

Medical Copyediting Example

Directions: Edit the following short medical manuscript using the different levels of editing. Show your changes with track changes (revisions).

Level 1: Correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization errors only.

Level 2: Correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization errors as well as syntax and usage errors. Query for any inconsistencies or awkward language.

Level 3: Correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation as well as syntax and usage errors. Correct any inconsistencies or awkward language.

Edit the following with a level 1 edit:

A ~~41-year-old~~41-year-old woman presented with a ~~2-day~~2-day history of burning, stinging, itchy blisters on the lower lip. She had experienced a similar eruption at the same site with spontaneous resolution 1 year previously. This experience occurred after she had taken a cold medication containing ~~ibuprofen~~ibuprofen. She was otherwise unremarkable; ~~she~~ took no prescription medications, ~~but~~ she did occasionally take over the counter ibuprofen. On examination, she was well-appearing and afebrile. There ~~was~~were confluent blisters in a ~~4~~4-cm area on and around the lower lip and no other skin or ~~mucousal~~mucosal lesions.

Edit the following with a level 2 edit:

A ~~41-year-old~~41-year-old woman presented with a ~~2-day~~2-day history of burning, stinging, ~~itchy~~itching blisters on the lower lip. She had experienced a similar eruption at the same site with spontaneous resolution 1 year previously. ~~This~~ experience occurred after she had taken a cold medication containing ~~ibuprofen~~ibuprofen. She was otherwise unremarkable; ~~she~~ took no prescription medications, ~~but~~ she did occasionally take over the counter ibuprofen. On examination, she was well-appearing and afebrile. There ~~was~~were confluent blisters in a ~~4~~4-cm area on and around the lower lip and no other skin or ~~mucousal~~mucosal lesions.

Commented [JMR1]: Might one or two of these adjectives suffice?

Commented [JMR2]: Which? The current or previous?

Edit the following with a level 3 edit:

A ~~41-year-old~~41-year-old woman presented with a ~~2-day~~2-day history of ~~painful burning, stinging, itchy~~ blisters on the lower lip. She had experienced a similar eruption at the same site with spontaneous resolution 1 year previously. ~~This~~The most recent experience eruption occurred after ~~she had taken~~taking a cold medication containing ~~ibuprofen~~ibuprofen. She was otherwise unremarkable; ~~she~~ took no prescription medications; ~~she but did~~she occasionally take over the counter ibuprofen. On examination, she was well-appearing and afebrile. There ~~was~~were confluent blisters in a 4-cm area on and around the lower lip and no other skin or ~~mucousal~~mucosal lesions.