

## Academic degrees. Standardization in English language

### Titulos universitários. Normalização no idioma Inglês

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**Acta Cirúrgica Brasileira** has an increasingly tendency to publish scientific manuscripts in the English language. Nevertheless, those articles submitted for publication reveal significant heterogeneity concerning authors' academic degrees. As articles are sent from all over the Country, regional jargons are frequently used. Even though our unique official language, these variations may lead to misunderstandings. The lack of standard denominations for the academic degrees reminds us of the Tower of Babel. A uniform way of writing shall improve understanding and may diminish regional distances to a common language.

Some scientific journals do not require authors academic degree expressed in the text, and in some cases it is enough to cite the institution where the study was performed. According to "Vancouver style" [ICMJE Out 2004], regarding EDITORIAL LIBERTY AND INTEGRITY, "... at the same time, every journal has editorial requirements uniquely suited to its purposes. Editors-in-chief must have full authority for determining the editorial content of the journal generally referred to as "editorial independence". Uniforms requirements (Vancouver) are instructions to authors to prepare originals, but **not** to Editors concerning publication style..."

**Acta Cirúrgica Brasileira** requires the specification of the higher academic degree of each author, in order to let manuscripts to be published. However, when translated into English, a wide range of distortions and lack of respect to the scientific language are observed. Due to this fact, a standardization of these academic degrees in English turns out to be necessary, so as to instruct authors in their manuscripts.

We collected some examples extracted from manuscripts sent for publication in **Acta Cirúrgica Brasileira**, from different authors, in the left column. In the middle column, the recommended form and in the right column the Portuguese version.

We expect that these uniform requirements will be observed by all authors. As a matter of fact, some denominations not on the list may arise. Our aim will be to determine, together with the Editorial board, the most suitable way to keep our journal away from Tower of Babel and help our readers to find precise and uniform information in each article published.

#### ACADEMIC DEGREES EXAMPLES

In portuguese	Found in Acta Cir Bras	Recommended
Acadêmico	Scientific Initiation Students	Graduate Student
Chefe de Disciplina	Chief of Discipline	Head of Division
Chefe de Serviço	Chief of the Group	Surgeon-in-Chief
Departamento Disciplina Setor	Department Discipline Sector	Department Division Unit
Doutor	Doctor in Basic Sciences	PhD
Doutor	Doctor (Phd) In Sciences	PhD
Doutor	Post-Graduated. Doctorate Degree.	PhD
Doutor, Chefe de Disciplina	PhD, Chief of Discipline	PhD, Head
Médico	Attending Physician	MD
Médico, Doutor	MD, PhD of Medicine	MD, PhD
Médico Residente	Resident	MD. Resident
Mestre	Master In Basic Sciences	Master
Pós-Graduando nível de Doutorado	Doctoral Fellow Post-Graduate Student	Fellow PhD degree
Pós-Graduando nível de Mestrado	Master Fellow Post-Graduate Student	Fellow Master degree
Pós-Graduando	MD. Postgraduate Course Of Surgery,	MD. Fellow of Surgery
Professor	Professor of Surgery	Full Professor
Prof. Adjunto Prof. Associado	Adjunct Professor	Associate Professor
Prof. Afiliado	Affiliated Professor of Surgery	Affiliate Professor
Prof. Adjunto	Associated Professor	Associate Professor
Prof. Assistente	Professor Assistant	Assistant Professor
Prof. Assistente Chefe de Disciplina	Assistant Professor Doctor and Head of the Discipline	Assistant Professor, Head of Division
Prof. Colaborador	Colaborator professor	Volunteer Faculty
Prof. Titular	Titular Professor	Chairman Full Professor
Prof. Visitante	Visitor	Visiting Professor
Prof. Titular e Chefe	Titular Professor and Head	Chairman and Head
Titular e Chefe de Disciplina	Chairwoman And Head	Chairwoman, Head

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