

rehabINK

rehabINK style guide

Version 1.2

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The style used by rehabINK draws upon “Vancouver Style.”

Vancouver Style is governed by the US National Library of Medicine (NLM) and publishes [Citing Medicine](#) in order to provide a style overview and a detailed description of the referencing format of specific publication types. Citing Medicine is directive in some respects, offers options in others, and is silent on other matters. In this style guide, we draw attention to the most important elements of the reference system we use for rehabINK, including some elements not addressed in Citing Medicine.

We expect all authors submitting to rehabINK to follow the instructions in this style guide. If we have not provided specific instructions, authors are expected to consult Citing Medicine directly, or an alternative guide based on Vancouver Style. Regardless of the source used, it is important to be consistent throughout the article.

Vancouver Style is designed to be minimalist and straightforward: unlike some other styles (e.g., APA), Vancouver Style is only concerned about referencing. According to Vancouver Style, each reference is indicated **in-text** by a number in brackets according to the order of appearance in the text.

Features of Vancouver Style

Vancouver Style is only concerned with two features:

- i. the in-text references (to briefly identify a source in the text), and
- ii. the reference list (to provide details of the sources identified in the text).

The **in-text references** are identified by a number surrounded by round brackets, like the mock example used in this paragraph (1). In-text references are numbered according to the order of appearance, with the same number re-used if a source document is referenced more than once. The [Vancouver Community College](#) (2) states that in-text references should appear immediately after an author’s name, if the author’s name is used in the text. Alternatively, the in-text reference should appear immediately after the idea being referenced (3), and not categorically placed at the end of a sentence. For a reference appropriately placed at the end of a clause or sentence, rehabINK requires that the reference appear **before** most types of punctuation, as demonstrated in this paragraph and through an example from [the Michener Institute](#) (4). There are exceptions to the punctuation rule, with the reference placed **after** question marks and outside of quotations, as per this example:

Why are we asking about the location of a reference? (5) After all, the path to consistency in referencing style remains “a work in progress as journal editors implement different standards.” (6)

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The **reference list** appears at the end of the document, and is identified by the sub-title “References.” Each source document is preceded by its number, followed by a period. Vancouver Style uses very detailed **formats for the citations as presented in the reference list**. If the publication type is clearly identified, then referencing should be straightforward according to the specific descriptions offered in Citing Medicine. Listed here are the three most common generic references, as adapted from an [alternative style guide](#). Authors are expected to consult Citing Medicine for instructions on publication types not presented here.

Books

Author Surname Initials. Title: subtitle. Edition (if not the first). Place of publication: Publisher; Year.

Articles in Journals

Author Surname Initials. Title of article. Full title of journal. Year of Publication; Volume Number(Issue Number):Page Numbers.

Websites

Author Surname Initials (if available). Title of Website [Internet]. Place of publication: Publisher; Date of First Publication [Date of last update; cited date]. Available from: URL

Additional guidelines

For consistency across our issues, rehabINK has further specified the following guidelines:

- 1) **Use full journal titles in references.** Although Vancouver Style often encourages the *abbreviation* of journal titles, rehabINK does not. As an online publication without the space constraints of printed publications, rehabINK uses the full journal titles.
- 2) **List only six authors in references.** As per the original instructions for Vancouver Style, rehabINK limits the number of authors identified for a given source at six (followed by et al.).
- 3) **Do not specify page number references as part of the in-text references.** Even when citing a specific fact or quote, authors are requested to only use the standard in-text reference, without any page number specifications.

Reference list example

Below is an example of a reference list in a journal that uses Vancouver Style, adapted as per rehabINK's instructions [*example source*: Hansen T, Elholm Madsen E, Sørensen A. The effect of rater training on scoring performance and scale-specific expertise amongst occupational therapists participating in a multicentre study: a single-group pre–post-test study. *Disability & Rehabilitation*. 2016;38(12):1216-26.].

References

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