

Last updated July 2016

Before you begin, please note:

This brief guide is primarily for students doing assignments at Curtin University. If you are **publishing** in the Vancouver style, please consult:

AMA Manual of Style: a guide for authors and editors. 10th ed. New York: Oxford University Press; 2007.

For further information on this style, please see:

[Citing Medicine: the NLM style guide for authors, editors, and publishers](#)

It is important that you check the assignment guide of your department or school as some details, such as punctuation, may vary from guidelines provided in this guide. You may be penalised for not conforming to your School's requirements.

All referencing queries should be addressed to the appropriate lecturer or supervisor.

Guide contents:

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Compiling a reference list	Journals & Newspapers
Authors & editors in the Vancouver style	Internet
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[Academic Integrity: Student guidelines for avoiding plagiarism](#)

Citing in-text

In the Vancouver style, a consecutive number is allocated to each reference as it is cited for the first time in the text of the assignment. This number becomes the unique identifier of that source and if the source is cited again the same number is repeated. Vancouver uses superscript numbers or standard numbers in brackets e.g. ^{1-4,10,12} or (1-4,10,12).

Use double quotation marks to enclose a direct quotation. Use single quotation marks for quotations within quotations. If material quoted is longer than four type written lines, the material should be set off in a block i.e. in reduced type and without quotation marks. Space is often added both above and below these longer quotations.

Enter in-text citations:

After the author's name:

Johnson¹ explains... **OR** Johnson (1) explains...

To the right of commas and full stops:

...is a widely accepted theory.³ **OR** ...is a widely accepted theory.(3)

To the left of colons and semi colons:

...lists the following⁶: motivation...

Multiple sources can be inserted at a single point separated by a comma. Consecutive numbers are joined with a hyphen.

...is an issue faced by many in the industry.^{1,3,5-7}

If citing different pages from a single source at different places in the text, page numbers can be included in the in-text citation and the source listed once in the reference list. Page numbers can be added for direct quotations if necessary.

...pain response should be considered.^{9(p83)} **OR** ...pain response should be considered.(9 p83)

Compiling a reference list

A reference list includes books, journal articles, reports websites etc. that you cite in the text of your assignment. A bibliography is a list of relevant sources consulted but not cited. In the Vancouver style, references are listed at the end of your assignment in the numerical order in which they are cited in the text. Book and journal titles are not italicised or placed in quotation marks.

Please note: Journal titles are abbreviated in the Vancouver style. A list of abbreviations is available through PubMed at: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/>. Click on “Journals in NCBI Databases” and enter the full journal title to view its abbreviation.

Authors & editors in the Vancouver style

One to five authors/editors: List all in the reference list

1. Khan FM, Gibbons JP. Khan's the physics of radiation therapy. 5th ed. Philadelphia (USA): Wolters Kluwer Health; 2014. 572 p.
2. Avery M, Williams F. The importance of pharmacist providing patient education in oncology. J Pharm Pract [Internet]. 2015 [cited 2016 Jan 27];28(1):26-30. doi:10.1177/0897190014562382

Six or more authors/editors: List the first three authors/editors then et al.

3. Lilienfeld SO, Lynn SJ, Namy LL, et al. Psychology: from inquiry to understanding. 2nd ed. Melbourne: Pearson; 2014. 828 p.
4. Azar D, White V, Coomber K, et al. The association between alcohol outlet density and alcohol use among urban and regional Australian adolescents. Addiction [Internet]. 2016 [cited 2016 Feb 3];111(1):65-72. doi:10.1111/add.13143.

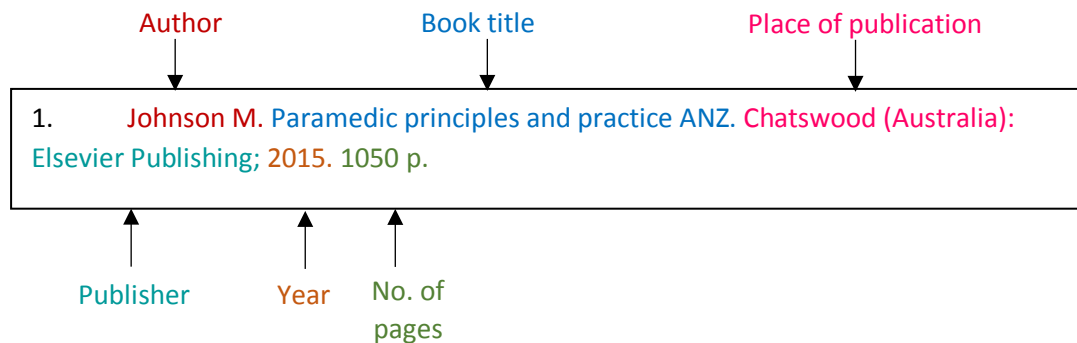
No author or editor: List the title first

5. HIV/AIDs resources: a nationwide directory. 10th ed. Longmont (USA): Guides for Living; c2004. 792 p.
6. Prevention strategies for asthma: secondary prevention. CMAJ [Internet]. 2005 [cited 2016 Feb 3];173(6 Suppl):S25-7. Available from: http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/173/6_suppl/S25

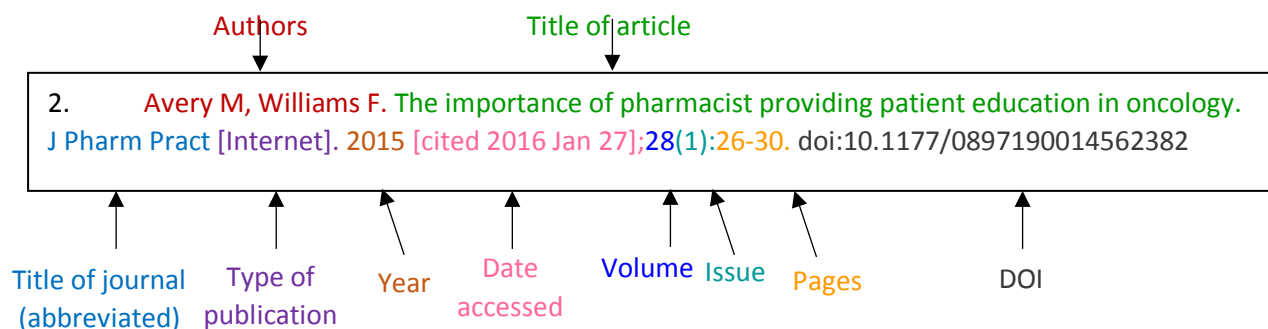
Elements of a reference

A reference or citation consists of elements that allow the reader to trace the original source you have consulted/cited.

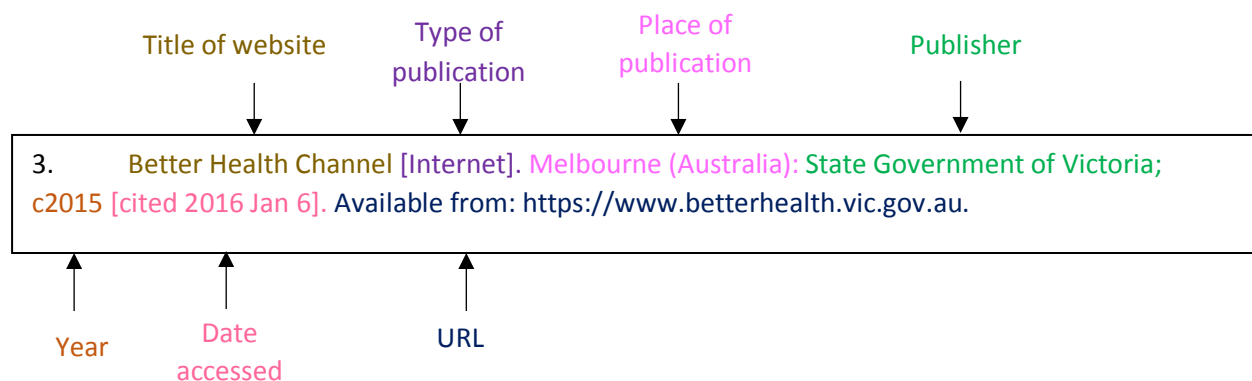
Book:



Article:



Entire website:



Books	Reference List Example
<i>Print book</i>	<p>1. Johnson M. Paramedic principles and practice ANZ. Chatswood (Australia): Elsevier Publishing; 2015. 1050 p.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> If a book is published in a city or town that is not well-known, add the country where the city or town is located in brackets e.g. Chatswood (Australia)</p>
<i>Electronic book (eBook)</i>	<p>2. Khan MG. Cardiac drug therapy [Internet]. 8th ed. Totowa (USA): Humana Press; 2015 [cited 2015 Dec 4]. 791 p. Available from: http://link.springer.com.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au/book/10.1007%2F978-1-61779-962-4.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include the date you accessed (cited) the eBook after the publication year ▪ If a DOI is available, substitute for the URL ▪ For long URLs, break the URL at a slash if necessary
<i>Editions other than the first</i>	<p>3. Bailey J, Burch M. Ethics for behavior analysts. 2nd ed. Florence: Taylor and Francis; 2013. 389 p.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Enter the edition after the title</p>
<i>Edited book – Print</i>	<p>4. Barkley RA, editor. Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder: a handbook for diagnosis and treatment. 4th ed. New York: Guilford Publications; 2015. 389 p.</p>
<i>Edited book – Electronic</i>	<p>5. Lewis M, Rudolph KD, editors. Handbook of developmental psychopathology [Internet]. 3rd ed. New York: Springer; 2014 [cited 2015 Dec 8]. 898 p. doi:10.1007/978-1-4614-9608-3.</p>
<i>Chapter in an edited book – Print</i>	<p>6. York P. Design of dosage forms. In: Aulton ME, Taylor KMG, editors. Aulton's pharmaceuticals: the design and manufacture of medicines. 4th ed. Edinburgh (UK): Churchill Livingstone; 2013. p. 7-19.</p>
<i>Chapter in an edited book – Electronic</i>	<p>7. Fagan SG, Campbell VA. Endocannabinoids and Alzheimer's disease. In: Fattore L, editor. Cannabinoids in neurologic and mental disease [Internet]. London: Academic Press; 2015 [cited 2015 Dec 4]. p. 15-33. Available from: http://www.curtin.ebilib.com.au.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au/patron/FullRecord.aspx?p=1929996.</p>

Dictionary or encyclopedia – Print	8. Mosby's dictionary of medicine, nursing and health professions. 3rd ed. Chatswood (Australia): Elsevier Australia; 2014. Childhood aphasia; p. 345.
	<i>Note:</i> Include the definition/entry looked up e.g. Childhood aphasia
Dictionary or encyclopedia – Electronic	9. Concise medical dictionary [Internet]. 9th ed. Oxford (UK): Oxford University Press; 2015. Quinine; [cited 2015 Dec 8]; [1 paragraph]. Available from: http://www.oxfordreference.com.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au .
	<i>Notes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include the definition/entry looked up e.g. Quinine ▪ If there are no page numbers, add the number of paragraphs in square brackets e.g. [1 paragraph]
Thesis – Print	10. Whittell LR. The synthesis and biological evaluation of novel analogues of isocryptolepine [dissertation]. Perth (Australia): Curtin University; 2011. 187 p.
	<i>Note:</i> If citing a master's thesis, substitute [master's thesis] after the title
Thesis – Electronic	11. Walker RM. Characterisation of novel Burkholderia isolates associated with the Leguminosae [dissertation on the internet]. Perth (Australia): Curtin University; 2013 [cited 2015 Dec 8]. 150 p. Available from: http://link.library.curtin.edu.au/p?cur_digitool_dc199745 .
	<i>Note:</i> If citing a master's thesis, substitute [master's thesis on the internet] after the title
Published conference proceeding – Print	12. Simopoulos A, editor. Nutrition and fitness: obesity, the metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular disease, and cancer. 5th International Conference on Nutrition and Fitness; 2004 Jun 9-12; Basel (Switzerland). New York: Karger; 2005. 195 p.
Published conference proceeding – Electronic	13. Schouten B, Fedtke S, Schijven M, Vosmeer M, Gekker A, editors. Games for Health 2014 [Internet]. Proceedings of the 4th Conference on Gaming and Playful Interaction in Healthcare; 2014 Oct 27-28; Utrecht (Netherlands). Germany: Springer; [cited 2015 Jan 5]. 153 p. Available from: http://link.springer.com.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au/book/10.1007%2F978-3-658-07141-7 .

Paper or poster presented at a conference	14. Jackson P, Sixsmith J, Mihailidis A, Sixsmith A. Perspectives on collaboration in technology innovation for ageing. Paper presented at: 13 th International Conference on Smart Homes and Health Telematics; 2015 Jun 10-12; Geneva (Switzerland).
	<i>Note:</i> If citing a poster, substitute: Poster session presented at

Journals & Newspapers	Reference list example
Journal article – Print	15. Collins FS. Exceptional opportunities in medical science: a view from the National Institutes of Health. JAMA. 2015; 313(2):131-132.
	See note on abbreviated journal titles
Journal article with DOI	16. Avery M, Williams F. The importance of pharmacist providing patient education in oncology. J Pharm Pract [Internet]. 2015 [cited 2016 Jan 27];28(1):26-30. doi:10.1177/0897190014562382.
	See note on abbreviated journal titles
Journal article without DOI	17. Sok C, Turner SC. Hospital pharmacist-led review of medication in the home in the paediatric palliative care population. J Pharm Pract Res [Internet]. 2015 [cited 2016 Jan 30];45(3):297-301. Available from: http://search.informit.com.au.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au/documentSummary;dn=556328753271808;res=IELHEA .
	<i>Notes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ See note on abbreviated journal titles ▪ For long URLs, break the URL at a slash if necessary
Newspaper article – Print	18. O'Leary C. Patients warned on drug change. The West Australian. 2015 Dec 16; 23.

Newspaper article – Electronic	19. Crowe D. Medical patents a line in the sand [Internet]. The Australian. 2014 Jun 19 [cited 2016 Jan 15]: 6. Available from: http://search.proquest.com.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au/anznews/docview/1536827372/71F81511E5914524PQ/21?accountid=10382 .
Curtin e-Reserve	Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For book chapters in e-Reserve use Chapter in an edited book – Electronic reference type For journal articles in e-Reserve Journal article – Electronic reference types
Australian Medicines Handbook (AMH)	20. Australian Medicines Handbook. Benzathine penicillin. c2015 [cited 2016 Jan 7]. In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Available from: https://amhonline-amh-net-au.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au/chapters/chap-05/antibacterials-01/penicillins/benzathine-penicillin .
MIMS drug database	21. MIMS. Alphamox. c2015 [cited 2016 Jan 8]. In: MIMS Online database [Internet]. Available from: https://www-mimsonline-com-au.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au .
Cochrane review	22. Saldanha IJ, Akinyede O, Robinson KA. Immunosuppressive drug therapy for preventing rejection following lung transplantation in cystic fibrosis. 2015 [cited 2016 Jan 5]. In: The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews [Internet]. Hoboken (NJ): John Wiley & Sons. 18 p. Available from: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD009421.pub3/epdf .

Internet	Reference list example
Entire website	23. Better Health Channel [Internet]. Melbourne (Australia): State Government of Victoria; c2015 [cited 2016 Jan 6]. Available from: https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au . Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a last updated date is included on the website, add this in the brackets before the cited date e.g. [updated 2015 Feb; cited 2016 Jan 6] For long URLs, break the URL at a slash if necessary

Web page	<p>24. Better Health Channel [Internet]. Melbourne (Australia): State Government of Victoria; c2015. Antibiotic resistant bacteria [updated 2015 Feb; cited 2016 Jan 6]. Available from: https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/antibiotic-resistant-bacteria.</p>
	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include the title of the web page after the year e.g. Antibiotic resistant bacteria ▪ If referring to a <i>book, journal article or report</i> on a website, cite using these formats <i>not</i> as a web page ▪ If a last updated date is included on the web page, add this in the brackets before the cited date e.g. [updated 2015 Feb; cited 2016 Jan 6] ▪ For long URLs, break the URL at a slash if necessary
Video on the Internet (e.g. YouTube)	<p>25. Curtin University. Discovering passion through the Go Global program! [Internet]. Perth (Australia): Curtin University; 2016 [cited 2016 Jan 29]. Video: 2:13 min. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_a59VWd98lc.</p>
	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include the video length in minutes e.g. 2:13 min ▪ Include place of publication (if known) ▪ For long URLs, break the URL at a slash if necessary
Podcast	<p>26. Kawasaki disease [Internet]. Sydney: ABC Radio National; 2016 [cited 2016 Jan 29]. Podcast: 10min. Available from: http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/healthreport/kawasaki-disease/7112528.</p>
	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include the podcast length in minutes e.g. 10 min ▪ Include place of publication (if known) ▪ For long URLs, break the URL at a slash if necessary

Government sources	Reference list example
Acts of parliament	27. Misuse of Drugs Act 1981 [Internet]. 2015 [cited 2016 Jan 29]. Available from: http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes .
Cases	28. The State of New South Wales v. The Commonwealth (1915) 20 CLR 5.
Australian Bureau of Statistics	29. Australian Bureau of Statistics. Characteristics of people using mental health services and prescription medication, 2011 [Internet]. Canberra (Australia): Australian Bureau of Statistics; 2014 [cited 2016 Jan 29]. Available from: http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4329.0Main+Features100002011?OpenDocument .
Government report – Print	30. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Australia 2014-15. Canberra (Australia): Australian Institute of Health and Welfare; 2016. 85 p. Report No.: HSE 173.
	<i>Note:</i> If there is a report number, add this after the number of pages e.g. Report No.: HSE 173
Government report – Electronic	31. Lawrence D, Johnson S, Hafekost J, et al. The mental health of children and adolescents: report on the second Australian child and adolescent survey of mental health and wellbeing [Internet]. Canberra (Australia): Department of Health; 2015 [cited 2015 Dec 10]. 222 p. Available from: http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/9DA8CA21306FE6EDCA257E2700016945/\$File/child2.pdf .
	<i>Note:</i> If there is a report number, add this after the number of pages
Patent	32. Myers K, Nguyen C, inventors; 3F Therapeutics, Inc, assignee. Prosthetic heart valve. United States patent US 6,911,043. 2005 Jun 28.
Standard	33. Standards Australia. Placement and presentation of hand hygiene materials in relation to the basin in healthcare settings [Internet]. Australia: SAI Global. 2015 [cited 2015 Dec 10]; AS 1071:2015. Available from: https://www-saiglobal-com.dbgw.lis.curtin.edu.au/online/autologin.asp
	<i>Note:</i> Include the standard number after the date e.g. AS 1071:2015

Other sources	Reference list example
Figure or table in a book – Print	34. Burant CF, Young LA, editors. Medical management of type 2 diabetes. 7th ed. Alexandria (USA): American Diabetes Association; 2012. Table 1.1, Criteria for the diagnosis of diabetes; p. 8.
	<i>Notes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference type can also be used for charts, graphs and images If figure or table is not titled add a descriptive title in square brackets e.g. Table 3, [Etiologic classification of diabetes]
Figure or table in a book – Electronic	35. Atkinson AJ, Huang S-M, Lertora JLL, Markey SP. Principles of clinical pharmacology [Internet]. 3rd ed. London: Elsevier; 2012. Figure 1.2, Chemical structures of terfenidine and its carboxylate metabolite; [cited 2016 Feb 2]; p. 4. doi:10.1016/B978-0-12-385471-1.02001-8.
	<i>Notes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reference type can also be used for charts, graphs and images If figure or table is not titled add a descriptive title in square brackets e.g. Table 3, [Etiologic classification of diabetes]
Figure or table in a journal article – Print	36. Barnea-Goraly N, Raman M, Mazaika P, et al. Alterations in white matter structure in young children with type 1 diabetes. Diabetes care. 2014 Feb; 37:332-340. Figure 1, WM regions of significantly reduced AD values in the type 1 diabetes group compared with the control group; p. 335.
Figure or table in a journal article – Electronic	37. Solmonson A, Mills EM. Uncoupling proteins and the molecular mechanisms of thyroid thermogenesis. Endocrinology [Internet]. 2016; 157(2):455-462. Table 1, Mouse models of TH and UCP thermogenesis; [cited 2016 Feb 3]; p. 458. doi:10.1210/en.2015-1803.
DVD or CD ROM	38. Acland RJ. Acland's DVD Atlas of Human Anatomy [DVD]. Philadelphia (USA): Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2003.
	<i>Note:</i> If referring to a CD ROM, substitute [CD ROM] after the title
Lecture notes	39. Smith J. Module 5: evidence based practice [Lecture notes on the Internet]. Perth (Australia): Curtin University; 2015 Mar 4 [cited 2015 Apr 5]. Available from: https://lms.curtin.edu.au .

Authors citing other authors	<p>40. Lyman G. Impact of chemotherapy dose intensity on cancer patient outcomes. J Natl Compr Canc Netw. 2009; 7(1):99-108. Cited by: Avery M, Williams F. The importance of pharmacist providing patient education in oncology. J Pharm Pract [Internet]. 2015 [cited 2016 Jan 27];28(1):26-30. doi:10.1177/0897190014562382</p>
	<p><i>Notes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use when referring to one author's work cited or quoted in another's work ▪ List both sources in the reference list entry ▪ If using a quote, change Cited by to Quoted by ▪ If including author's name in text use the original author e.g. As highlighted by Lyman⁴²...
Personal communication (email, letter, blog post, conversation etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Personal communications (such as emails, letters, conversations, blog posts etc.) are not usually acceptable to include in your work – please check with your Lecturer before doing so. ▪ Any references to personal communications should be given in-text and indicate the date of communication and whether it was in oral or written form. For example: ... similar findings by the manufacturer (J. Smith, oral communication, April 18, 2015). OR According to an email from H. Marman (Mar 22, 2015)... ▪ Personal communications are not included in the reference list.