Vancouver reference lists
(BJP Psych Bulletin/BJP Psych International/BJP Psych Open/BJP Psych)

References are placed in a numbered list at the end of each paper. Reference details must be given in full in each entry.

Author names should be presented with the surname first, followed by the initials (closed up, without full points).
Example: Watson GP, Edwards EF,...

Give six author names before et al in every instance.

For quotes and references where a page number is needed, please create an individual reference for each citation of a page number rather than citing the page number in text. For example, if there are two quotes from different pages in the same book, create two separate references in the list, one for each page number.

Journal articles

Journal names are set in italics and abbreviated as in the Index Medicus.

Authors. Article title. Journal Title year; volume: page range (elided) or article number.


Articles that do not have a page range or article number can be presented in one of the following ways, depending on the type of reference:

Preprints (articles that are published online pre-peer review)
or

[Note that BioRxiv and ArXiv are preprint sites, so ‘To be published in’ should not be included for these.]
Epubs (articles published online that haven’t yet been put into an issue)

[We can include a ‘cited’ date for these in the same style as preprints.]

DOIs in references

Books
Authors. Book Title edition (only include the edition number if it is not the first edition). Publisher, year.


Chapter in book
Authors (of the specific chapter/section to be cited). Title of chapter/section. In Book Title (ed(s) A Name): chapter number/page range. Publisher, year.


Edited books:
Editor name, ed. Book Title. Publisher, year.


Foreign-language citations
If a reference is written in a foreign language, supply an English translation and include this in square brackets after the foreign version.
Citations of Freud and other reprinted material


Law reports

Law reports are usually collected at the end of the reference list, end of the list, under the B-Head ‘Cases’. The year is often, but not always, in square brackets.

A full point is not used after v in law reports (this is in contradiction to house style for v. in ordinary text).

Italics are used for the case, both in the text and in the reference list.

Examples:


Software

For the software packages most commonly used (any Microsoft product, SPSS and Stata) we just require the product name, version (or release year) and platform to be cited in the text. No reference is required in the reference list.

Example: ‘Analyses were performed using Stata version 9 for Windows’.

For any other (more obscure) software, we need the above information along with the name and location of the manufacturer and a URL where the product may be downloaded or purchased (i.e. enough information for a reader who is unfamiliar with the software to easily find out more). This is best presented within the text, rather than as a reference.

Example: ‘...data from each study were entered into the RevMan 4.2 for Windows program (Cochrane Collaboration, Oxford, UK; see http://www.cc-ims.net/RevMan/current.htm’.

Doctoral theses

Unpublished doctoral theses may be cited (please state department or faculty, university and degree).

Name A. PhD thesis, Department or Faculty, University, year.

Online material
Author name. Page Title/Document Name. Publisher, year (URL [cited]).

Cited dates are optional. If you’d like to include cited dates in online references, make it consistent throughout the paper (for all online material that isn’t a PDF).


When a website is referenced as a resource, the URL should be cited in the text only. When a specific document available online is referred to, treat the text citation in the same way as for a printed reference.

Twitter:
Example: Lamb N. Serious concerns in the #mentalhealth sector that NICE's draft guideline on Depression is not fit for purpose & could have a damaging impact on patient care. @NICEcomms must reconsider! Important cross-party letter with @lucianaberger @Helen_Whately @DrLisaCameronMP & others. 19 July 2018 [cited December 2018]. Available from: https://twitter.com/normanlamb/status/1019955921164828672.

Conferences
Unpublished conference presentations are not permissible in the reference list. Please see ‘Unpublished material’ section below for details on how to cite unpublished references. Published conferences can be included.

Author name. Presentation/paper title. Conference Name (Location, date). Publisher, publication year.

Example: Jones D. Developing big business. Large Firms Policy and Research Conference (University of Birmingham, 18–19 Dec 1999). Institute for Large Businesses, 1999.

Unpublished material (personal communications)
References to unpublished lectures, documents not available to the reader or papers/books submitted but not yet accepted for publication are not permissible. Unpublished doctoral theses may be cited. If the unpublished source is written by one of the present authors, replace with ‘(details available from the author on request)’. If you cannot find a corresponding published reference, the reference in the text should read ‘(A. Name, personal communication, year)’. There should be no entry in the reference list. No other citation of unpublished work, including unpublished conference presentations, is permissible.

Personal communications need written authorisation (email is acceptable) from the reference’s author.
Publications ‘in press’
Some references have details available but haven’t yet been published. If the year of publication is known, but project is still in press, cite in text as ‘Smith, 2014 [or current year]’ and in reference list as a standard reference, but end with ‘in press’ for a journal, and ‘(in press)’ for a book.


Psychometric instruments
All psychometric instruments (rating scales, questionnaires) should be referenced, unless they are mentioned in the context of another reference in the list.

Cochrane publications
Cochrane references are usually to the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews or the Cochrane Library, two different products from the Cochrane Collaboration (www.cochrane.org/). CD numbers can be found on PubMed.