



Endocrine Assignment Tips

Difference between a Magazine and Journal

- A journal is more credible (peer-reviewed or refereed). A group of professionals will review each article to make sure that the article is credible.
- A journal will have references. Usually, at the end of a journal article will be a list of sources (references) that the author used to research the article.
- A journal article is written for a scholarly (professional) audience.
- Usually, a journal article is MORE than TWO pages long. (Just because there is a "blurb" or paragraph in an academic journal, it does not mean that the paragraph is a research study or scholarly article).

Browse the book shelves near these call numbers to find additional information about your topic.

Ask a librarian for help!

Research Studies

"Coffee, caffeine, and risk of type 2 diabetes: a prospective cohort study in younger and middle-aged U.S women" is a good example of a research study.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=16443894&itool=iconfft&query_hl=6&itool=pubmed_docsum

Research Study: Somewhere in the study (article), you should see mention of:

- Objective or Aim of the study (What they are trying to prove)
- Research Design or Method or Methodology of the study (What methods are they going to use to find information? How many people are they going to test?)
- Results or Discussion or Conclusion

Scholarly Overview

The following two titles are good examples of articles within scholarly journals that will give a good overview of a particular endocrine disorder.

"Diabetes Insipidus: diagnosis and treatment of a complex disease":

http://www.cjcm.org/PDFFILES/Makaryus1_06.pdf

"Diagnosis and management of Grave's disease":

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=12615754&itool=iconfft&query_hl=10&itool=pubmed_docsum

Scholarly Overview or Review Article:

- Intended for a scholarly audience but it is not a research study.

- You will not see headings such as objective, methods, or results.
- What you get is a very scholarly overview of the disorder.
- You might see background information about the disorder, diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of the disorder.
- The overview might mention studies that have been done in the medical field but this article will not include the actual research study.
- Basically, the scholarly review article tells you what the disorder is all about, but it does so using medical and scientific terms.

BAD: Editorials or Letters or Commentaries: NOT Acceptable

Following, is a good example of an editorial. Editorials, commentaries, letters are **not** acceptable as a source FOR A JOURNAL Article.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=12874154&itool=pubmed_AbstractPlus

Editorials, commentaries, letters, or interviews are NOT what you want as a source for the journal article. BE CAREFUL.

- Just because there is a blurb, or paragraph in a scholarly, academic journal, it does not mean that the paragraph is a research study or scholarly review article.
- Just about every publication, whether it is a newspaper, magazine, OR JOURNAL, will have some type of editorial or commentary section. This section is where people can comment or complain about something.
- Editorials or commentaries may look like articles. They may be written by professionals and have references, BUT most are less than two pages long. Actually, most are one page or less. They are NOT journal articles.

HOW DO YOU FIND Research Studies and Scholarly Journal Articles?

- You need a periodical index. (Periodicals include magazines, journals, and newspapers.)
- [PubMed](#) is the main periodical index that you should use to complete this endocrine assignment. Most of PubMed's articles are from scholarly journals. Be careful because this index will lead you to editorials, also.
- TIPS for searching PubMed:
Limit to
 - "Links to Free Full Text"
 - "Humans"
 - "English"
 - "Clinical Trial"
 - "Meta-Analysis"
 - "Randomized Controlled Trial"
 - "Review"
 - "MeSH Terms"

- View or print the PDF file. This format includes charts, graphs, images and is easier to determine if the article is a research study, review article, OR editorial.
 - Many of the articles within PubMed will have an abstract (summary) of the article. The abstract is JUST a very short SUMMARY of the article. The abstract is NOT the article.
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[How to Cite Books and Journals in APA and MLA Format](#)

- Citing Electronic Resources in APA Format
- Citing Print Resources in APA Format
- Citing Electronic Resources in MLA Format
- Citing Print Resources in MLA Format