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Parts of a Manuscript, Headings, Subheadings, and Side Headings

Cheryl Iverson

Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009
ISBN: eISBN:
Item type: section
Publisher: Oxford University Press
DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.021.31

UPDATE: We will discontinue using quotation marks to identify parts of an article, but retain the capitalization; eg, This is discussed in the Methods section (not the “Methods” section). This change was made February 14, 2013.UPDATE: To return to the conventional IMRAD nomenclature, the JAMA Network journals are implementing Discussion rather than Comment as the summary section heading in all article types. This will also alleviate any confusion between the online functionality of leaving comments on an article and the use of Comment as a section heading. This change was implemented April 1, 2013.A consistent pattern of organization for all

Levels of Headings

AMA Manual of Style Committee

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Number of Headings

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Items to Avoid in Headings

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Avoid using a single abbreviation as a heading, even if the abbreviation has been expanded earlier in the text. If the abbreviation appears as the sole item in a heading, spell it out. (See , Abbreviations, Clinical, Technical, and Other Common Terms.)# Avoid expanding abbreviations for the first time in a heading. Spell the abbreviation out in the heading if that is its first appearance and introduce the abbreviation, if appropriate, at the next appearance of the term. (See , Abbreviations, Clinical, Technical, and Other Common Terms.)# Avoid citing figures or tables in headings. Cite them in the appropriate

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