Capitalization of Titles and Subtitles Quiz
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ANSWER KEY

Directions: Please indicate which words in the following titles should be capitalized according to the guidelines outlined in §10.2, Titles and Headings of the AMA Manual of Style.

1. Association of cigarette smoking but not alcohol consumption with cutaneous lupus erythematosus

ANSWER: Association of Cigarette Smoking but Not Alcohol Consumption With Cutaneous Lupus Erythematosus

Editor's Note: Capitalize major words in titles and subtitles. Do not capitalize a coordinating conjunction, an article, or a preposition of 3 or fewer letters, except when it is the first or last word in a title or subtitle (§10.2, Titles and Headings). Because but is a conjunction, it should not be capitalized. Not is an adverb and therefore considered a major word, so it should be capitalized.

2. All-cause mortality of cardiovascular disease

ANSWER: All-Cause Mortality of Cardiovascular Disease

Editor's Note: In hyphenated compounds, the second part of the compound should be capitalized unless either part is a hyphenated prefix or suffix or both parts together constitute a single word. In this example, the word all-cause cannot be found as a single entry in Webster's or Dorland's, so both All and Cause should be capitalized (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds).


ANSWER: Clinical Effects of the Self-administered Subcutaneous Complement Inhibitor Zilucoplan in Patients With Moderate to Severe Generalized Myasthenia Gravis: Results of a Phase 2 Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multicenter Clinical Trial

Editor's Note: Double-blind is a hyphenated compound considered a single word (ie, it can be found as a single entry in Webster's); therefore, blind should not be capitalized. Placebo and Controlled are 2 separate terms operating together as a temporary compound; therefore, both parts of the hyphenated compound should be capitalized (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds).
4. Five-year follow-up of patients with Alzheimer disease

**ANSWER: Five-Year Follow-up of Patients With Alzheimer Disease**

**Editor's Note:** Follow-up as a noun is a hyphenated compound considered a single word (ie, it can be found as a single entry in Webster’s); therefore, only the F in Follow-up is capitalized (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds). Note that numbers are written out at the beginning of titles.

5. Following up middle-aged patients with myocardial infarction

**ANSWER: Following Up Middle-aged Patients After Myocardial Infarction**

**Editor's Note:** With a phrasal verb, such as follow up, capitalize both parts (§10.2.1, Titles of Medical Articles). Because middle-aged is a hyphenated compound considered a single word (ie, it can be found as a single entry in Webster’s), the a in aged is lowercase (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds).

6. Unusual third nerve synkinesis due to midbrain injury

**ANSWER: Unusual Third Nerve Synkinesis Due to Midbrain Injury**

**Editor's Note:** In this example, Due to is an adjectival phrase with Due operating as the adjective; therefore, Due is considered a major word and requires capitalization (§10.2, Titles and Headings).

7. Short-term and long-term returns for states implementing pediatric alternative payment models

**ANSWER: Short-term and Long-term Returns for States Implementing Pediatric Alternative Payment Models**

**Editor's Note:** Short-term and long-term are hyphenated compounds considered single words (ie, they can be found as a single entry in Webster’s), so only the S in Short-term and the L in Long-term are capitalized (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds).

8. Geriatric drug evaluation: where are we now and where should we be in the future?

**ANSWER: Geriatric Drug Evaluation: Where Are We Now and Where Should We Be in the Future?**

**Editor's Note:** Although only 2 letters, both We and Be are capitalized because, as a pronoun and verb, respectively, they are considered major words (§10.2.1, Titles of Medical Articles).

9. What is the appropriate treatment for Graves disease?

**ANSWER: What Is the Appropriate Treatment for Graves Disease?**

**Editor's Note:** Capitalize 2-letter verbs (eg, go, do, am, is, and be) (§10.2.1, Titles of Medical Articles).
10. Cost-benefit analysis of a hospital pharmacy bar code solution

**ANSWER: Cost-Benefit Analysis of a Hospital Pharmacy Bar Code Solution**

**Editor's Note:** In the case of a temporary compound in which each part of the hyphenated term carries equal weight, capitalize both words. In this example, *Case* and *Benefit* are of equal weight (ie, one does not modify the other), so both words should be capitalized (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds).

11. Multiple antibiotic–resistant *klebsiella pneumoniae* and *escherichia coli* in nursing homes

**ANSWER: Multiple Antibiotic–Resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Escherichia coli* in Nursing Homes**

**Editor's Note:** Genus and species should be treated normally in mixed capital and lowercase headings (with the genus capitalized and the species lowercase and both words italicized) (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds).

12. A structured teaching and self-management program for patients receiving oral anticoagulation

**ANSWER: A Structured Teaching and Self-management Program for Patients Receiving Oral Anticoagulation**

**Editor's Note:** *Self* operates as a prefix in the compound *self-controlled*, and compound words with the prefix *self-* are considered one word; therefore, *controlled* should be lowercase (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds).

13. Heart retransplantation in elderly persons: should surgeons continue to do it?

**ANSWER: Heart Retransplantation in Elderly Persons: Should Surgeons Continue to Do It?**

**Editor's Note:** Capitalize 2-letter verbs (eg, *go*, *do*, *am*, *is*, and *be*). Also, capitalize *it* because it is a pronoun and therefore a major word. Do not capitalize *to* in infinitives (§10.2.1, Titles of Medical Articles).


**ANSWER: Cost-effectiveness Decision-making and US Public Opinion**

**Editor's Note:** In hyphenated compounds, the second part of the compound should be capitalized unless either part is a hyphenated prefix or suffix or both parts together constitute a single word. In this example, *cost-effectiveness* and *decision-making* can be found as a single entry in *Webster's*, so only *Cost* and *Decision* should be capitalized (§10.2.2, Hyphenated Compounds). Note: Decision-making is always hyphenated.
15. Experiences of women older than 30 years with in vitro fertilization

**ANSWER: Experiences of Women Older Than 30 Years With In Vitro Fertilization**

**Editor's Note:** In compound terms from languages other than English, capitalize all parts of the expression (eg, In Vitro, In Situ, En Bloc) (**§10.2.1**, Titles of Medical Articles). **Note:** In Vitro should not be italicized. Italics are not used if words or phrases are considered to have become part of the English language, eg, café au lait, in vivo, in vitro, en bloc (**§21.9.4**, Italics).