

Searching Exercise 4: Citation Management

Purpose

Citation managers, also known as reference managers, are tools for collecting and organizing references, such as those to articles and books, and automatically creating correctly styled citations and bibliographies. Using a citation manager will make the work of documenting the scientific literature that informs your Scholarly Project much easier. They also allow you to create personal collections of articles related to your research interests. This exercise is an opportunity to experiment with a citation manager of your choice.

Skills

Students will be able to:

- Install a citation manager
- Export citations from PubMed
- Import citations into a citation manager
- Insert references into a Microsoft Word document
- Automatically generate a bibliography
- Format the document in AMA 11 citation style

Estimated Time

45 minutes

How-To

For this activity, you'll be working with the search results you obtained in Searching Exercise 3 to add AMA 11-formatted citations and bibliography to a paragraph in the Exercise 4 worksheet with the help of a citation management tool.

1. Select and set up any citation management tool that interests you. Depending on which tool you choose, this may involve downloading and installing desktop software, installing web browser extensions, and/or creating a user account at the tool's website.
Tip: See the *Resources* section of this document for links to download EndNote or Zotero and instructions on how to import references and create bibliographies.
2. Re-run the final search strategy you created in Searching Exercise 3.
Tip: If you followed the suggestion to save your search with the Create Alert feature, you can find it in your NCBI account dashboard and launch it from there.
3. Click the **Send to** button. A menu of export options will open.
4. Select **Citation manager** from the menu of export options. The *Create a file for external citation management software* menu will open.
5. Select, **All results on this page** and click **Create file**. Your web browser will automatically or prompt you to save the file. The file will have an .nbib extension.
6. Import the .nbib file into the citation management tool you installed in Step 1.
7. Using any of the references you've imported into your citation management tool, complete the Exercise 4 worksheet and upload it to LabSpot when you are done.

Resources

Selecting a Citation Manager

If you would like to try a citation management tool other than the ones discussed in the session on May 12th, see the [Comparison of reference manager software](#) Wikipedia article for a complete list of the available options.

Note:

- The Wikipedia article includes tools that may no longer be supported or under active development, take care to select a tool that is current
- Not all citation managers may run on every operating system
- Support for specific citation styles may vary and may not include AMA 11
- Web-based tools may be limited to particular web browsers

EndNote Resources

- [How to Get Endnote](#)
- [Importing References from PubMed into EndNote](#)
- [Add References to a Document on Windows \(video\)](#)
- [Add References to a Document on Mac \(video\)](#)

Zotero Resources

- [Download Zotero](#)
- [Adding Items to Zotero](#)
- [Using the Zotero Word Plugin](#)
- [Adding In-Text Citations and a Bibliography \(video\)](#)

PubMed Resources

- [Cite, Save, and Share](#)

How We Will Assess Your Learning

- We will evaluate if you are demonstrating the knowledge to import references into a citation management tool and then use the tool to insert citations and a bibliography in AMA 11 format (5 points).
- Based on your self-reflection in the worksheet, we will gauge your understanding of reasons to use the various citation management tools and the benefits of using them. (5 points)