

*LETTER TO THE EDITOR*

RESPONSES TO THE COMMENTS MADE BY DAVID S. SHANNAHOFF-KHALSA [IJPP 2009; 53(1): 102-104] ON THE SHORT COMMUNICATION “IMMEDIATE EFFECTS OF RIGHT AND LEFT NOSTRIL BREATHING ON VERBAL AND SPATIAL MEMORY SCORES” [IJPP 2008; 52: 197–200]

Sir,

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We were extremely grateful to Dr. D.S. Shannahoff-Khalsa for bringing to our attention several inaccuracies in the references given in the paper entitled “Immediate effects of right and left nostril breathing on verbal and spatial memory scores” (1). This is particularly important as this is one of our ongoing areas of research. The main reason for these inaccuracies was that when compiling this manuscript, we had not read the original

or source article describing a particular finding, but had read subsequent article(s) which cited the original article. In a study of citation errors in references in medical journals (in Israel) most (i.e., 76 percent) of the errors in reference writing were in referencing the author(s) or title of the article (2). The comments by Dr. Shannahoff-Khalsa have made it evident that it is equally essential to refer to the original or source article in a study, to avoid errors.

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REFERENCES

1. Joshi M, Telles S. Immediate effects of right and left nostril breathing on verbal and spatial scores. *Indian J Physiol Pharmacol* 2008; 52: 197–200.
2. Putterman C, Lossos IS. Author, verify your references! Or, the accuracy of references in Israeli medical journals. *Isr J Med Sci* 1991; 27: 109–112.