AMA In-Text Citation INFORMATION

Citing in-text for AMA is VERY, VERY DIFFERENT than in-text citations for APA and MLA. You may need to ask for in-person help at the T/LC Desk, WRIT Center, or Reference Desk.

IN-TEXT CITATIONS USINGAMA FORMAT:

It may help to understand how AMA citations work if you see a real example of a paragraph using “in-text” citations and then the corresponding reference list. The following article can be found on page 493 of the August 3, 2011 issue of JAMA. The following quote is the first, long paragraph that features in-text citations within this article. Please note the use of superscript. The superscript numbers will correspond to the citations listed in the reference list at the end of the article. Here is the first paragraph from the article:

POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) is among the most common and disabling psychiatric disorders among military personnel serving in combat theaters.\(^1\)-\(^3\) Antidepressants are the predominant pharmacotherapy for PTSD. Two serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SRIs), sertraline and paroxetine, have Food and Drug Administration approval for the treatment of PTSD based on multicenter trials.\(^4\)-\(^7\) Within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), 89% of veterans diagnosed with PTSD and treated with pharmacotherapy are prescribed SRIs.\(^8\) However, SRIs appear to be less effective in men than in women\(^4\) and less effective in chronic PTSD than in acute PTSD.\(^9,^{10}\) Thus, it may not be surprising that an SRI study in veterans produced negative results.\(^11\)

With APA and MLA style, the “Works Cited” list, or references, are listed alphabetically and features the use of double-spacing with hanging indentations. AMA style IS different. AMA does NOT double-space or use hanging indentations. Some of the punctuation and spacing are different. The reference list is presented numerically and NOT alphabetically by author’s last name or the first word in the title. The superscripted number within the text of the article corresponds to the number in the “References.” Following is what the first eleven citations in the “References” looks like taking into consideration the superscripted numbers listed within the paragraph typed above:

REFERENCES

1. Kulka RA, Schlenger WE, Fairbank J. Trauma and the Vietnam War Generation. New York:
   13-22.
   health problems and functional impairment among active component and National Guard

Please note how the superscripts within the text of the first paragraph correspond to the references listed at the end of the article.

**Example ONE:** “POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) is among the most common and disabling psychiatric disorders among military personnel serving in combat theaters.\(^1-3\)" The superscript \(^1-3\) refers the reader to the first, second, and third (1-3) citations on the reference list. This means that the author of the article gives credit for this statement to the first three references (citations) in the reference list at the end of the article.

Another way to explain this is that information within the following three “references” were used to help make the statement “POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) is among the most common and disabling psychiatric disorders among military personnel serving in combat theaters.\(^1-3\)" The superscript \(^1-3\) refers to:

Example TWO: “However, SRIs appear to be less effective in men than in women⁴” indicates that more information about how SRIs appear to be less effective in men than in women can be found in the reference (citation) listed as number 4 on the list of references. In this example the superscript ⁴ refers to number four on the reference list:


More Examples of Citing “In-Text” Using AMA Style

The following examples of “In-Text” citing come from The College of St. Scholastica at http://libguides.css.edu/content.php?pid=36664&sid=269772

Examples:

The report¹ found that...

As has been noted previously,²

This argument was refuted in another study.³

Other reports⁴-⁵ confirm these findings. (Note: Two sources are cited.)

"...as has been the conclusion of this author."⁶ (Note: Use after direct quotation.)

In recent reports¹,³-⁵,⁹ surgical outcomes have been...(Note: Multiple sources cited; not all are consecutive.)

You may cite the same source more than once by using the same endnote number. However, when you repeat a number, you should include a page number, in parentheses, next to the note number.

Example:

The data¹(p⁴⁴) disproves the previous assertion…

Cite references that are retrievable in text, tables, and figures in consecutive order using superscript Arabic numbers. Use commas to separate multiple citation numbers in text. Corresponding references should be listed in numeric order at the end of the document. Unpublished works and personal communications should be cited parenthetically (and not on the reference list). Superscript numbers are placed outside periods and commas, and inside colons and semicolons.
When citing the same source more than once, give the number of the original reference, then include the page number (in parentheses) where the information was found.

**In-Text Example:**

Of the respondents, 95% felt that discharge arrangements were adequately explained to them.\(^1\)

Further examination of the data in this study revealed other significant discrepancies. \(^{1(p275)}\)

References


The second superscripted 1 provides the page number within the article because the same source was cited, in-text, for a second time. The rule is “When citing the same source more than once, give the number of the original reference, then include the page number (in parentheses) where the information was found.”