Reference and Citation Format

ONS uses the American Psychological Association (APA) style for references and citations. For more detailed information, refer to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.).

All references should be alphabetical. Be sure to cite each reference used within the text in the reference list. Also, check that you have used each reference appearing in the final list in the text. If you are unsure about how to cite a reference, include all possible information that may be needed. Compiling reference information on index cards or in an electronic reference manager can be useful to keep track of them. It is better to have the information on hand than to go back and track down the information when you are ready to compile your reference list.

Note. When formatting references, list entries have a hanging indent. ONS style does not include spaces between author initials.

Periodicals

• APA style now includes the issue number in parentheses in all references regardless of pagination.  
• An en dash (–) is used for the page range.  
• DOI is listed as a URL, rather than “doi:”. |
| --- | --- |
• APA style no longer includes “Retrieved from” with the URL. |
| Journal article, more 7 or more authors | • **Up to 7 authors**: Tavani, A., Pregnolato, A., Negri, E., Franceschi, S., Serraino, D., Carbone, A., & LaVecchia, C. (1997). Diet and risk of lymphoid neoplasms and soft tissue sarcomas. Nutrition and Cancer, 27(3), 256–260. [https://doi.org/10.1080/01635589709514535](https://doi.org/10.1080/01635589709514535)  
• Some older articles may have DOIs added retroactively.  
• **7 or more authors**: Armenian, S.H., Lacchetti, C., Barac, A., Carver, J., Constine, L.S., Denduluri, N., … Lenihan, D. (2017). Prevention and monitoring of cardiac dysfunction in survivors of adult cancers: |

### Books or Other Printed Material

| Entire book | • **Book with one author:** Mukherjee, S. (2010). *The emperor of all maladies: A biography of cancer*. Scribner. [Add DOI if available, or URL if accessed online.]
| APA style no longer includes publisher location. |
Online References

<table>
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<td>• Titles of webpages are italicized.</td>
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<td>• For pages with no date listed, include “(n.d.)” in place of the year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• It is acceptable to list an organization as the author if no specific author is credited. Or if no author is identified, the title can be listed first.</td>
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Additional Information

There are a few common references that are not well described in the APA manual, so please use the following format for these references.

For the NCCN guidelines, please use the latest version whenever possible:

For the CTCAE, please use the most recent version:

SEER data:

Institute of Medicine (now National Academy of Medicine) books:

Note. Use the electronic version for references, citing the DOI (or URL, if no D
UpToDate:

Note. Include retrieval date; editor is the deputy editor, not section editor. This formatting differs from APA style.

In-Text Citations

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Number of Authors</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
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| One author        | • In a study of the cytokine network in multiple myeloma. . . (Lauta, 2001).  
• Lauta (2001) studied the cytokine network in multiple myeloma. |
| Two authors       | • Untreated depression can have a significant impact on the quality of life and symptom distress in patients with advanced cancer (Bowers & Boyle, 2003).  
• Bowers and Boyle (2003) found that. . . |
| Three or more authors | • APA style now only includes the first author plus “et al.” for more than two authors.  
• (Jones et al., 2012)  
• Jones et al. (2012) found that . . . |
| Same first author in multiple references with the same year | • If multiple references have the same first author and same year but different subsequent authors, include the second author.  
– (Jones, Cleves, et al., 2012)  
– (Jones, Davis, et al., 2012)  
• Or include authors until there is a difference in listing.  
– (Jones, Cleves, Wilt, et al., 2012)  
– (Jones, Cleves, Davis, et al., 2012) |
| Different authors with same surname | • If different first authors have the same surname, include initials in the citation, even if the references have different dates or multiple authors.  
– (G. Davis, 2013)  
– (B.H. Davis & Foster, 2015) |

Table and Figure Citations

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If one or more references were used to compile a table, the references should be noted at the bottom of the figure or table as a footnote using the following format:

**Note.** Based on information from Brickman & Karuza, 1987; Ferrell, 1986. (Always use “et al.” for references with three or more authors in “based on” lines.)

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**Example for a journal article:**
**Note.** From “Effects of Social Support on Physical Activity, Self-Efficacy, and Quality of Life in Adult Cancer Survivors and Their Caregivers,” by F.D. Barber, 2013, *Oncology Nursing Forum, 40*(5), p. 484 ([https://doi.org/10.1188/13.ONF.481-489](https://doi.org/10.1188/13.ONF.481-489)). Copyright 2013 by Oncology Nursing Society. Reprinted (or Adapted) with permission.

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