

# How to cite a record on a clinical trials register

Based on the guidelines for Vancouver style referencing for "Part of a database on the internet" (see [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform\\_requirements.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html)), and the Citing Medicine guidelines of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/bv.fcgi?rid=citmed.section.57708>) it is therefore recommended that

a citation of a record on a trial register consist of:

- the name of the database
- the location and name of the publisher of the database
- the year the site was first developed/online
- the unique ID
- the title of the record
- the date of registration
- the date when it was cited
- the approximate number of pages
- the web address of the record

**Table:** Examples of citation format

Registry	Example citation
ANZCTR	Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry [Internet]. Sydney (NSW): NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre, University of Sydney (Australia); 2005 - . Identifier ACTRN12605000004662. A multi-centre, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial examining the efficacy and safety of low-dose aspirin after initial anticoagulation to prevent recurrent venous thromboembolism; 2005 Jul 12 [cited 2008 June 18]; [1 page]. Available from <a href="http://www.anzctr.org.au/ACTRN12605000004662.aspx">http://www.anzctr.org.au/ACTRN12605000004662.aspx</a> .
ChiCTR	Chinese Clinical Trial Register [Internet]. Chengdu (Sichuan): Ministry of Health (China). 2007 Jun 27 - . Identifier ChiCTR-TRC-00000033, A randomized controlled trial of traditional Chinese medicine in the treatment of primary liver cancer; 2008 Jan 29 [cited 2008 June 20]; [1 page]. Available from: <a href="http://www.chictr.org.cn">http://www.chictr.org.cn</a>
ClinicalTrials.gov	ClinicalTrials.gov [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US). 2000 Feb 29 - . Identifier NCT00287391, Sleep disorders and gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD); 2006 Feb 3 [cited 2007 Feb 22]; [about 4 screens]. Available from: <a href="http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct/show/NCT00287391?order=1">http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct/show/NCT00287391?order=1</a>
CTRI	Clinical Trials Registry India [Internet]. New Delhi: database publisher (India). 2007 Jun 20 - . Identifier CTRI/2008/091/000052, A clinical trial to study the effects of Ayurvedic formulation containing Ashwagandha and Guduchi in improving the quality of life in patients of breast cancer receiving chemotherapy as treatment; 2008 Apr 30 [cited 2008 May 07]; [1 page]. Available from: <a href="http://www.ctri.in:8080/Clinicaltrials/ViewTrial.jsp?trialno=127">http://www.ctri.in:8080/Clinicaltrials/ViewTrial.jsp?trialno=127</a>
ISRCTN	Current Controlled Trials [Internet]. London: BioMed Central. [date unknown] - . ISRCTN13256080, A phase II study to investigate the effect of Glivec® (imatinib mesylate, formerly known as STI571) in patients with inoperable medullary thyroid carcinoma; 2007 Feb 23 [cited 2007 Feb 27]; [about 3 p.]. Available from: <a href="http://www.controlled-trials.com/ISRCTN13256080/">http://www.controlled-trials.com/ISRCTN13256080/</a> .
NTR	Nederlands Trial Register [Internet]. Amsterdam: Academic Medical Center (The Netherlands). 2004 Oct 26 - . Identifier NTR1342, Residual effects of zopiclone 7.5 mg on cognition and driving performance in insomnia patients chronically using hypnotics; 2008 Jun 12 [cited 2008 June 20]; [1 page]. Available from: <a href="http://www.trialregister.nl/trialreg/admin/rctview.asp?TC=1342">http://www.trialregister.nl/trialreg/admin/rctview.asp?TC=1342</a>
SLCTR	Sri Lanka Clinical Trials Registry [Internet]. Colombo: Sri Lanka Medical Association (Sri Lanka). 2007 Feb 1 - . Identifier SLCTR/2008/004, Is a six hour fast after a rice meal sufficient before upper gastrointestinal endoscopy?; 2008 Mar 28 [cited 2008 May 29]; [1 page]. Available from: <a href="http://www.slctr.lk">http://www.slctr.lk</a>