Use superscript numbers to cite material, e.g.,¹ not the author’s last name. The superscript number is inserted into the document immediately next to the fact, concept, or quotation being cited.

The data of Smith et al¹⁸ is further evidence of this effect.

Several interventions have been successful at increasing compliance.¹¹,¹⁴-¹⁶

In-Text Examples

Superscript numerals are placed outside commas and periods, and inside semicolons and colons. Use commas to separate multiple citation numbers.

Diabetes mellitus is associated with a high risk of foot ulcers.¹³

As reported previously,¹,³⁻⁶

The results were as follows⁴:

The order of numbering is consecutive and will be contingent on the order in which you use that reference within your paper. In the References section, you will find the matching article listed as number 1.

If citing a source more than once, the author may cite different page numbers from a single reference. The page numbers are included in the superscript citation and the source appears only once in the list of references. Use the same number throughout for this reference.

Subauste wrote that, "Effective manipulation of autophagy requires understanding of the molecular events that govern this process."⁷ ⁷<pf>743</pf>

Unpublished works and personal communications should be cited in the text (and not on the reference list).

When to Cite

Number references consecutively with arabic numerals in the order they are cited in the text.

If the citation extends to a second line, DO NOT indent

Periodicals (journals, magazines, and newspapers) should have abbreviated titles in italics with all major words capitalized.

To check for the proper abbreviation of periodicals search for the Journal title through LocatPlus, NCBI Databases, PubMed, or AMA Manual of Style to construct an abbreviated title. Single word periodicals are NOT abbreviated.

Authors’ names are inverted, and use only initials for first and middle names. No periods between initials. Include up to 6 authors. For more than six, provide the name of the first three authors followed by et al.

If there is no author, start with the title.

Periodical article titles and book chapter titles only the first word is capitalized.

If there is no issue number specify month before the year.

For Online Journal citations the DOI number is preferred over the URL link.

When to Cite

Using a direct quotation, even if it is in quotation marks

Using facts that are NOT common knowledge (what the reader can reasonably be expected to know)

Paraphrasing or rewriting the author’s ideas

Summarizing the data or argument of an author

Using the key words or phrases from the author or using synonyms

Mentioning the author’s name in your text

Writing a sentence that mostly consists of your own thoughts, but you have made a reference to another author’s ideas

When in doubt, err on the side of caution, and cite.