

# AMA Manual of Style

You are looking at 1-1 of 1 items for: **med-9780195176339-chapter-7 med-9780195176339-div1-80 med-9780195176339-div2-269**

## Misplaced Modifiers

Stacy Christiansen

Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009

Publisher: Oxford University Press

ISBN: eISBN:

DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.022.309

Item type: section

Misplaced modifiers result from failure to make clear what is being modified. Illogical or ambiguous placement of a word or phrase can usually be avoided by placing the modifying word or phrase appropriately close to the word it modifies. Likewise, sometimes it is necessary for clarity to place an adverb within a verb phrase. Note the shift in meaning when the adverb is moved outside of the verb phrase. He had just called me. He had called just me. Use of the word only as a modifier poses particular problems. It must be placed immediately before the word or phrase it