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**2** Use primary references (ie, original sources) for all statements of fact. A primary reference is where the fact originated. Cite the most current guidelines and statistics.

#### EXAMPLE

“According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, resistant health care–acquired infections and deaths rose 15% from 2019 to 2020.”  
**Incorrect source:** Hospital-acquired drug-resistant infections, deaths rose 15% from 2019-20: CDC ([beckershospitalreview.com](http://beckershospitalreview.com))  
**Correct source:** COVID-19: U.S. impact on antimicrobial resistance (<https://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/pdf/covid19-impact-report-508.pdf>)

**3** List references numerically in order of use. References used more than once should use the same number.

#### EXAMPLE

Some researchers have found that cranial bone flaps had some or complete viability after cryopreservation,<sup>1-3</sup> while others have reported limited or no viability after cryopreservation.<sup>4,5</sup> Only a few studies have investigated the outcomes of both bone viability and patient outcomes after cryopreservation.<sup>1,2,6</sup>

**4** Place reference numbers next to the content they support.



**5** Supporting elements (eg, figures, tables, sidebars) should follow the same reference rules and have a separate reference list.

#### EXAMPLE

Researchers identified reprocessing deficiencies, including using contaminated disinfectants,<sup>1</sup> failing to inspect probes after cleaning,<sup>2</sup> and rinsing probes in running tap water.<sup>3</sup>

Reference 1 should support using contaminated disinfectants, reference 2 should support failing to inspect probes, and reference 3 should support rinsing probes with tap water.

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