

Research paper guidelines:

Topic: "skin cancer".

Purpose: This exercise is an opportunity for you to carry out your own literature research into the topic of *Skin cancer* and write it up as a short research paper (1500 words). It also fulfills the writing requirement for this general education (GE) course.

Tasks: Plan your paper well in advance, use online resources to find primary research literature on the topic in question. Review articles are a good start as they tend to give overviews about where the research in this field of study currently is at. Primary research materials can be obtained online from resources such as PubMed/Medline. Statistics and health related material can be obtained from The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and The National Institutes of Health (NIH) websites. Four to five primary research articles should be used and this can include one physiology textbook.

When planning your paper divide it up into an introduction (giving an overview of the topic), main text/body of paper goes into detail and you can include 1-2 small figures. Things to include but not limited to; disease symptoms, treatment, prognosis, physiological effects etc. Be sure to properly cite all sources including any figures you insert. End your paper with a short conclusion such as, where the field is moving towards, new future treatments, what have you learned from your literature research etc.

Skills: Scientific writing, ability to find primary literature material online, proper use of citations, presenting a coherent narrative on the topic of discussion and learning about this topic in detail.

Additional guidelines

- **1500 words** which is around 3-4 **typed** pages **not** including title page and citation page (depends on number of figures and size)
- Line spacing 1.5
- Margins 1 inch (top, bottom and sides)
- Paper title Times New Roman 14
- Times New Roman 12 for main text
- Times New Roman 12 for sub titles in bold
- Outline
 - Introduction/abstract
 - Main text:
Schematic diagrams or small images are allowed (source or reference must be included)
 - Conclusions and what you learned from your research
- 4-5 primary research articles must be cited, only one physiology/anatomy textbook and one website can be used as a citation example CDC, NIH
- Citation referred to in the text of your paper must be **numbered**
So it would read as follows:
ACh receptors are chemically gated channels that open when ACh binds to them (1).
- Citations must be properly referenced with authors, year of publication, the complete title, page number and volume number in your citation/reference page. So it should read as follows:
1. Doe, John & Soap, Joe (2014). The study of bone diseases in Americans, Journal of Osteoporosis, vol 3 p26-34
- No referencing Wikipedia or random webpages