

Common Reference Errors in *Current Oncology*

Below, please find a list of common reference errors in *Current Oncology* that our Copy Editor has developed to help authors with future submissions to the journal.

1) References that fail to follow the rule for number of authors (if there are 6 or fewer authors, list all of them; if there are 7 or more, list 3 and follow with "*et al.*"):

- (6) Honebrink T, Dayton V, Burke MJ, Larsen K, Cao Q, Brunstein C, *et al.* Impact of bone marrow hematogones on umbilical cord blood transplantation outcomes in patients with acute myeloid leukemia. *Biol Blood Marrow Transplant* 2012 Jun; 18(6):930-6.

(**lists 6 authors *et al.* instead of 3 *et al.***)

- 24.) Xu X, Wu J, Mao Y, Zhu Y, Hu Z, Xu X, Lin Y, Chen H, Zheng X, Qin J, Xie L. (2013) Diabetes Mellitus and Risk of Bladder Cancer: A Meta-Analysis of Cohort Studies. *PLoS ONE* 8: e58079.

(**lists every author**)

38. Pecking AP, Février B, Wargon C, *et al.* Efficacy of Daflon 500 mg in the treatment of lymphedema (secondary to conventional therapy of breast cancer). *Angiology*. 1997 Jan; 48(1):93-8.

(**stops at 3 authors when there are 4 authors total [all should be listed]**)

4. Ramnath, N., *et al.*, Treatment of stage III non-small cell lung cancer: Diagnosis and management of lung cancer, 3rd ed: American College of Chest Physicians evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. *Chest*, 2013. 143(5 Suppl): p. e314S-40S.

(**every reference in this author's paper stopped at 1 author and had to be looked up to see how many authors had contributed**)

2) References that do not use the standard journal abbreviations:

21. Kavanagh B D, Pan C C, Dawson L A, *et al.* Radiation dose–volume effects in the stomach and small bowel. *International Journal of Radiation Oncology* Biology* Physics.* 2010, 76(3): S101-S107.
36. Soubeyran P, Fonck M, Blanc-Bisson C, *et al.* Predictors of early death risk in older patients treated with first-line chemotherapy for cancer. *Journal of clinical oncology : official journal of the American Society of Clinical Oncology* 2012; 30(15): 1829-34.

3) References that use unconventional punctuation and presentation that have to be fixed:

3. Scagliotti, G. V. and Novello, S. The role of the insulin-like growth factor signaling pathway in non-small cell lung cancer and other solid tumors. *Cancer Treat Rev* 38: 292-302; 2012.
(excess commas and periods, date in wrong place, added "and" before last author [used in every reference in this author's paper]**)**

4) References that are simply insufficient, especially naked or insufficient Web references:

5. Hinnen P, Eskens F. *Brit J Cancer* 2007; 96: 1159–1165. [PubMed: 17375046]
(Missing title of article**)**
18. Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority [Web page]. United Kingdom; n.d. [Available at: <http://www.hfea.gov.uk/ivf-success-rate.html>; cited August 5, 2014].
(page title is missing, and page actually has a date; the publication location does not meet standards, should be London, U.K.**)**

7. CancerControl Alberta Guidelines available at:

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/cancerguidelines.asp> cited June 25, 2015

(**what is being cited here? I believe that this reference was eventually deleted, and the URL was incorporated into the text as a pointer to the organization's overall guideline effort**)

11. <http://www.caro-acro.ca/>. Site last assessed September 1, 2013

(**Link to website was only provided**)

5) Poor citation of books overall (see Instructions for Authors for correct stylings).

Consider:

1. International Agency for Research on Cancer I. *World Cancer Report 2014*.

(**Insufficient information**)

6) References for which errata have been issued should include the location information for the errata. **Very common error.**

7) Information presented in references that should appear in text. References should NOT be used for

- statistics software (give supplier name, city, state, country in parentheses at first mention in text), unless a specific user manual is being referenced. In the latter case, standard referencing applies.
- for trials in ClinicalTrials.gov that are not yet published (give the NCT number in parentheses at first mention of study in text). Consider:

9. Eli Lilly and Company. A Study Of Abemaciclib (LY2835219) In Participants With Previously Treated Breast Cancer That Has Spread (MONARCH 1). In: clinicaltrials.gov [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US). 2000- [cited 2015 June 25]. Available from:

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02102490?term=monarch&cond=%22Breast+Neoplasms%22&rank=3> Identifier: NCT02102490. (** should simply be "(see NCT02102490 at <http://ClinicalTrials.gov>)" in text**)

- for presentations, posters, and other conference material that has not been published either in print or online (give in a footnote when other references are also being cited at the same location, or in parentheses at each mention in the text if appearing solo).