



ISSN: 2091-2889 (online)
2091-2412 (print)

Published: 30 Dec 2024

DOI: [10.54530/jcmc.1617](https://doi.org/10.54530/jcmc.1617)



Reference hyperlinked to the source: A step-by-step guide for creating hyperlinks in references

Jay N Shah¹, Ashesh Malla², Sunil Jaiswal³, Sanjeeb Shah², Abhishek Gupta⁴

¹Prof, Head of Department of Surgery, Editor in Chief of Journal of Chitwan Medical College, Nepal; Ex- Editor in Chief of Journal of Patan Academy of Health Sciences and Journal of Society of Surgeons of Nepal; Ex-president of Nepal Association of Medical Editors; Editor Journal of Nepal Health Research Council

²School of Public Health and Department of Community Medicine, Chitwan Medical College, Chitwan, Nepal

³Department of Dermatology, Chitwan Medical College, Chitwan, Nepal

⁴Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology, Chitwan Medical College, Chitwan, Nepal



Peer reviewed

Abstract:

Hyperlinking is an essential component of manuscript writing that helps readers, authors, reviewers, and editors navigate the online content. Correct hyperlinking enhances the quality, accessibility, and credibility of the manuscript. This editorial summarizes an easy way to add hyperlinks to the references, which would be helpful in manuscript writing.

Keywords: Hyperlinking, Manuscript preparation, References

How to cite

Shah JN, Malla A, Jaiswal S, Shah S, Gupta A. Reference hyperlinked to the source: A step-by-step guide for creating hyperlinks in references. Journal of Chitwan Medical College. 2024;14(50):1-3.

Correspondence

Jay N Shah, Prof, Head of Department of Surgery, Chief Editor Journal of Chitwan Medical College, Nepal. Email: drjaywufei@gmail.com, shah.jay@cmc.edu.np, Telephone: +977 9851040139, 9802955503

Editorial processing of manuscripts before publication includes complex steps, some automated and some manual, requiring skilled decisions for accuracy and creativity.^{1,2} Accuracy for referencing, the format and styles include hyperlinking to the source to ensure its authenticity and contribute to the citing metrics to expand the bibliographic data to the digital platform of online literature search and publications. This is also to ensure that authors have indeed looked for the source, gone through its content and scrutinized the accuracy of the cited reference list for completeness, accuracy and formatting as required by the journal.^{3,4}

During the preparation of the manuscript, authors must give equal priority to the accuracy of citations and reference lists similar to the main text of the article.⁵⁻⁷ Hyperlinking to the source helps readers, reviewers, and editors verify the source with a simple click. Failing to cite accurately or inappropriately cited references, including the wrong citation, is more than sloppy writing and adds to the misconduct, which may be intentional or unintentional, commonly seen while copy-pasting references from the articles without going to the source and reading full text before listing them during the preparation of the manuscript.⁸ This has become mandatory in recent years, and a majority of journals require authors to provide hyperlinks to the source for the ease of locating cited references via hyperlinking. Thus, correct hyperlinking is necessary and a basic requirement for authors, reviewers and editors.⁹ This may not be the cause of desk rejection, however accuracy of the references is important for acceptance and publication of the manuscript.¹⁰⁻¹²

The basic concept of the internet, as we know, is the interconnection of computers, the WWW, i.e., World Wide Web, to connect and make documents accessible via hyperlinks to the contents available on the web. The code hidden in the hyperlinked text is visible by hovering the cursor (mouse) on it and clicking on the hyperlink will open the source.^{9,13-15} This brief editorial aims to summarize in order to help

stakeholders, authors, reviewers and editors, especially the authors, to familiarize themselves with the steps for hyperlinking references to the source. These are [easy 10 steps for adding and hyperlinking URL, DOI, etc.](#) for journal article listed in reference or in articles submitted to a journal.¹⁶ There are many ways to hyperlink the reference, and there are many styles of how to do it to meet the requirements of the journal. This video may also help us learn how to create a hyperlink for cited references.¹⁶ This is one of the easy ways that facilitate the process of hyperlinking references while preparing a manuscript for a journal article or another document.

Acknowledgement

None

Conflict of interest

None

Funding

None

Ethical Consideration

Not applicable

Supplementary material

Available at:

<https://jcmc.com.np/jcmc/index.php/jcmc/announcement/view/3>

References

1. Logan SW, Hussong-Christian U, Case L, Noregaard S. Reference accuracy of primary studies about reference accuracy: A descriptive study. *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*. 2024 Jan 27;0961006231224437. [DOI](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
2. Caplan P, Arms WY. Reference Linking for Journal Articles. *D-Lib Magazine* [Internet]. 1999 Jul;5(7/8). [Link](#)

3. Shah JN. Appropriate citation and accuracy of references: read full text before citing. *Journal of Patan Academy of Health Sciences*. 2022;9(1):1–4. [DOI](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
4. Shah JN. Author-level metrics: Its impact on scholarly output evaluation among various publication metrics. *Journal of Patan Academy of Health Sciences*. 2021;8(2):1–5. [DOI](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
5. Shah JN. How to write “references” in scientific journal articles. *Journal of Patan Academy of Health Sciences*. 2019;6(1):1–5. [DOI](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
6. Nicoll LH, Oermann MH, Carter-Templeton H, Wrigley J, Owens JK. Exploring the Accuracy of Cited References in a Selected Data Set of Nursing Journal Articles. *ANS Adv Nurs Sci*. 2022 Sep 1;45(3):209–17. [DOI](#) [PubMed](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
7. Mukherjee B. The hyperlinking pattern of open-access journals in library and information science: A cited citing reference study. *Library & Information Science Research*. 2009 Apr 1;31(2):113–25. [DOI](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
8. Shah JN, Shah J, Baral G, Baral R, Shah J. Types of plagiarism and how to avoid misconduct: Pros and cons of plagiarism detection tools in research writing and publication. *Nepal Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology* [Internet]. 2021;16(2). [Link](#)
9. Adding and hyperlinking URL, DOI, etc. to reference list | *Journal of Chitwan Medical College*. [Link](#)
10. Shah JN. Desk-rejection of manuscript: How to avoid it. *Journal of Patan Academy of Health Sciences*. 2020;7(2):1–3. [DOI](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
11. Shah JN. Science of writing for publication in scientific journals: Steps and resources. *Journal of Patan Academy of Health Sciences*. 2020;7(3):1–5. [DOI](#) [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
12. Meyer CA. Reference Accuracy: Best Practices for Making the Links. *Journal of Electronic Publishing*. 2008 Spring;11(2). [Link](#)
13. JNMA Knowledge - Learning Resources. [Link](#)
14. Leung D. What’s All the Hype about Hyperlinking: Connections in Copyright. *Am U Intell Prop Brief*. 2015;7:59. [Google Scholar](#) [Full Text](#)
15. Grätzer G. Hyperlinks. In: Grätzer G, editor. *Text and Math Into LaTeX* [Internet]. Cham: Springer International Publishing; 2024; p. 315–20. [Link](#)
16. Adding and hyperlinking URL, DOI, etc. to reference list. [Link](#)