when there are six or fewer, add 'et al.' when there are more than six
- put author's initials after their family name without punctuation (Smith AB)
- put a full stop between principle elements of the reference
- treat year, volume and page numbers as in the examples below
- 'doi' should be in upper case.

The ACORN style for reference lists is to use minimal capitalisation for all titles. (For titles not in reference lists follow Style Manual capitalisation.)

The following examples show how to format items in a reference list.

Journals

Journal (hard copy)

Duff J, Butler M, Davies M, Williams R, Carlile J. Factors that predict evidence use by Australian perioperative nurses. JPN 2016;29(2):24–9.

Journal (online without DOI)

Schafer MF, Burney DW, Robb WJ, White DW. Distractions in the operating room threaten patient safety. J Am Acad Orth Surg. 2012;6(5). Available from: www.aaos.org/news/aaosnow/may12/clinical5.asp

Journal (online with DOI)

King A, Campbell J, James C, Duff J. A workplace stretching program for the prevention of musculoskeletal disorders in perioperative staff: A mixed methods implementation study. JPN. 2020 Dec 1 [cited 2021 October 16]; 33(4):e-3–e-10. DOI: 10.26550/2209-1092.1100

Standards

National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC). National safety and quality health service standards. 2nd ed. [Internet]. Sydney: ACSQHC; 2017 [cited 2020 May 05]. Available from: www.safetyandquality.gov.au/standards/nsqhs-standards

A single NSQHS standard

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC). Antimicrobial stewardship in Australian health care [Internet]. Sydney: ACSQHC; 2018 [cited 2020 February 6] Available from: www.safetyandquality.gov.au/sites/default/files/migrated/AMS-Cover-Contents-and-Acknowledgements-Antimicrobial-Stewardship-in-Australian-Health-Care-2018.pdf

Standards Australia standard

Standards Australia. AS 3789.3-1994: Textiles for health care facilities and institutions – Apparel for operating theatre staff. Sydney: Standards Australia; 1994 [cited 2014 February 18]. Available from: www.saiglobal.com.

AORN Guidelines for Perioperative Practice

Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN). AORN guidelines for perioperative practice 2019. Denver: AORN; 2019.

A single AORN guideline

Wood A [Lead author]. Transmission-based precautions. In Guidelines for Perioperative Practice 2019. Denver: AORN; 2019.

Web pages or documents online

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA). Nurse practitioner standards for practice [Internet]. Canberra: NMBA; 2014 [cited 2020 Mar 29]. Available from: www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au/Codes-Guidelines-Statements/Professional-standards/nurse-practitioner-standards-of-practice.aspx

World Health Organization (WHO). Safe management of wastes from healthcare activities. 2nd ed. [Internet]. Geneva: WHO; 2014 [cited 2020 Mar 03]. Available from: www.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/85349/1/9789241548564_eng.pdf?ua=1

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA). PS43 Statement on fatigue and the anaesthetist [Internet]. Melbourne: ANZCA; 2007 [cited 2014 Dec 8]. Available from: www.anzca.edu.au/resources/professional-documents/pdfs/ps43-2007-statement-on-fatigue-and-the-anaesthetist.pdf

If there is no author, the reference starts with the title of webpage or document.

If no date of publication can be found, use the copyright date preceded with 'c' Example: c2010. If no dates can be found, use date cited.

Online references that are no longer available

Denholm B. Clinical issues: Counting miscellaneous items, counting during organ procurement, counting for sequential procedures; influenza vaccine; reprocessing. AORN J 2006;83(1):231–9 [cited 2007 Nov 12]. Formerly available from: www.aorn.org/journal/2006/janci.htm.

Places of publication for internet references

American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPAN) – Cherry Hill (New Jersey)

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) – Sydney

Australian Nursing Federation – Canberra

Australian Nursing and Midwifery Board – Canberra

Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) – Canberra

Aust & NZ College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) – Melbourne

Centers for Disease Control – Atlanta

ISO – Geneva

Joanna Briggs Institute – Adelaide

National Blood Authority (NBA) – Canberra

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) – Canberra

Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) – Melbourne

Standards Australia – Sydney

WHO – Geneva

Books

Use title case for the titles of books, i.e. capitalise all words other than articles, prepositions and conjunctions.

Phillips N. Berry and Kohn's Operating Room Technique. 11th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2006.

Chapter in a book

Davies M, Adrian A. Medico-legal aspects of perioperative nursing practice. In: Hamlin L, Davies M, Richardson-Tench M, Sutherland-Fraser S, editors. Perioperative Nursing: An Introductory Text. Sydney: Elsevier; 2016.

Act of Parliament

Consent to Medical and Dental Procedures Act 1985 (SA) Section 6:(1).

Legal case

Rogers v. Whitaker (1992) 109 ALR 625,634.