Guidelines for Citing References on Science Project

"Intellectual Property" may be described as a unique idea, action or device an individual produces and is made available for others to observe or experience. Often we, as observers/consumers, use the intellectual property of others to build our knowledge or products. Because this borrowed intellectual property does not belong to us we have a requirement to respect the ownership rights of that property and must recognize the owner when we use their "intellectual property". In other words the ethical code demands that we not to take credit for an idea that comes from another.

In science, the manner by which we recognize another's "intellectual property" is by calling out (citing) their work, where we use it, in the body of our text. The referencing procedure varies from forum-to-forum (journals differ in style) wherein you publish your knowledge for the general population. That said, there are certain conventions (standard ways) to reference a particular type or source where you found the intellectual property you wish to acknowledge. This guidance will highlight a few of the "typical" ways to record the sources found in your work. The Bibliographic Services Division of the United States National Library of Medicine (USNLM/BSID), in cooperation with the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), produced a nearly exhaustible list of source citation formats (1). It is recommended that you go online to the following Uniform Resource Locater (URL) website [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html] to locate a unique type of reference you are attempting to cite should yours not be listed below.

In general, the author is responsible for providing complete and accurate references so that a reader may, if they wish, locate the original referenced material. And, cited references should only include those directly supporting the argument of the project. The complete listing of references should immediately follow the body of the text and should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are mentioned. References located in the text, tables, and legends should be annotated at the point of use by Arabic numerals contained within parentheses—multiple cited references should be separated by a comma, for example (17, 19, 23). Finally, they should be single spaced.

Here are a few examples taken from the NLM URL. Find the one resembling most the source you have to cite and use the example's format to get your reference into the proper form.

Books:
Individual author(s)

Editor(s) as author(s)

Organization(s) as author

Chapter in a book

Journals/Magazines:

**Standard article**

**No author given**
21st century heart solution may have a sting in the tail. BMJ. 2002;325:184.

**Organization as author**

**Article in a Journal supplement**

**Scientific or technical report**

Other Published Material:

**Newspaper article**

**Dictionary and similar references**

**Computer file**

**Classical material**

Electronic Material:

**CD-ROM**

**Journal article on the Internet**

**Homepage/Web site**

**Database on the Internet**