

# AMA Manual of Style

You are looking at 1-1 of 1 items for: **med-9780195176339-div2-293**

## Comma

Cheryl Iverson

Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009

Publisher: Oxford University Press

ISBN: eISBN:

DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.022.338

Item type: section

Commas are the least forceful of the 3 marks. There are definite rules for using commas; however, usage is often subjective. Some writers and editors use the comma frequently to indicate what they see as a natural pause in the flow of words, but commas can be overused. The trend is to use them sparingly. Follow the accepted rules and use commas only when breaks are needed for sense or readability or to avoid confusion or misinterpretation. The comma is used to separate phrases, clauses, and groups of words and to clarify the grammatical structure and the intended meaning. Use