

Around IMRAD: title, abstract,
acknowledgments, disclosures,
references, submission letter



Ana Marušić
University of Split
School of Medicine
ana.marusic@mefst.hr

Title

Indicative

Maintenance treatment of major depression in old age: randomized controlled trial

Informative

Two-year maintenance therapy with paroxetine prevents recurrent depression in old age: randomized control trial

Title

What to emphasize?

Maintenance treatment of major depression in old age: randomized controlled trial

Randomized controlled trial of maintenance treatment of major depression in old age

Abstract

Classical form

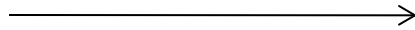
Structured

Aim

Method

Results

Conclusions



Objective

Setting

Participants

Design

Intervention

Main outcome measures

Results

Conclusions

Structured abstract

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Objective | The main question the study was planned to address |
| Design | Type of study, including duration of any follow up |
| Setting | To help readers assess whether results apply to their practice |
| Participants | Clinical disorders and key socio-demographic data, including any dropouts |
| Intervention | Essential features of any intervention |
| Main outcome measures | The primary outcome measure planned before data collection began |
| Results | Only the most important data – those relating to main outcome measures; key statistics are mean differences and confidence intervals |
| Conclusions | Key conclusions, including direct clinical applications |

Structured abstract

Helps writers to:

- remember what to include
- organize information

Helps readers search and read by:

- chunking information
- following a pattern

Key words

Journals don't print them any more but ask authors to provide them – useful for finding suitable reviewers

Some journals offer lists of key words, others leave it to the authors

Best advice for biomedicine: use **MeSH**

http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html

MeSH Browser - Windows Internet Explorer



http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Google Search Share Sidewiki Bookmarks Check

Favorites Suggested Sites Web Slice Gallery Sign out

MeSH Browser

 **NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE** | **MEDICAL SUBJECT HEADINGS** 

MeSH Home | Contact NLM | Site Index | Search Our Web Site | NLM Home

Health Information | Library Services | Research Programs | New & Noteworthy | General Information

MeSH Browser (2010 MeSH):
The files are updated every week on Sunday.
[Go to 2009 MeSH](#)

Enter term or the beginning of any root fragments: or

Search for these record types:

- Main Headings
- Qualifiers
- Supplementary Concepts
- All of the Above
- Search as MeSH Unique ID
- Search as text words in Annotation & Scope Note

Search in these fields of chemicals:

- Heading Mapped To (HM) (Supplementary List)
- Indexing Information (II) (Supplementary List)
- Pharmacological Action (PA)
- CAS Registry/EC Number (RN)
- Related CAS Registry Number (RR)

Search: PubMed

RSS Save search Limits Advanced search Help

asthma exacerbation

Search

Clear

Display Settings: Summary, 20 per page, Sorted by Recently Added

| Format | Items per page | Sort by |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Summary | <input type="radio"/> 5 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Recently Added |
| <input type="radio"/> Summary (text) | <input type="radio"/> 10 | <input type="radio"/> Pub Date |
| <input type="radio"/> Abstract | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 20 | <input type="radio"/> First Author |
| <input type="radio"/> Abstract (text) | <input type="radio"/> 50 | <input type="radio"/> Last Author |
| <input type="radio"/> MEDLINE | <input type="radio"/> 100 | <input type="radio"/> Journal |
| <input type="radio"/> XML | <input type="radio"/> 200 | <input type="radio"/> Title |
| <input type="radio"/> PMID List | | |

Apply

<<First <Prev Pag

[o Rico: experiences of a community-based, trans-sectoral effort.](#)

reytes DM, Rodríguez-Sánchez MH, Chinman M.

[pectives and lessons.](#)

Respir Med. 2009 Dec;103 Suppl 2:S38-48.

PMID: 20122628 [PubMed - in process]

[Related articles](#)

[Validation of the Asthma Control Test questionnaire in a North African population.](#)

23. El Hasnaoui A, Martin J, Salhi H, Doble A.

Respir Med. 2009 Dec;103 Suppl 2:S30-7.

PMID: 20122627 [PubMed - in process]

[Related articles](#)

[Paediatric asthma in North Africa: the Asthma Insights and Reality in the Maghreb \(AIRMAG\) study.](#)

24. El Ftouh M, Yassine N, Benkheder A, Bouacha H, Nafti S, Taright S, Fakhfakh H, Ali-Khoudja M, Texier N, El Hasnaoui A.

Acknowledgments

Check journal's instructions for authors

- sources of funding
- personal thanks
- language editing

Also:

- conflicts of interest
- authors' contributions

Authors and contributors

Randomised trials of secondary prevention programmes in coronary heart disease: systematic review

Finlay A McAlister, Fiona M E Lawson, Koon K Teo, Paul W Armstrong

Authors

Contributors

We acknowledge the help of Dr N C Campbell (references 10 and 11), Dr R West (reference 22), and Dr M Naylor (references 12 and 26) in providing further details about their studies.

Contributors: FAMcA conceived and designed the study, collected and analysed the data, drafted the paper (and subsequent revisions), and is the guarantor. FMEL assisted with the design of the study, the collection of data, and critical revisions of the paper. KKT and PWA assisted with the design of the study and critical revisions of the paper.

Funding: FAMcA is a population health investigator of the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research.

Competing interests: PWA has consulted for Pfizer and received a research grant from Novartis in the past five years.

Copyright

Smart P., Maisonneuve H. and Polderman A. (eds) *Science Editors' Handbook*
European Association of Science Editors. www.ease.org.uk

6.7: Legal issues: copyright, plagiarism, and other concerns

Pippa Smart


Publishing Consultant, 3 Park Lane, Appleton, UK: pippa.smart@gmail.com



Copyright or license to publish?

- Copyright protects the expression of an idea, and not the idea itself.
- Most copyright laws require signed copyright transfer
- License to publish – copyright stays with the author, journal has (exclusive) right to publish

Creative commons licenses


BMJ  CrossMark
click for updates

BMJ 2013;347:f7255 doi: 10.1136/bmj.f7255 (Published 12 December 2013) Page 1 of 7

RESEARCH

CHRISTMAS 2013: RESEARCH

Were James Bond's drinks shaken because of alcohol induced tremor?

 OPEN ACCESS

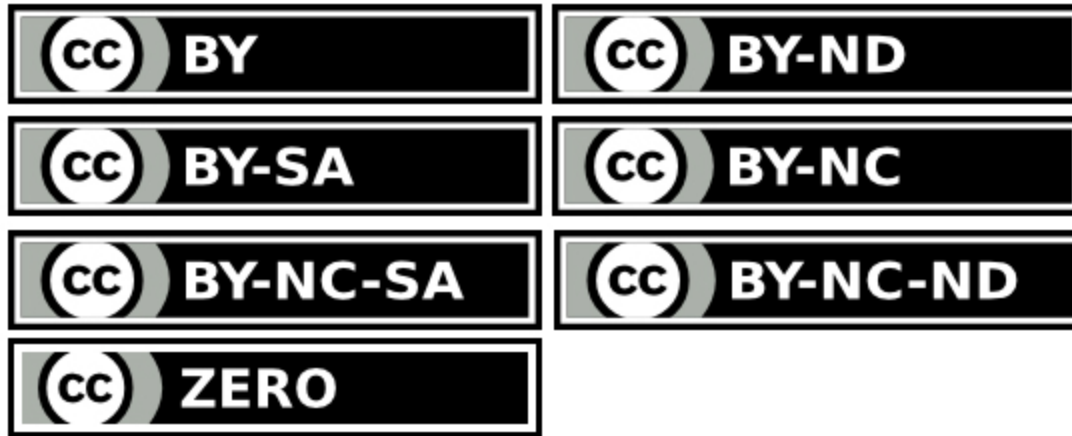
Electronic supplementary material:
The online version of this article contains supplementary material.

journal of
global
health

PAPERS

Social, economic, political and health system and program determinants of child mortality reduction in China between 1990 and 2006: A systematic analysis

Creative commons licenses



Creative commons:

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

Creative Commons develops, supports, and stewards legal and technical infrastructure that maximizes digital creativity, sharing, and innovation.

Creative Commons licenses



Attribution CC BY

This license lets others distribute, remix, tweak, and build upon your work, even commercially, as long as they credit you for the original creation. This is the most accommodating of licenses offered. Recommended for maximum dissemination and use of licensed materials.

[View License Deed](#) | [View Legal Code](#)



Attribution-NonCommercial CC BY-NC

This license allows for redistribution, commercial and non-commercial, as long as it is passed along unchanged and in whole, with credit to you.

[View License Deed](#) | [View Legal Code](#)



Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike CC BY-NC-SA

This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work non-commercially, as long as they credit you and license their new creations under the identical terms.

[View License Deed](#) | [View Legal Code](#)



Attribution-ShareAlike CC BY-SA

This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit you and license their new creations under the identical terms. This license is often compared to "copyleft" free and open source software licenses. All new works based on yours will carry the same license, so any derivatives will also allow commercial use. This is the license used by Wikipedia, and is recommended for materials that would benefit from incorporating content from Wikipedia and similarly licensed projects.

[View License Deed](#) | [View Legal Code](#)



Attribution-NonCommercial CC BY-NC

This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work non-commercially, and although their new works must also acknowledge you and be non-commercial, they don't have to license their derivative works on the same terms.

[View License Deed](#) | [View Legal Code](#)



Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs CC BY-NC-ND

This license is the most restrictive of our six main licenses, only allowing others to download your works and share them with others as long as they credit you, but they can't change them in any way or use them commercially.

[View License Deed](#) | [View Legal Code](#)

ICMJE – definition of COI

- Conflict of interest exists when an author (or the author's institution), reviewer, or editor has financial or personal relationships that inappropriately influence (bias) his or her actions (such relationships are also known as dual commitments, competing interests, or competing loyalties).
- These relationships vary from being negligible to having great potential for influencing judgment.
- Not all relationships represent true conflict of interest.
- The potential for conflict of interest can exist regardless of whether an individual believes that the relationship affects his or her scientific judgment.

ICMJE – Conflict of interest form

- ▶ Direct resources
- ▶ Indirect resources
- ▶ Third-party
- ▶ Sources of revenue
- ▶ Research sponsor
- ▶ Relevant relationship
- ▶ Consultancy
- ▶ Board membership
- ▶ Expert testimony
- ▶ Stocks
- ▶ Royalties
- ▶ Speakers bureau

ICMJE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE of
MEDICAL JOURNAL EDITORS

Conflicts of Interest



ICMJE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE of
MEDICAL JOURNAL EDITORS

ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest

Use the ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest to generate a disclosure statement for your manuscript.

[USING THE FORM](#) [DOWNLOAD](#)

References!!

Teaching ethics has become part of the core medical curriculum in most medical schools¹ as a way to foster the development of professionalism and high moral character of future doctors. Recently, instruction in the responsible conduct of research and scientific integrity, as professional conduct in academic medicine, has expanded from postgraduate to graduate medical education.^{2,3} Teaching ethics and professional integrity to medical students comes at a time in their lives when they make important life decisions and transitions, many of which have moral implications. This is also a period of significant development of moral functioning,⁴ and educational interventions at this stage of life have a significant impact on shaping moral reasoning in adult life.⁵

REFERENCES

- 1 Goldie S. Review of ethics curricula in undergraduate medical education. *Med Educ* 2000;**34**:108–19.
- 2 Mastroianni AC, Kahn JP. The importance of expanding current training in the responsible conduct of research. *Acad Med* 1998;**73**:1249–54.
- 3 Fisher BA, Zigmond MJ. Promoting responsible conduct in research through ‘survival skills’ workshops: some mentoring is best done in a crowd. *Sci Eng Ethics* 2001;**7**:563–87.
- 4 Rest J, Narvaez D, Bebeau MJ, Thoma S. *Postconventional Moral Thinking: a Neo-Kohlbergian Approach*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates 1999.

References!!

Secondly, we do not reject manuscripts on account of poor presentation and language. Although there are many books on writing a scientific report (Matthews, Bowen, & Matthews, 2001), it seems that our authors prefer receiving precise instructions on what to improve in their manuscripts and how. This advice is given to them through the pre-review process. We work together with our authors on improving the presentation of their reports if we recognize them as worthy of extramural review and possible publishing (Marušić & Marušić 2001; Marušić et al., 2002b). Close cooperation with authors also continues after the manuscript has been accepted for publication. This author-helpful policy has been followed since the journal was started (Marušić & Marušić, 2004b).

References

- AMA. (1997). *American Medical Association manual of style* (9th ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.
- APA. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Croatian Medical Journal. (2004). Guidelines for authors. *Croatian Medical Journal*, 45, 119–126.
- Flowerdew, J. (1999a). Problems in writing for scholarly publication in English: The case of Hong Kong. *Journal of Second Language Writing*, 8, 243–264.
- Flowerdew, J. (1999b). Writing for scholarly publication in English: The case of Hong Kong. *Journal of Second Language Writing*, 8, 123–145.

References!!

general public¹. This is also the reason why the focus of the public, and often the blame, is on the journals and their editors and reviewers³. Judging from newspaper titles, such as “For Science’s Gatekeepers, a Credibility Gap”⁴, public perception is often that editorial and peer review processes fail to protect the integrity of science⁵. Because editors are the first to face the “disease” of scientific fraud, they are blamed for failure to protect from the disease. This is analogous to the differing roles of prevention and treatment in medicine and public health. A scientific journal is the place where the disease is diagnosed. However, the causes of this disease are not in the journals themselves, but in the whole scientific community. Just as one does not blame the x-ray machine for displaying a bone fracture, journals and editors should not be the sole recipients of the blame when fraudulent or irresponsible research is published. In terms of health, preventing diseases is always better than treating them, and this has been true from the beginning of medicine. To quote Galen, the founder of modern medicine: “Since, both in importance and in time, health precedes

1. Claxton LD. Scientific authorship. Part 1. A window into scientific fraud? *Mutat Res.* 2005;589:17-30.

2. Claxton LD. Scientific authorship. Part 2. History, recurring issues, practices, and guidelines. *Mutat Res.* 2005;589:31-45.

References

Harvard system – alphabetical order

Vancouver system – numerical order

Different combinations

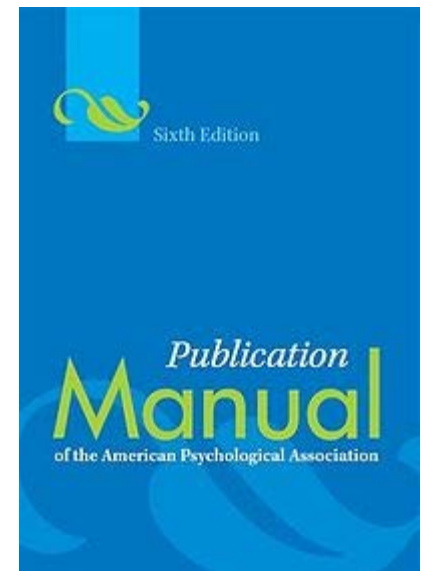
References

Citing Medicine

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK7256/>

- Citing Published Print Documents
- Citing Unpublished Material
- Citing Audio and Visual Media (audiocassettes, videocassettes, slides, photographs, etc.)
- Citing Material on CD-ROM, DVD, or Disk
- Citing Material on the Internet

APA Publication Manual



References

APA Style blog

<http://blog.apastyle.org/>

August 11, 2011

[Punctuating Around Quotation Marks](#)



Dear APA,

I'm quoting from a couple of different sources in my APA Style paper, and I can't figure out what to do with all the quotation marks and periods and commas. Do I put the period inside or outside the quotation marks? What about question marks and quotation marks?

I've been told so many different things over the years that the answers have just blurred together. Please help!

—Quizzical in Queens

Dear Quizzical,

We're not surprised that you have been told different ways to punctuate over the years, because there do indeed exist different practices in the world. On the upside, if you are writing an APA Style paper, we have some nice, straightforward solutions for you.

To begin, let's take a brief look at the two punctuation systems you've probably encountered, which are called American style (or North American Style) and British style.

Here is a quick chart of the differences:

| Style issue | American Style | British Style |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| To enclose a quotation, use... | Double quotation marks | Single quotation marks |
| To enclose a quotation within a quotation, use... | Single quotation marks | Double quotation marks |
| Place periods and commas... | Inside quotation marks | Outside quotation marks |
| Place other punctuation (colons, semi-colons, question marks, etc.)... | Outside quotation marks* | Outside quotation marks* |

*Place other punctuation inside quotation marks when that punctuation is part of what is being quoted, such as a quoted question.

As you might guess from our name, APA Style uses American style punctuation (see p. 92 of the 6th ed. *Publication Manual*), as do several other major style

Manuscript and cover letter

- Manuscript presents facts and figures.
- Cover letter is your advertisement.

Cover letter

1. Manuscript title and authors' names
2. Statement that the manuscript has not been published or is under consideration for publishing elsewhere (abstract up to 400-500 words is not considered previous publication)
3. Reasons why you think the journal should publish your article
4. (description of individual author's contributions)

Cover letter

Dear Editor,

My colleagues and I are submitting our manuscript on the systematic review of authorship research across scholarly disciplines. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first systematic review of this kind. For a subset of studies reporting on the prevalence of problems with authorship, we performed a meta-analysis and showed that the prevalence of authorship misuse is more than ten times higher than the prevalence of data falsification or fabrication, recently reported in the meta-analysis published by D. Fanelli in PLoS ONE (2009;4:e5738). The interest of PLoS ONE in publishing research from peer review and research integrity issues made us decide to submit the manuscript to your journal because we believe PLoS ONE would give it the best visibility.

We are sure that our study will serve as a starting point in future research and policy measures for authorship not only in medicine, but in other areas of research.

Thank you for the privilege of submitting our manuscript to PLoS ONE.

Sincerely,

...