

AMA Manual of Style

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Nonpossessive Form

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There is some continuing debate over the use of the possessive form for eponyms, but a transition toward the nonpossessive form has taken place. A major step toward preference for the nonpossessive form occurred when the National Down Syndrome Society advocated the use of Down syndrome, rather than Down's syndrome, arguing that the syndrome does not actually belong to anyone. The previous (ninth) edition of this manual, the seventh edition of the Council of Science Editors style manual, the Dictionary of Medical Eponyms, and the 27th edition of Stedman's Medical Dictionary recommend and use the nonpossessive form for eponymous terms.