

The TRIS - team at the Faculty of Sciences, University of Kent, Canterbury  
Funded by Challenge Fund, UELT

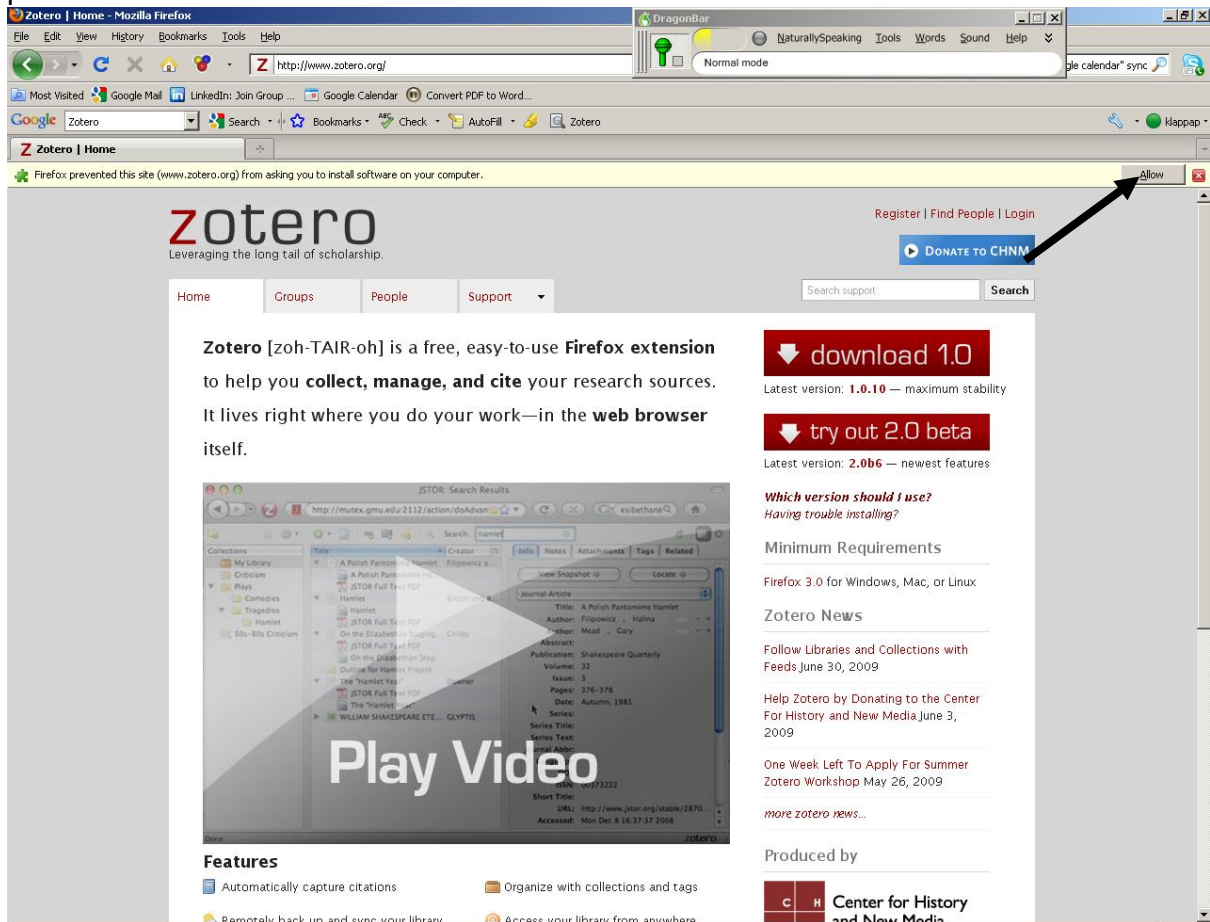
Here is a very useful little tool to grab references from the Internet and use them in publications. This is a great add-in for Mozilla Firefox, which I found when I was a bit fed up with Endnote. It allows you to import references directly from PubMed or even websites. The references are then stored in a special folder on your computer, but they can be easily transferred. You can directly import references into Word 2007 with the right plug-in. What is really very nice is that also Openoffice is supported by this plug-in. You therefore have the choice between Microsoft and open source software.

In the following, I will show you where you can find the plug-in called 'Zotero', install it into your Firefox browser, get the plug-in for Word 2007 and download a library from PubMed.

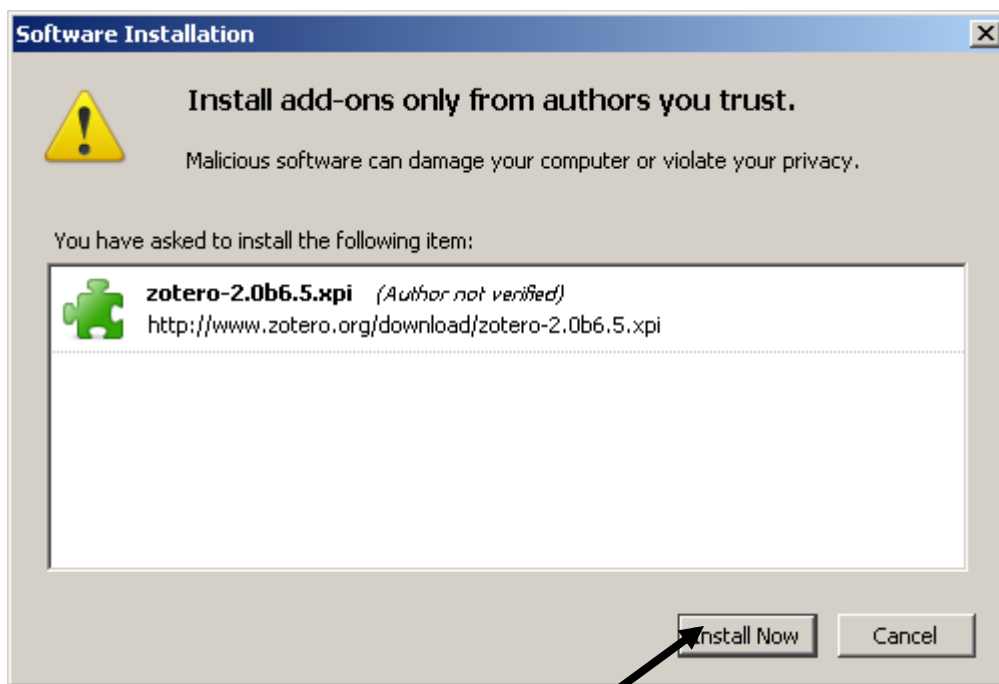
The URL for this Firefox plug-in can be found at <http://www.zotero.org/>. I found that the beta 2.0 version is fairly stable and hence suggest that you download this version.

The screenshot shows the Zotero website homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Groups', 'People', and 'Support' tabs. Below this is a search bar and a 'DONATE TO CHNM' button. The main content area features a large heading 'Zotero [zoh-TAIR-oh] is a free, easy-to-use Firefox extension to help you collect, manage, and cite your research sources. It lives right where you do your work—in the web browser itself.' To the right of this text are two prominent buttons: 'download 1.0' (with 'Latest version: 1.0.10 — maximum stability') and 'try out 2.0 beta' (with 'Latest version: 2.0b6 — newest features'). An arrow points to the 'try out 2.0 beta' button. Below these buttons is a 'Which version should I use?' section with a link 'Having trouble installing?'. Further down is a 'Minimum Requirements' section stating 'Firefox 3.0 for Windows, Mac, or Linux'. Below that is a 'Zotero News' section with several news items. At the bottom left, there's a 'Play Video' button and a 'Features' section with icons for 'Automatically capture citations', 'Remotely back up and sync your library', 'Organize with collections and tags', and 'Access your library from anywhere'. The right sidebar contains links for 'Register | Find People | Login', 'DONATE TO CHNM', and a search bar.

Depending on your Firefox settings you will see a message telling you that Firefox prevented an installation.

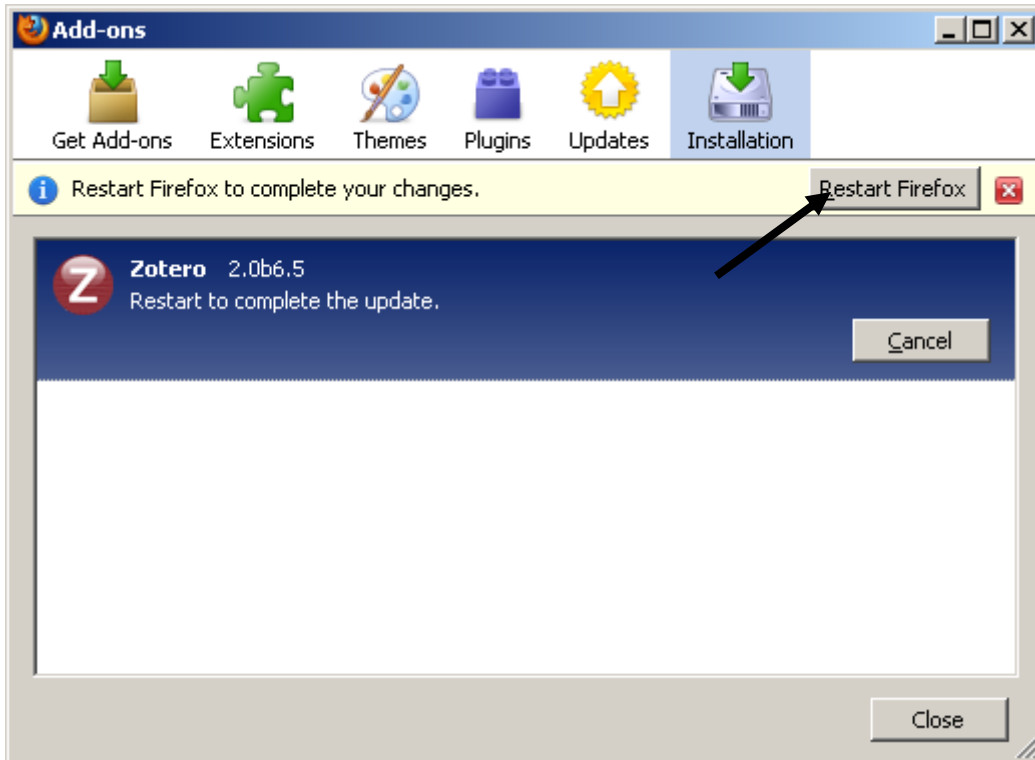


Just click on 'Allow'. A pop-up window will open.



Simply click on 'Install now' and Firefox will do the rest.

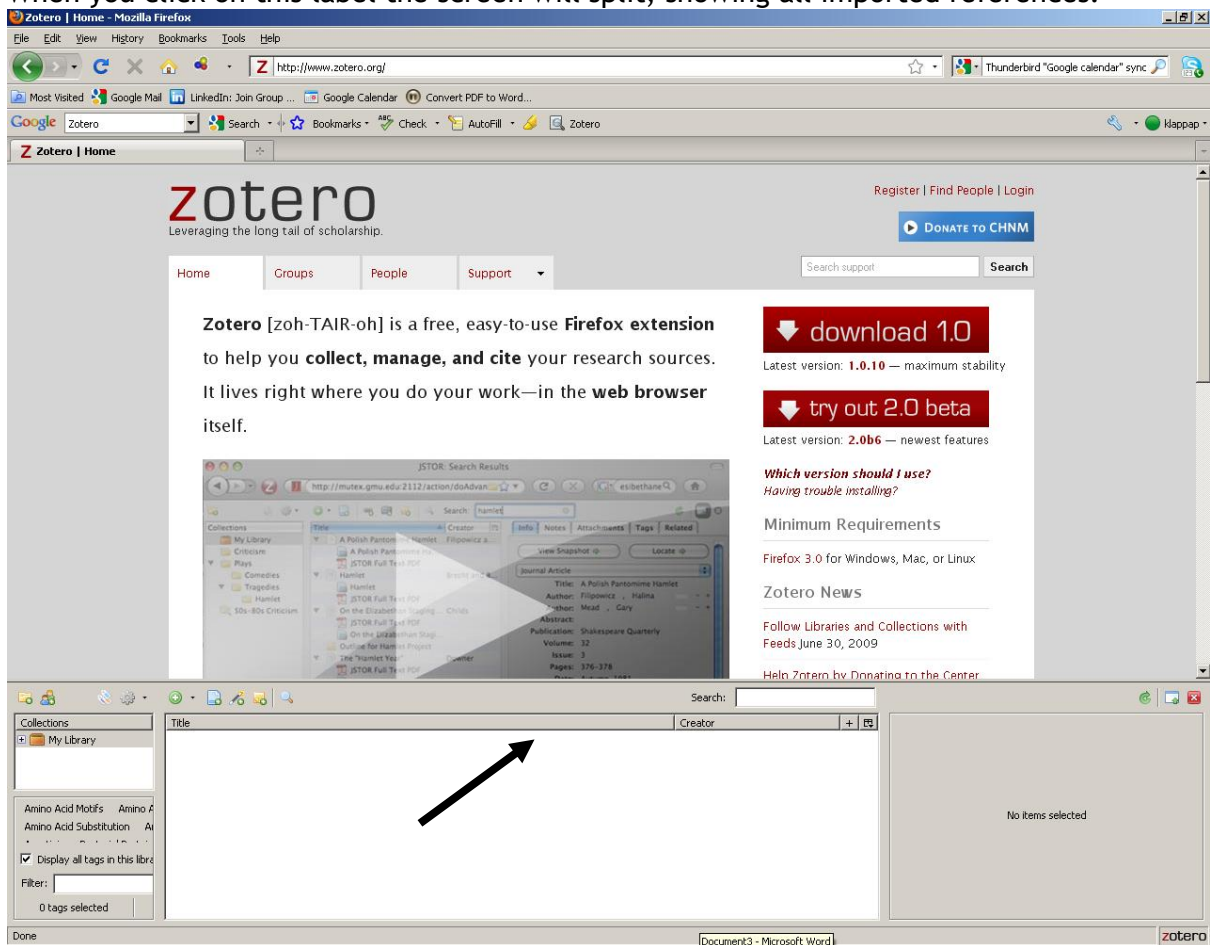
You will be asked to restart Firefox.



If everything went well you should see in the right hand bottom corner the 'zotero' label.

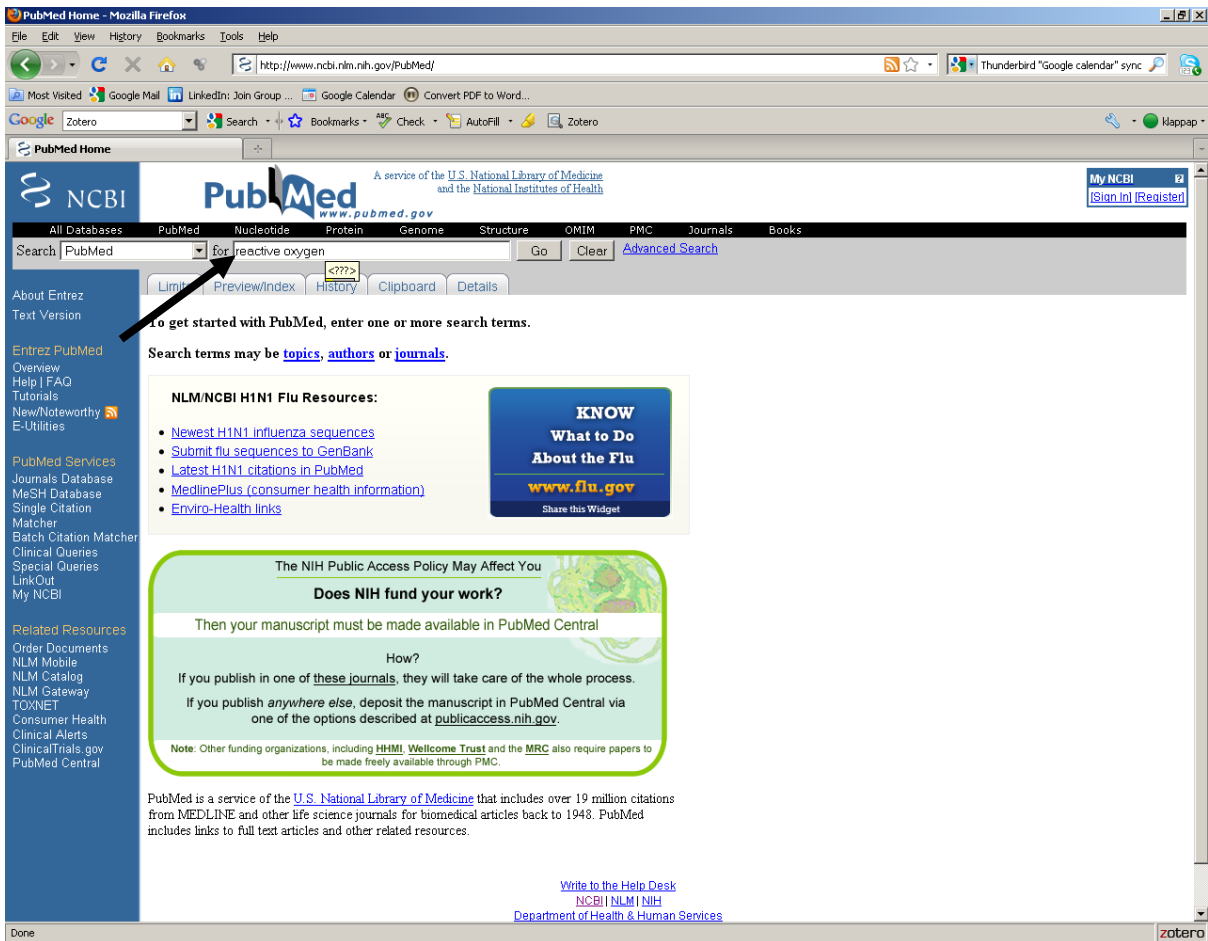


When you click on this label the screen will split, showing all imported references.

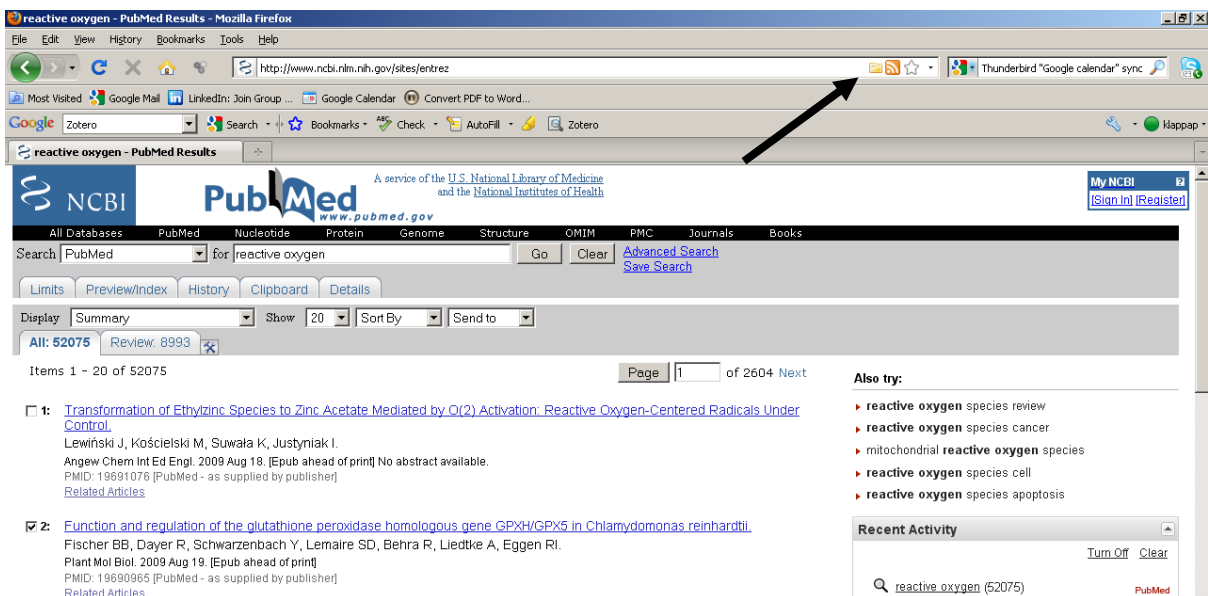


Obviously, we haven't imported any references yet so therefore your library is still empty.

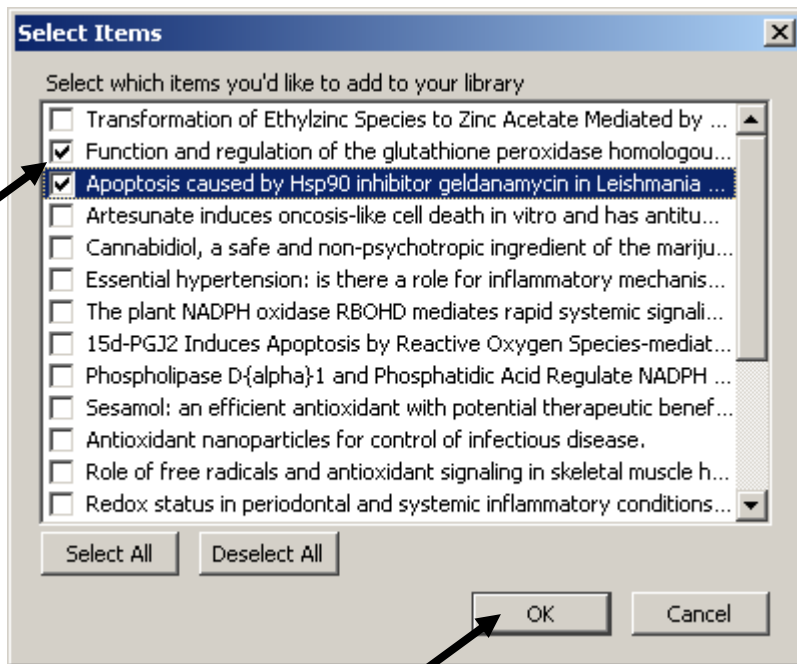
In the next section, I will show you how to import a couple of references from PubMed. Let's assume that I'm interested in references with the keyword reactive oxygen.



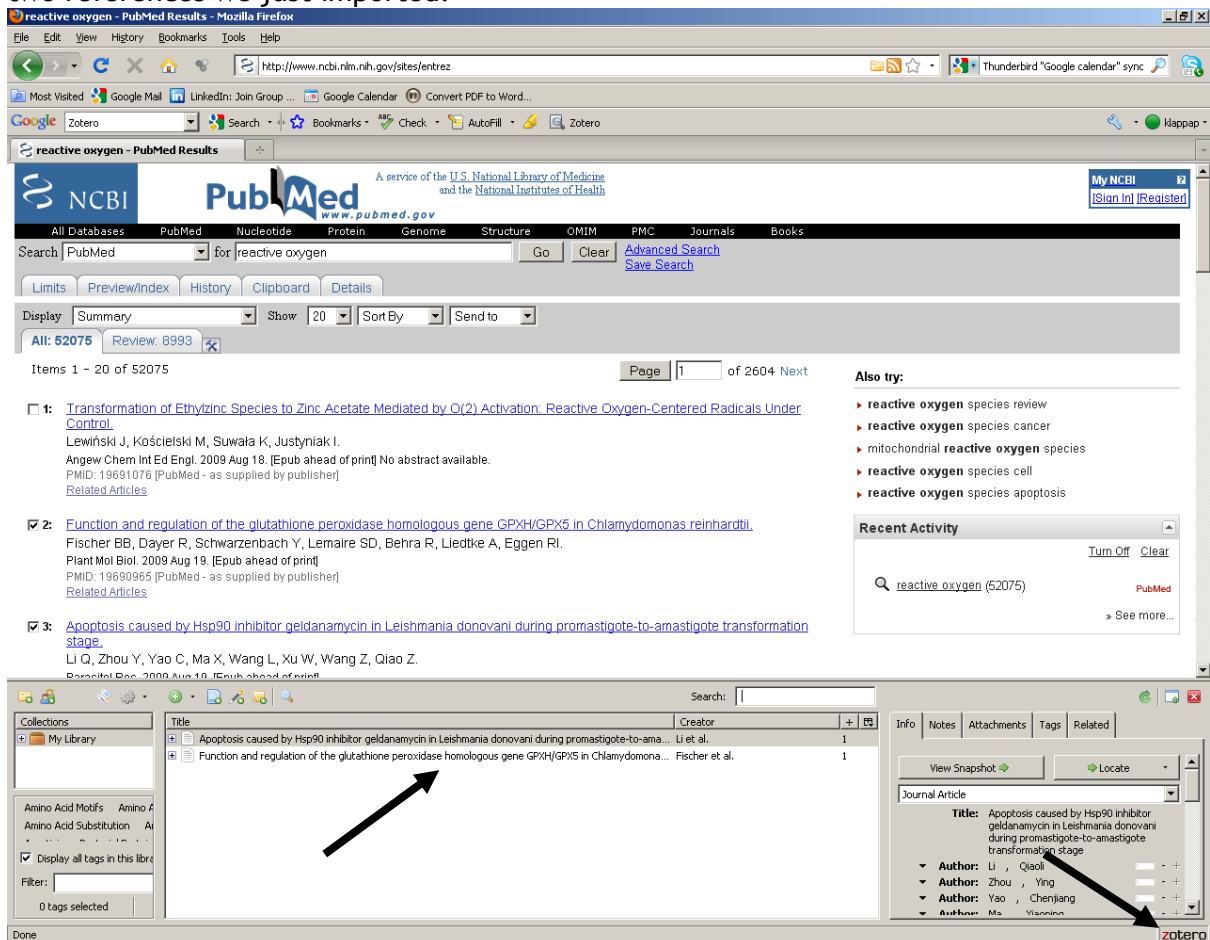
We will get a list of references, but of particular interest to me are only references 2 and 3.



To download these two references click on the little 'envelope' icon in the address bar. A new window will open which shows you all the references on this page.



Just simply check the two references we are interested in and click 'ok'. To see whether the references have been imported correctly click on the label in the right-hand bottom corner. You now should see in the split screen in your web browser the two references we just imported.



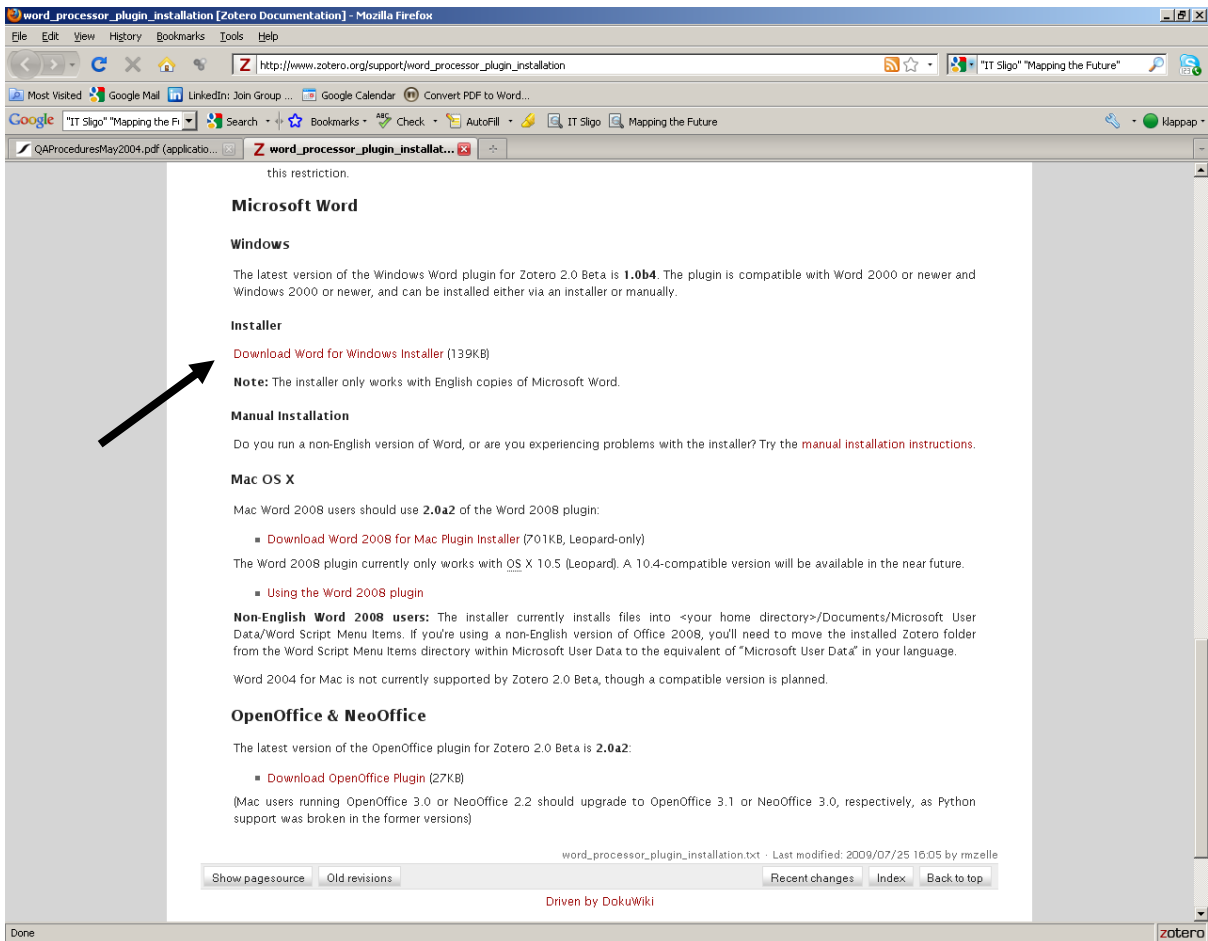
You now can create a whole library of references, which all will be stored in your Mozilla Firefox preference folder. By double-clicking on one of these references you will be immediately linked to the abstract of this reference in PubMed.

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying a PubMed search result. The address bar shows 'zotero://attachment/56/'. The PubMed page displays the article title, authors (Fischer BB, Daver R, Schwarzenbach Y, Lemaire SD, Behra R, Liedtke A, Eggen RI), and a detailed abstract. A black arrow points from the Zotero interface to the abstract text. The Zotero interface at the bottom shows a list of items in the library, with the selected item being the same PubMed article.

We successfully installed the plug-in and now we have to make it 'talk' to our text editor, for example Word 2007. To do this we need another plug-in, which we can get from the following URL: [http://www.zotero.org/support/word\\_processor\\_plugin\\_installation](http://www.zotero.org/support/word_processor_plugin_installation).

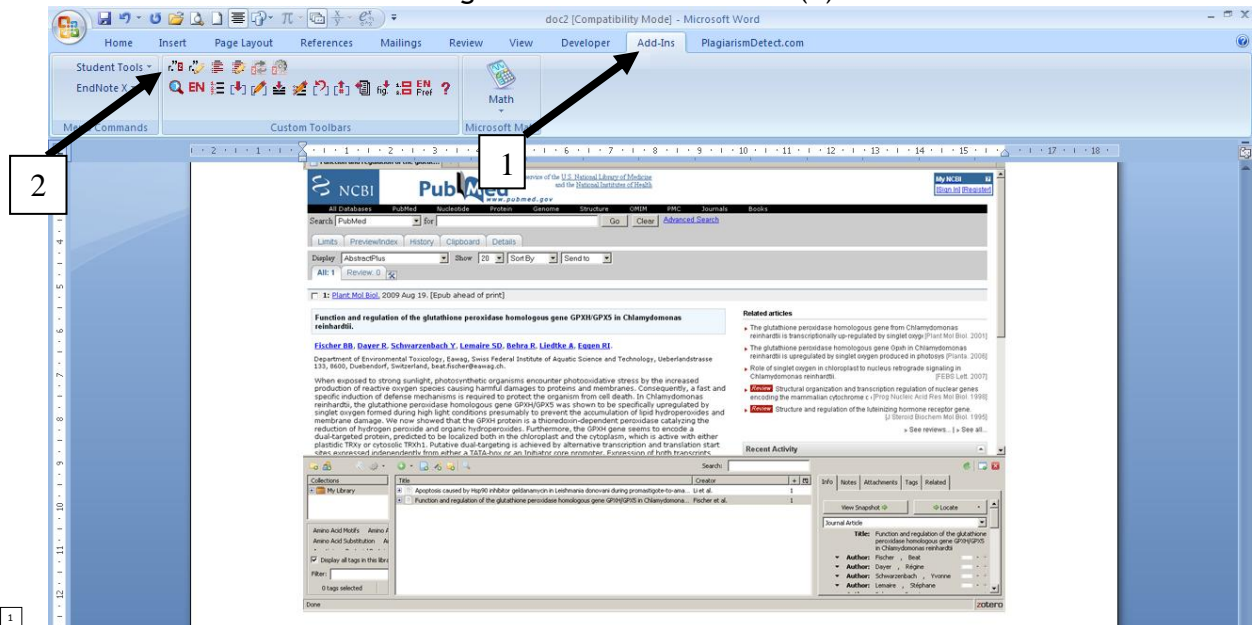
Since we installed the Beta version of the Zotero plug-in we need the latest Word 2007 plug-in, which is 1.0b4. THIS IS IMPORTANT! The connection between Word 2007 and the 2.0 version of Zotero only works with this plug-in, not with any previous versions!!!!

Scroll down to almost the end of the page from where you can download the correct installer file.

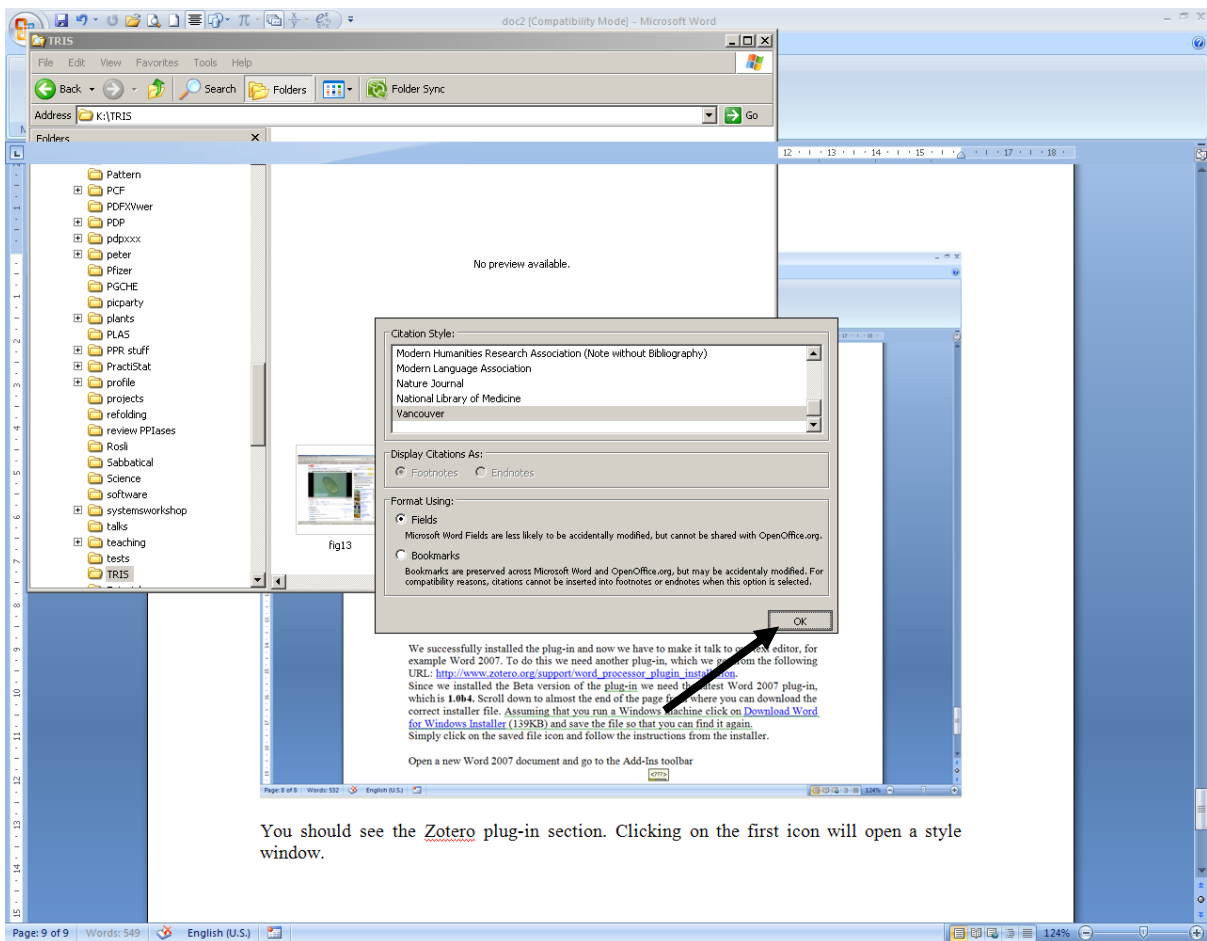


Assuming that you run a Windows machine click on [Download Word for Windows Installer \(139KB\)](#) and save the file so that you can find it again. Simply click on the saved file icon and follow the instructions from the installer.

Open a new Word 2007 document and go to the Add-Ins toolbar (1).

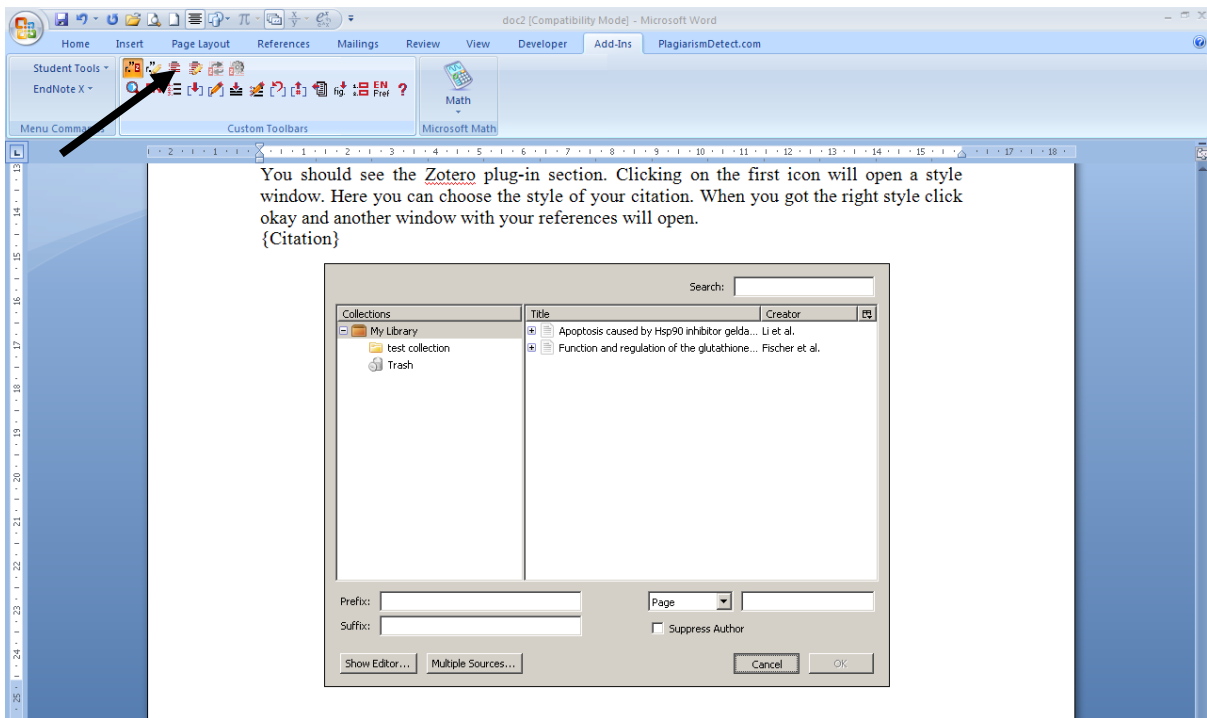


You should see the Zotero plug-in section (2). Clicking on the first icon will open a style window. Here you can choose the style of your citation.



You should see the Zotero plug-in section. Clicking on the first icon will open a style window.

When you got the right style click 'OK' and another window with your references will open. Simply highlight the reference that you want to insert and click 'OK'. The reference will be inserted at the cursor position, in the style that you have chosen before - it looks than like this (1).



When you're done click on the third icon: 'Zotero Insert Bibliography'.

At the end of your document your reference will now be shown as:

1. Li Q, Zhou Y, Yao C, Ma X, Wang L, Xu W, et al. Apoptosis caused by Hsp90 inhibitor geldanamycin in *Leishmania donovani* during promastigote-to-amastigote transformation stage [Internet]. *Parasitol. Res.* 2009 Aug 19;[cited 2009 Aug 20] Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19690889>

I think this is an absolutely great tool, which probably makes ReferenceManager and Endnote more or less obsolete (at least for the average user).

**Rating: 5/5**