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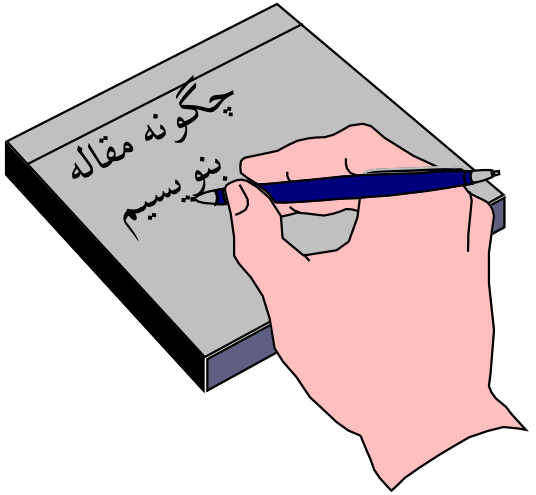

دکتر مرتضی قوجازاده

Ghojazadehm@tbzmed.ac.ir

Authorship and contributorship: ethical issues and overcoming problems

Contributing to excellence in biomedicine by advanced science editing

Organisations concerned with authorship problems

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COPE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION ETHICS

Council of Science Editors

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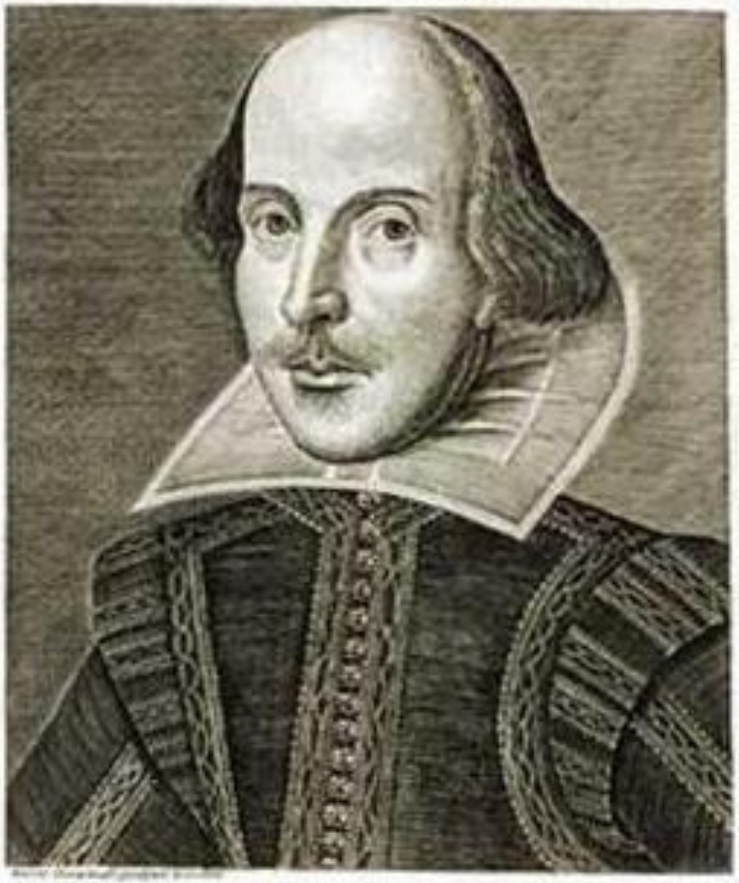


LONDON
Printed by Isaac Iaggard, and Ed. Blount. 1623

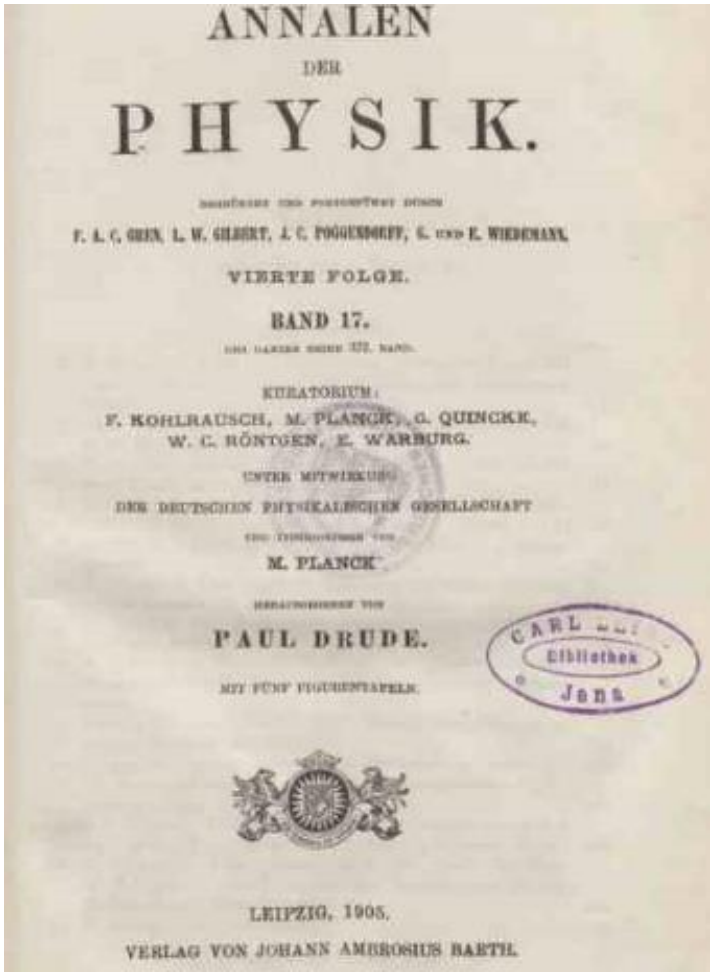
Oxford, Bacon, Derby, and Marlowe

Handling evidence in history: the case of Einstein's wife

Alberto A. Martínez

Historical claims in science need to be inspected carefully, just as when testing hypotheses

- **An online site, 75% of people polled believe that Einstein's wife, Mileva Maric, contributed to his works of 1905 (Annus Mirabilis' 4 papers published in *Annalen der Physik*)**
- **Nobel Prize in Physics in 1922**
- **Foundation of modern physics**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MIT FÜNF FIGURENTAFELN.
LEIPZIG, 1905.
VERLAG VON JOHANN AMBROSIUS BARTH.

Who are the authors

1. **Those who provide substantial contributions to conception and design, data acquisition, or analysis and interpretation of data**
2. **Those who involved in document drafting or provide critical review for important intellectual content**
3. **Give final approval of publication**

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http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html

First Measurement of Chiral Dynamics in $\pi^{-}\gamma \to \pi^{-}\pi^{-}\pi^{+}$.

Adolph C, Alekseev MG, Alexakhin VY, Alexandrov Y, Alexeev GD, Amoroso A, Antonov AA, Austregesilo A, Badełek B, Balestra F, Barth J, Baum G, Bedfer Y, Bernhard J, Bertini R, Bettinelli M, Bicker KA, Birsa R, Bisplinghoff J, Bordalo P, Bradamante F, Braun C, Bravar A, Bressan A, Burtin E, Chaberny D, Chiosso M, Chung SU, Cicuttin A, Crespo ML, Dalla Torre S, Das S, Dasgupta SS, Denisov OY, Dhara L, Donskov SV, Doshita N, Duic V, Dünnweber W, Dziewiecki M, Efremov A, Elia C, Eversheim PD, Eyrich W, Faessler M, Ferrero A, Filin A, Finger M, Finger M Jr, Fischer H, Franco C, du Fresne von Hohenesche N, Friedrich JM, Garfagnini R, Gautheron F, Gavrichtchouk OP, Gazda R, Gerassimov S, Geyer R, Giorgi M, Gnesi I, Gobbo B, Goertz S, Grabmüller S, Grasso A, Grube B, Gushterski R, Guskov A, Haas F, von Harrach D, Hasegawa T, Heinsius FH, Herrmann F, Hess C, Hinterberger F, Horikawa N, Höppner Ch, d'Hose N, Huber S, Ishimoto S, Ivanov O, Ivanshin Y, Iwata T, Jahn R, Jasinski P, Jegou G, Joosten R, Kabuss E, Kang D, Ketzer B, Khaustov GV, Khokhlov YA, Kisselev Y, Klein F, Klimaszewski K, Koblitz S, Koivuniemi JH, Kolosov VN, Kondo K, Königsmann K, Konorov I, Konstantinov VF, Korzenev A, Kotzinian AM, Kouznetsov O, Krämer M, Kroumchtein ZV, Kunne F, Kurek K, Lauser L, Lednev AA, Lehmann A, Levorato S, Lichtenstadt J, Maggiora A, Magnon A, Makke N, Mallot GK, Mann A, Marchand C, Martin A, Marzec J, Massmann F, Matsuda T, Meyer W, Michigami T, Mikhailov YV, Moinester MA, Morreale A, Mutter A, Nagaytsev A, Nagel T, Nerling F, Neubert S, Neyret D, Nikolaenko VI, Nowak WD, Nunes AS, Olshevsky AG, Ostrick M, Padee A, Panknin R, Panzieri D, Parsamyan B, Paul S, Perevalova E, Pesaro G, Peshekhonov DV, Piragino G, Platchkov S, Pochodzalla J, Polak J, Polyakov VA, Pontecorvo G, Pretz J, Quintans C, Rajotte JF, Ramos S, Rapatsky V, Reicherz G, Richter A, Rocco E, Rondio E, Rossiyskaya NS, Ryabchikov DI, Samoylenko VD, Sandacz A, Sapozhnikov MG, Sarkar S, Savin IA, Sbrizzai G, Schiavon P, Schill A, Stolarski M, C, Schlüter T, Schmitt L, Schönning K, Schopferer S, Schröder W, Shevchenko OY, Siebert HW, , Teufel A, Tkatchev LG, Uhl S, Uman I, Vandenbroucke M, Virius M, Vlassov NV, Windmolders R, Wiślicki W, Wollny H, Zaremba K, Zavertyaev M, Zemlyanichkina E, Ziembicki M, Zhuravlev N, Zvyagin A; COMPASS Collaboration.

Phys Rev Lett. 2012 May 11;108(19):192001. Epub 2012 May 11.

PMID: 23003028 [PubMed - in process]

The main principle of authorship in biomedicine

- **Creativity!**

AUTHORSHIP

Who's on first?

When scientists collaborate on an experiment and a paper, it can be hard to decide who gets the credit and how much.

BY AMBER DANCE

important than what the other person did," says Kosslyn.

Who do not qualify as authors

- **Those who only secure funding for research**
- **Those who only [perform lab tests]/collect data**
- **Those who only supervise the [research] project**

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http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html

Other criteria

Authorship implies **a significant intellectual contribution to the work, some role in writing the manuscript and reviewing the final draft** of the manuscript, but authorship roles can vary. Who will be an author, and in what sequence, should be determined by the participants early in the research process, to avoid disputes and misunderstandings which can delay or prevent publication of a paper.

Other criteria

American Physical Society guidelines

authorship ... limited to ... a significant contribution to the concept, design, execution or interpretation of the research study.

All those who have made significant contributions should be offered the opportunity to be listed as authors. Other individuals who have contributed to the study should be acknowledged, but not identified as authors.

http://www.aps.org/policy/statements/02_2.cfm

Other criteria

Ecological Society of America

authorship may legitimately be claimed if researchers:

- **conceived the ideas or experimental design;**
- **participated actively in execution of the study;**
- **analyzed and interpreted the data; or**
- **wrote the manuscript**

http://esapubs.org/esapubs/ethics.htm

Unresolved issues

- **Can merely data collection or statistical analysis, or professional writing justify authorship?**
- **Should each author be familiar and able to defend entire scholarly work?**
- **Should all co-authors be equally responsible for misinformation or ethical misconduct?**
- **Should editor be held responsible for inappropriate authorship?**

First author in bylines

- **Usually junior researcher**
- **Make the greatest contribution to the work**

Equal authorship

- **Those who equally contributed to the study**
- **Usually first and second authors**
- **No clear definition**
- **May be used for academic promotion**

Rheumatol Int (2012) 32:395–402
DOI 10.1007/s00296-010-1636-6

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Elevated plasma level of HMGB1 is associated with disease activity and combined alterations with IFN-alpha and TNF-alpha in systemic lupus erythematosus

Chun-yan Ma · Yu-lian Jiao · Jie Zhang · Qing-rui Yang · Zhi-fen Zhang · Ya-juan Shen · Zi-jiang Chen · Yue-ran Zhao

Received: 30 April 2010 / Accepted: 14 November 2010 / Published online: 1 December 2010
© Springer-Verlag 2010

alpha was positively correlated with anti-Sm, ESR and CRP, while plasma IFN-alpha was inversely correlated with

C. Ma and Y. Jiao contributed equally.

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Department of Central Laboratory, Provincial Hospital Affiliated to Shandong University, 324 Jingwu Road, Jinan 250021, People's Republic of China
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Z. Zhang · Y. Shen
Department of Laboratory Medicine, Provincial Hospital Affiliated to Shandong University, 324 Jingwu Road, Jinan 250021, People's Republic of China

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(TNF) contributes t
mune diseases [4].
TNF is markedly

Last author in bylines

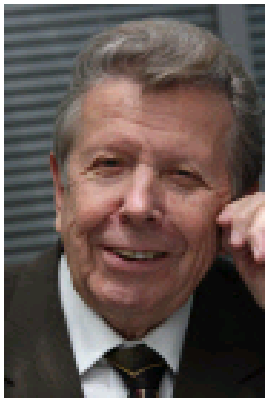
- **Usually senior researcher**
- **Head of the department, often corresponding author**
- **Guarantor of the integrity of the whole research work who guide throughout research and writing**
- **Sometimes ‘guest’ or ‘gift’ author**

Circulation. 2012 Jan 17;125(2):233-40. Epub 2011 Dec 16.

Evaluation of multiple biomarkers of cardiovascular stress for risk prediction and guiding medical therapy in patients with stable coronary disease.

Sabatine MS, Morrow DA, de Lemos JA, Omland T, Sloan S, Jarolim P, Solomon SD, Pfeffer MA, Braunwald E.

TIMI Study Group, Cardiovascular Division, Brigham and Women's Hospital, 350 Longwood Ave, Boston, MA 02115, USA. msabatine@partners.org



Nitric Oxide. 2012 Feb 1. [Epub ahead of print]

Hypotensive effect of Oxacom® containing a dinitrosyl iron complex with glutathione: Animal studies and clinical trials on healthy volunteers.

Chazov EI, Rodnenkov OV, Zorin AV, Lakomkin VL, Gramovich VV, Vyborov ON, Dragnev AG, Timoshin CA, Buryachkovskaya LI, Abramov AA, Massenko VP, Arzamastsev EV, Kapelko VI, Vanin AF.

Russian Cardiological Research and Productive Complex, Russian Ministry of Health, Moscow, Russia.

Ter Arkh. 2004;76(6):35-9.

[Ethnic differences in apolipoprotein B levels in hyperlipidemia in Russian and Kirghiz populations].

[Article in Russian]

Mirrakhimov EM, Noruzbaeva AM, Lunegova OS, Afanas'eva MI, Adamova Ilu, Pokrovskiĭ SN, Poroshchaĭ EN, Mirrakhimov MM.

Corresponding author

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- **Usually senior researcher**
- **Contact details do not change over long period of time**
- **Correspondence should include postal and electronic addresses, phone & fax**
- **Valid and active email is a must**

the current literature regarding the roles of SIRT proteins in

*Address correspondence to this author at the London Health Sciences Centre, 339 Windermere Road, London, Ontario, N6A 5A5; Tel: (519) 663-3973; Fax: (519) 434-3278; E-mail gpickering@robarts.ca

acid utilization and aerobic capacit
consequence for liver is increased
Additional control of hepatic glucor
conferred by deacetylation and nucle
head box transcription factor, Fox

1381-6128/09 $55.00+.00

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Ghost author

- **Authors who made substantive contribution to the design, execution, revisions, meet the ICMJE criteria but not listed as co-authors**
- **Representatives of pharma industry**
- **Authors' editors who are not listed in the acknowledgements (e.g. in case of editorials, reviews, rarely – original papers)**
- **Denial of fair authorship - misconduct**

Gift author

- **Authors who do not meet the ICMJE criteria but listed as co-authors**
- **Usually senior researchers, heads of the department, those who provided funding**
- **A colleague who is expected to add your name in his articles without considering your contribution**

Inappropriate authorship

BMJ

BMJ 2011;343:d6128 doi: 10.1136/bmj.d6128

RESEARCH

Honorary and ghost authorship in high impact biomedical journals: a cross sectional survey

OPEN ACCESS

Joseph S Wislar *survey research specialist, JAMA*, Annette Flanagin *managing deputy editor, JAMA*, Phil B Fontanarosa *executive editor, JAMA*, Catherine D DeAngelis *editor emerita, JAMA*

- ***Annals of Internal Medicine, JAMA, Lancet, Nature Medicine, N Engl J Med, PLoS Med***
- **Corresponding authors filled questionnaire with 30 questions about contributions of authors and unnamed authors**
- **In the full sample (n=630) the prevalence of articles with honorary authorship, ghost authorship, or both was 21.0% (95%CI 18.0-24.3%)**
- **Honorary authors for research articles 25.0%, reviews 15.0%, editorials 11.2%**

Honorary authorship in Iran

Iranian J Publ Health, Vol. 40, No.1, 2011, pp.15-21

Original Article

The Prevalence of Honorary and Ghost Authorships in Iranian Bio-Medical Journals and Its Associated Factors

*A Mirzazadeh[1, 2], *S Navadeh[1, 2], MB Rokni[3], M Farhangniya[4]*

[1]Physiology Research Centre, Kerman University of Medical Sciences, Kerman, Iran
[2]Regional Knowledge Hub for HIV/AIDS Surveillance, Kerman University of Medical Sciences, Kerman, Iran
[3]Dept. of Medical Parasitology and Mycology, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

89% in *Iranian J Publ Health, J Kerman UMS, Tehran UM J*

Guest authorship in a top Iranian journal

- **N of authors fulfilling ICMJE criteria**
- **12 issues of AIM, 2005-2007**
- **Authors/article - 3.5 in 2005, 4.1 in 2006, and 5.6 in 2007**
- **296 names evaluated: 186 (62.8%) met the criteria, 110 (37.2%) – 'guests'**

Ghajarzadeh M. Guest Authors in An Iranian Journal. Dev World Bioeth 2012 Oct 1. doi: 10.1111/dewb.12002.

Archives of Iranian Medicine

Academy of Medical Sciences, I.R. Iran

Global prevalence of honorary authorship

- **72%** in *Am J Roentgenol*

Bonekamp S, et al. AJR Am J Roentgenol 2012;198:1247-55

- **14.3%** in *pharmacy* journals, reaching **29.4%** in articles authored by more than 5 authors

Dotson B, et al. Am J Health Syst Pharm 2011;68:1730-4

Number of authors and their order

- **No regulations**
- **Multi-authorship raises suspicions over contributions**
- **Multi-authorship is time-consuming**
- **Limits of co-authors may depend on type of articles (RCT report – too many authors, reviews – 3-4, case report – 2-3, editorial – 1-2)**
- **Order is dependent on authors, their contributions and is resolved before the start**
- **Types of order: descending order of contribution, alphabetical listing and random order**

How to avoid inappropriate authorship

- ✓ **"Authors by self-regulation can comply with definitions of authorship"**
- ✓ **"Journals [editors] can outline the requirements for authorship and require a list of author contributions"**
- ✓ **"Institutions can educate and encourage good publication practices"**

Learned Publishing, 25: 83–85
doi:10.1087/20120201

That the collaborations of today's team-structured, multidisciplinary, and international science yield substantial benefits for scientific advancement is widely acknowledged. Not surprisingly, however, the Law of Unintended Consequences rears its devilish head. Among its outcomes are complexi

Authorship disputes: me first, me equally, me too, not me

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We would like to state that

1. The design and conduct of the work was performed by all the authors,

2. The manuscript has been written, read, and approved by all the authors,

3. The material has not been previously published, in whole or in part, and it also is not under consideration for publication elsewhere,

4. We acknowledge acceptance of page charges,

For Peer Re

Vasculitis, left bundle branch block, and Raynaud's phenomenon as a manifestation of familial Mediterranean fever

Giuseppe Cocco

Cardiology Office, POB 119, Marktgasse 10A, CH-4310 Rheinfelden 1, Switzerland

Submitted: 27 November 2008
Accepted: 3 January 2009

Arch Med Sci 2008; 4, 4: 460–464
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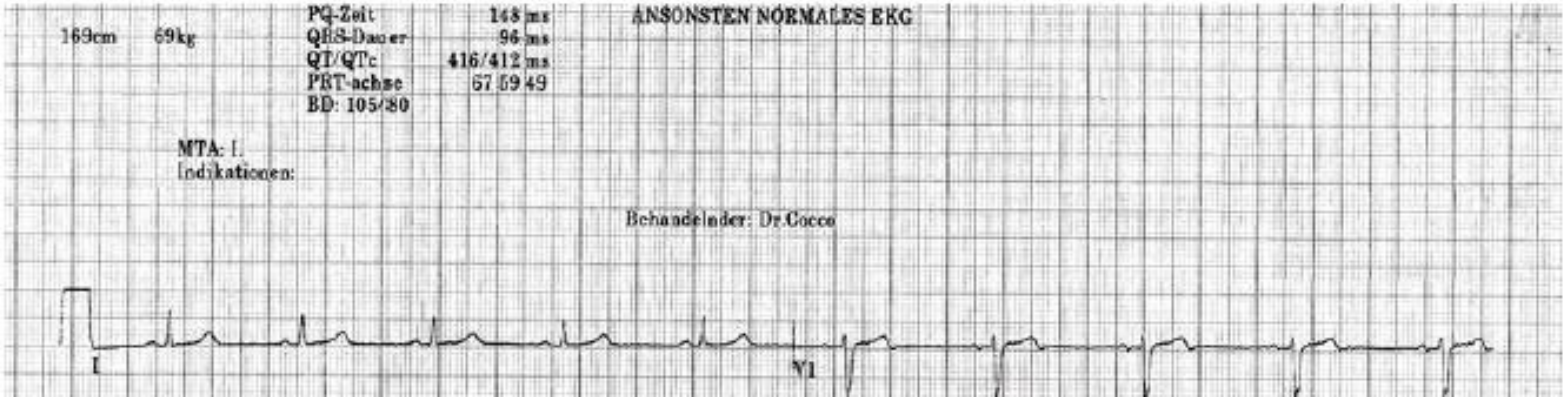
Fax: +41 61 833 97 56
E-mail: praxis@cocco.ch

MF.

contribute to the occurrence of both vasculitis and Raynaud's phenomenon. Importantly, in this case colchicine was used without concomitant administration of steroids or immunosuppressive agents, and a good response was achieved,

Acknowledgments

The author is grateful to Dr. Armen Yuri Gasparyan, MD, PhD, for editorial assistance and professional comments.



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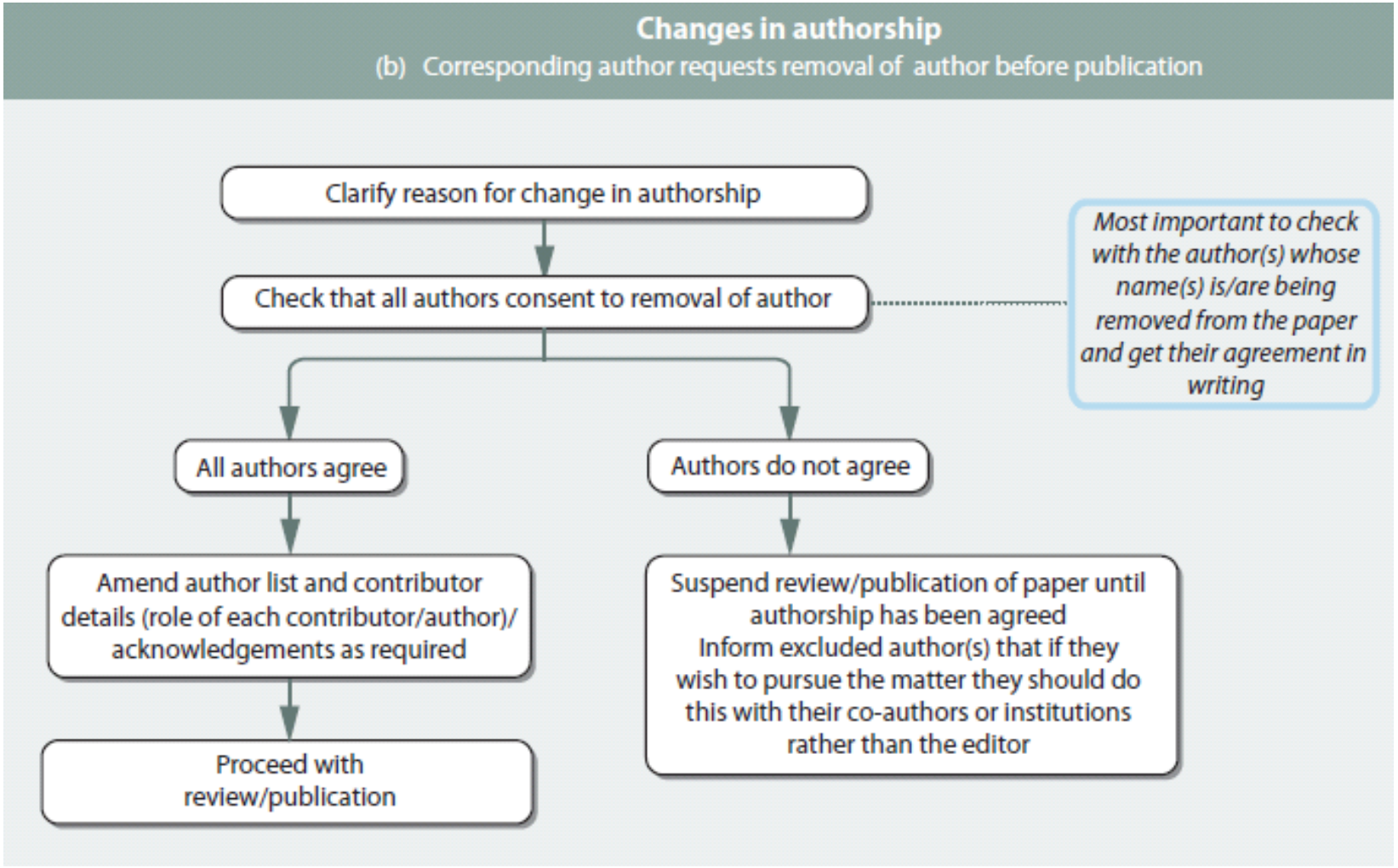

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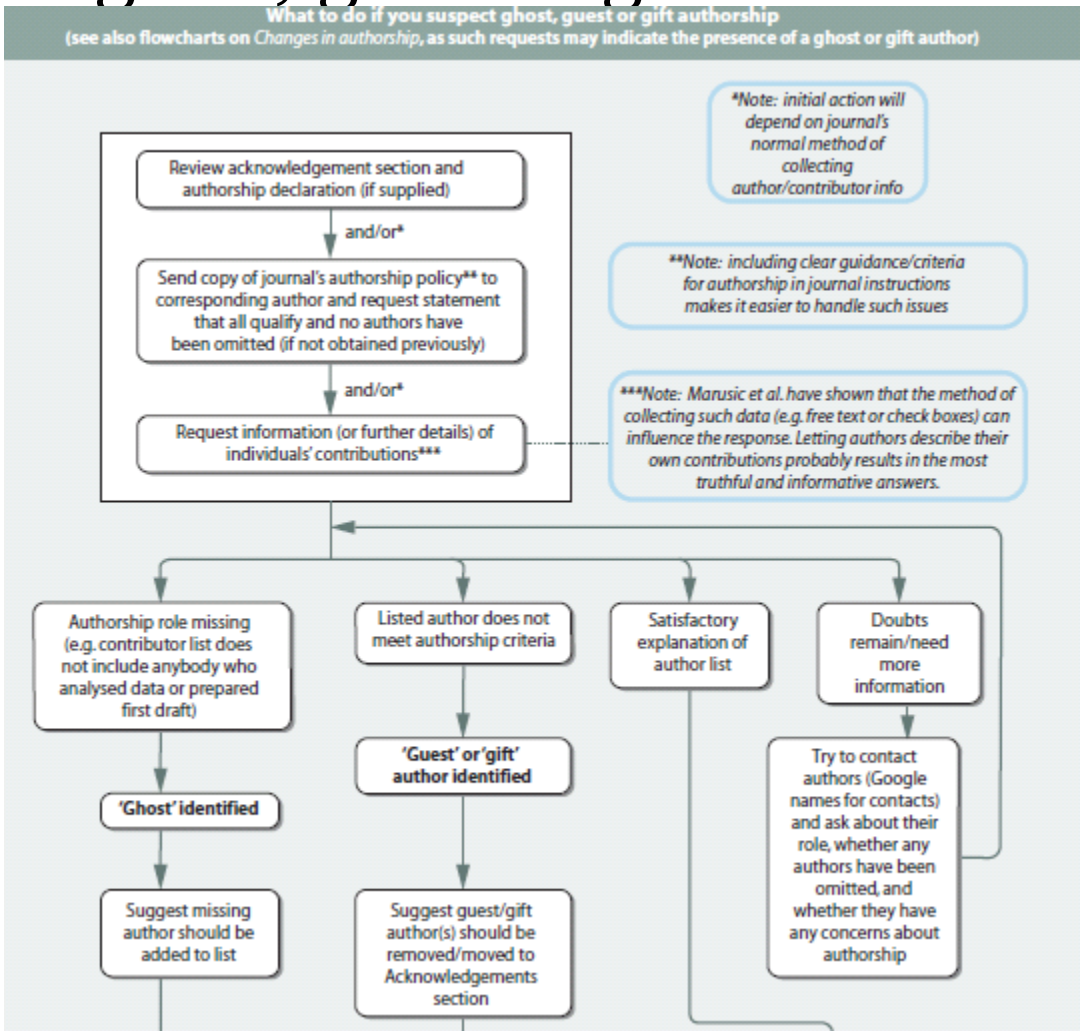

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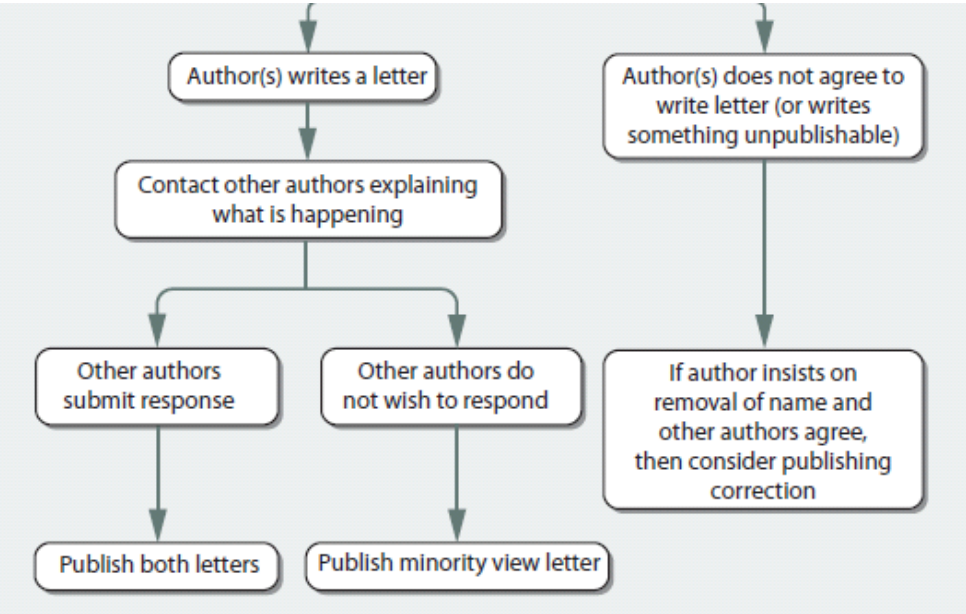

http://publicationethics.org/files/u2/04D_Author_Remove_Published.pdf

Authorship problems

- **How to spot authorship problems**

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- Document properties show the manuscript was drafted by someone not on the author list or properly acknowledged (*but see above*)
- Impossibly prolific author e.g. of review articles / opinion pieces (check also for redundant / overlapping publication) (*this may be detected by a Medline or Google search using the author's name*)
- Several similar review articles / editorials / opinion pieces have been published under different author names (*this may be detected by a Medline or Google search using the article title or key words*)
- Role missing from list of contributors (e.g. it appears that none of the named authors were responsible for analysing the data or drafting the paper)
- Unfeasibly long or short author list (e.g. a simple case report with a dozen authors or a randomized trial with a single author)
- Industry-funded study with no authors from sponsor company (*this may be legitimate, but may also mean deserving authors have been omitted; reviewing the protocol may help determine the role of employees -- see Gøtzsche* et al. *and commentary by Wager*)

Long and short authors lists

Clin Rheumatol. 2007 Dec;26(12):2059-62. Epub 2007 Apr 6.

Accurate diagnosis of acute abdomen in FMF and acute appendicitis patients: how can we use procalcitonin?

Kisacik B, Kalyoncu U, Erol MF, Karadag O, Yildiz M, Akdogan A, Kaptanoglu B, Hayran M, Ureten K, Ertenli I, Kiraz S, Calguneri M.

Division of Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey. bunyamin_k@hotmail.com

Abstract

This study was conducted to define the value of procalcitonin (PCT) levels in the differential diagnosis of abdominal familial Mediterranean fever (FMF) attacks from acute appendicitis. From October 2006 to January 2007, 28 FMF (12 males, 16

Rheumatol Int. 2009 Sep;29(11):1307-9. Epub 2009 Jan 20.

Increased frequency of familial Mediterranean fever in northern Turkey: a population-based study.

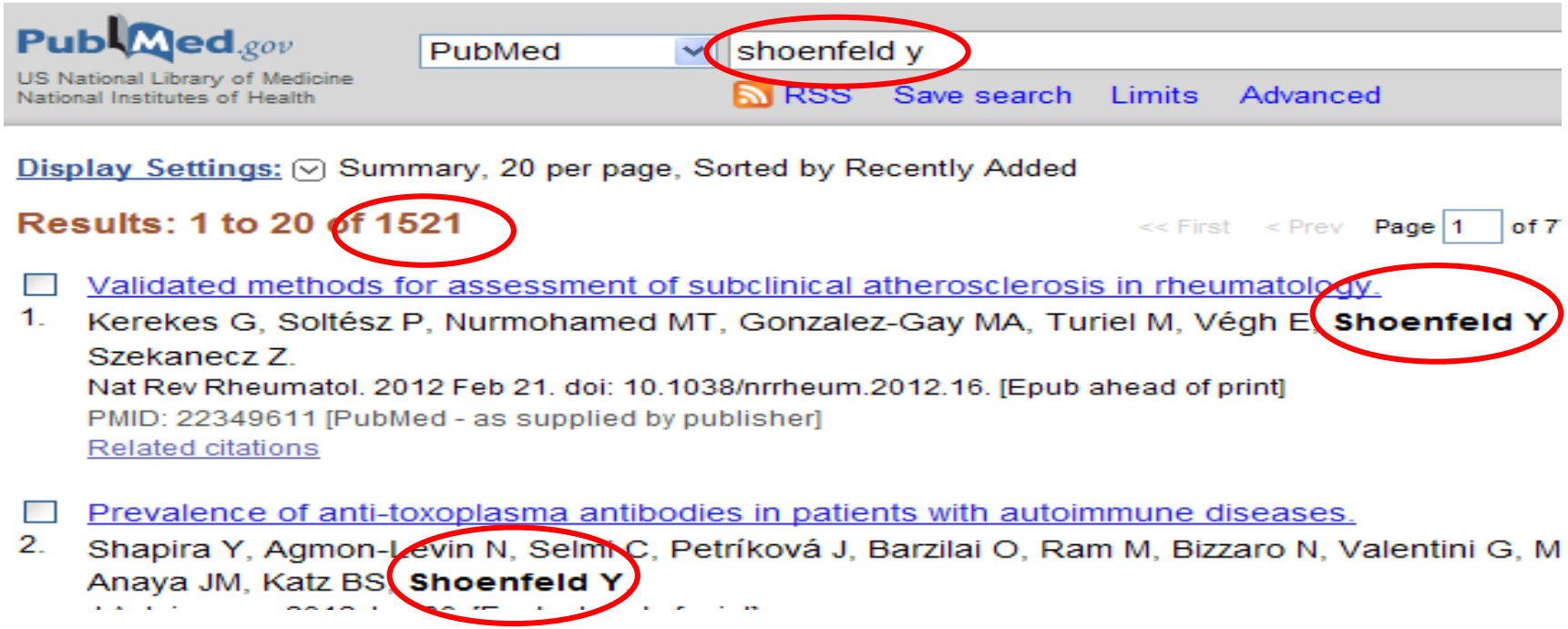
Kisacik B, Yildirim B, Tasliyurt T, Ozyurt H, Ozyurt B, Yuce S, Kaya S, Ertenli I, Kiraz S.

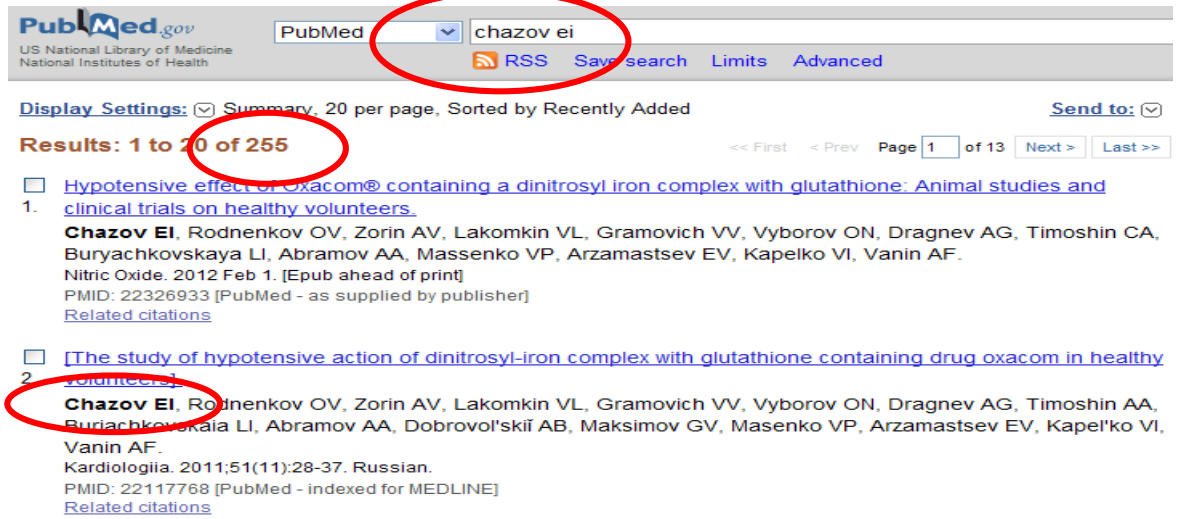
Division of Rheumatology, Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Gaziosmanpasa University, Tokat, Turkey. bunyamin_k@hotmail.cor

Abstract

Familial Mediterranean fever (FMF) is a systemic relapsing autoinflammatory disorder occurring in populations originating from the Mediterranean basin, mainly Turks, Levantine Arabs, Sephardic Jews, Druze, and Armenians. The prevalence of FMF shows considerable geographical variation. In Turkey, the prevalence rates were reported as 0.0027-0.25%. This field survey was conducted in different regions to investigate the frequency of FMF in a northern province of Turkey. This study was conducted in 70 areas (12 urban and 58 rural) in the province of Tokat, which is in northern Turkey. The population of Tokat was reported to be 828,000 at the last census in Turkey in 2000, about 530,000 for individuals aged >18 years

Tracking ‘guest’ and ‘gift’ authors





Contributions statement

- **Most journals have this section**
- **Each and every author's contributions should be mentioned in detail**

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The Journal of the Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists

Editor-in-chief:
Assist. Prof. Ana-Maria Simundic, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital Center, Zagreb, Croatia

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- manuscript is not previously published in the same or very similar form in other journal;
- manuscript is not currently under consideration in other journals.

Date (dd/mm/yyyy):

Corresponding author's signature

Behçet's disease: an update on pathogenesis, diagnosis and management of vascular involvement

Phaedon G. Kaklamanis,[1]
Kenneth T. Calamia[2]

[1]Emeritus Professor of Internal Medicine, Athens Medical Center, Greece;
[2]Associate Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL, USA

Abstract

The objective of this review is to summarize reports of the prevalence, clinical presentation, diagnostic methodology and treatment of vasculitic manifestations of Behçet's disease (BD). We performed a literature search on vasculitis in BD. Articles were selected which provided insight into the pathogenesis and clinical aspects of vasculitis. Vasculitis underlies

with cutaneous, musculoskeletal, vascular and nervous system manifestations.[1] The etiopathogenesis of the disease remains obscure, although genetic predisposition, environmental factors and immunological abnormalities have been implicated.[2,3] It has recently been proposed that BD is an autoinflammatory disorder,[4] although there is no consensus.[5] People from the Far East, the Middle East and the Mediterranean basin are more commonly affected than those from other parts of the world.[6] In Northern Europe, Central Africa and the United States the disease is infrequent.[7] All ages may be affected, although the frequency is higher in persons in the 3rd or 4th decade. The sex predominance varies widely among the diseased population in different geographical areas.[6,7] Earlier studies suggested a male predominance in high prevalence areas, but more recent surveys indicate equal involvement of the sexes. In Western countries, females predominate.

Behçet's disease is included in the wide spectrum of vasculitides.[8] Vasculitis is a principal pathological finding in BD and vessels of all sizes are involved, both in arterial and

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Key words: Behçet's disease, vasculitis, venous thrombosis, arterial aneurysm, endothelial dysfunction, immunosuppressive agents, corticosteroids.

Contributions: PK and KC are both responsible for and contributed to study conception and design, and acquisition, analysis and interpretation of data. Both authors contributed to the drafting of the article and revised it critically for important intellectual content. Both authors are responsible for the final version to be published.

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Rheumatology Reports 2010; 2:e2

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Premature Cardiovascular Disease in Patients With Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Influences Survival After Renal Transplantation

Gudrun E. Norby, Torbjørn Leivestad, Geir Mjøen, Anders Hartmann, Karsten Midtvedt, Jan T. Gran, and Hallvard Holdaas

WILEY ONLINE LIBRARY Arthritis & Rheumatism
Volume 63, Issue 3, Article first published online: 25 FEB 2011
Abstract | Full Article (HTML) | References | Cited By

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors were involved in drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, and all authors approved the final version to be published. Dr. Norby had full access to all of the data in the study and takes responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis.

Study conception and design. Norby, Hartmann, Leivestad, Holdaas.

Acquisition of data. Norby, Leivestad, Holdaas.

Analysis and interpretation of data. Norby, Leivestad, Mjøen, Hartmann, Midtvedt, Gran, Holdaas.

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List of authors, i.e. all people who contributed substantially to study planning, data collection or interpretation of results **and** wrote or critically revised the manuscript **and** approved its final version (ICMJE 2010). The authors listed first should be those who did most. Names of authors must be supplemented with their **affiliations** (during the study) and the **present address** of an author for correspondence. E-mail addresses of all authors should be provided, so th they can be contacted easily.

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☐ **All people who are not listed as authors but contributed substantially to the study reported in this MS or assisted in its writing (e.g. language professionals) are mentioned in the acknowledgements.**

☐ **All people named in the acknowledgements have agreed to this. However, they are not responsible for the final version of this MS.**

Authorship

☐ **All people listed as authors of this MS meet the authorship criteria, i.e. they contributed substantially to study planning, data collection or interpretation of results *and* wrote or critically revised the MS *and* will be asked to approve the final version before publication.**

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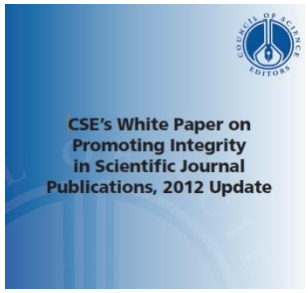
EASE Guidelines for Authors and Translators of Scientific Articles to Be Published in English

June 2011



2.1.9 Addressing Authorship Disputes

Editors are responsible for promoting the integrity of the literature and fostering good publication practices. Journals should develop and define authorship or contributorship criteria to minimize confusion about expectations (see section 2.2). Authorship disputes persist despite the current common efforts to make authorship or contributorship transparent. Examples include the "honorary" listing of a person who does not meet authorship criteria, submission

2.2 Authorship and Authorship Responsibilities

Trust is fundamental to scientific communication: trust that the authors have accurately reported their methods and findings, trust that authors have disclosed all potential conflicts of interest, and trust that editors have exercised sufficient diligence to ensure accurate reporting and disclosure by authors. Unfortunately, problems

by which entity(ies). It is unacceptable to neglect to identify such individuals. Other contributions that alone do not justify authorship include: assisting the research by providing advice, providing research space, departmental oversight, obtaining financial support, isolated analyses, or providing reagents/patients/animals/other study materials.

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- Conflict of Interest in Peer-Reviewed Medical Journals
- Definition of a Peer-Reviewed Journal
- Authorship

Authorship

Posted January 10, 2007

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Order of Authorship. The authors themselves should decide the order in which authors are listed in an article.

based (for example, to the research question, design, analysis, interpretation, and written description) should be an author. It is dishonest to omit mention of someone who has participated in writing the manuscript ("ghost authorship") and unfair to omit investigator who have had important engagement with other aspects of the work. (See the WAME policy statement,

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http://publicationethics.org/files/Research_institutions_guidelines_final.pdf

Singapore Statement on Research Integrity

2ND WORLD CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH INTEGRITY

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Professional courtesy and fairness in working with others

Good stewardship of research on behalf of others

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7. Publication Acknowledgement: Researchers should acknowledge in publications the names and roles of those who made significant contributions to the research, including writers, funders, sponsors, and others, but do not meet authorship criteria.

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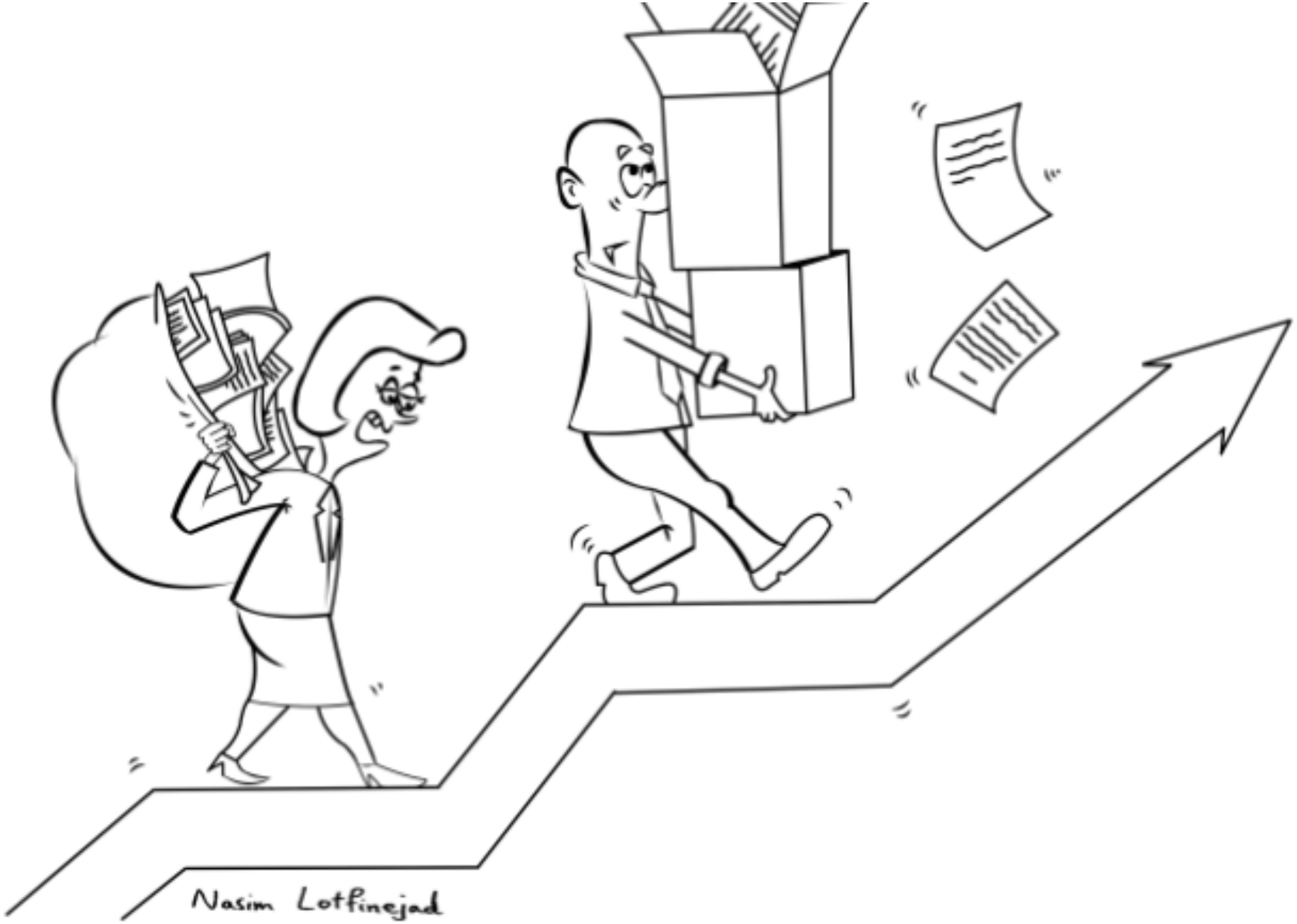

Each author should take responsibility for a specific part of the work.

Authorship *vs.* contributorship

Authorship is dying: long live contributorship

The BMJ will publish lists of contributors and guarantors to original articles

In moving from authors to contributors and guarantors we are entering a new era, and it seems wise not to be too prescriptive. We need to learn from experience and adapt the new system. We look forward to working with contributors to improve both the credit and the accountability of published research.

Richard Smith *Editor, BMJ*

BMJ VOLUME 315 20 SEPTEMBER 1997

HONORARY AND GHOST AUTHORSHIP

Let's simply scrap authorship and move to contributorship

Why do science journals stick to authorship rather than moving wholesale to contributorship?[1]

These days science is rarely undertaken by individuals. Most research is conducted by teams, often large teams with people with very different skills. A binary division into authors and non-authors is bound to be arbitrary and to cause problems, as a recent systematic

Cite this as: BMJ 2012;344:e157

Contributorship

- ✓**The current ICMJE guidance is a farce.**
- ✓**Most authors do not meet the ICMJE guidance.**
- ✓**Include as an author each person who contributed to any of the items listed by the ICMJE.**
- ✓**Plus - each author's role clearly state in a contributorship statement.**

Abbasi K. End the farce; a new approach to authorship. J R Soc Med 2012;105(9):361.

Authorship index

- ✓ **Points for certain activities are awarded:**

1. **Intellectual input (planning/designing/interpreting) – maximum 25**
2. **Practical input: data-capture - 25**
3. **Practical input: data processing/organizing - 10**
4. **Specialist input from related fields - 15**
5. **Literary input (first complete draft of manuscript) - 25**

- ✓ **Passing a threshold score (25 out of 100 points) guarantees authorship**
- ✓ **Place in the bylines is based on scores**

Hunt R. Trying an authorship index. Nature 1991;352:187

Authorship index and the bylines

- ✓ **Points for certain activities are awarded up to 1.0**
- ✓ **Contributions should be given in the bylines after the authors' names:**

Author A(0.4), B (0.3), C (0.2), D (0.1)

Authorship points

- **1,000-point system**
- **The whole idea - 250 points**
- **Writing the whole paper - 250 points**
- **Full design, running experiments and analysing the data – 500 points**
- **Researchers who score 100 points make the author list, with each person's point total determining their rank**

Stephen Kosslyn, Stanford Uni, CA, USA

Nature. 2012 Sep 27;489(7417):591-3.

Authorship: Who's on first?

Dance A.

PMID: 23025001 [PubMed - in process]

Rheumatol Int
DOI 10.1007/s00296-012-2582-2

REVIEW

Authorship problems in scholarly journals: considerations for authors, peer reviewers and editors

Armen Yuri Gasparyan · Lilit Ayvazyan · George D. Kitas

Table 1 Options to ensure fair and appropriate authorship

Responsible persons/bodies	Measures
Research institutions	Implement relevant educational courses, set a policy and discourage inappropriate authorship
Authors	Familiarise with available authorship guidelines and journal instructions for authors; agree on the responsibilities, order and place of listing co-authors early at the start of research. Avoid misconduct and unfair authorship by self-regulation
Reviewers	Familiarise with available guidelines, report suspected authorship to editors
Editors	Stick to authorship criteria and journal instructions, obtain author contributions statements, resolve disputes by cooperating with authors or research institutions
Publishers	Ensure proper guidance and interpretation of authorship in instructions for authors; adopt field-specific recommendations of learned associations
Learned associations	Develop and update policy statements and authorship criteria

Table 2 Essential editorial policy statements and criteria on authorship

Source	Society, date	Main messages/comment
Ethical Considerations in the Conduct and Reporting of Research: Authorship and Contributorship	ICMJE, 2009	Widely promoted authorship criteria for biomedical journals. The interpretation of the criteria may vary across the journals. Minimal and substantive contributions are not defined, and order of listing authors is not explained
Guidelines for Authors and Translators of Scientific Articles to be Published in English	EASE, 2011	First authors are those who contribute most. Those who contribute substantially but do not meet authorship criteria should be acknowledged. Listing contributors without their agreement is ethically unacceptable
CSE's White Paper on Promoting Integrity in Scientific Journal Publications	CSE, 2012	A comprehensive editorial policy document stressing out, among many other points, the importance of defining authorship or contributorship in a journal's Instructions for Authors and settling authorship disputes by editors in cooperation with corresponding authors and research institutions. Authorship bears responsibility for integrity of the work. Each co-author in multiauthor articles should be responsible for specific part of the work and aware of other co-authors' contributions
A position statement developed at the 2nd World Conference on Research Integrity, Singapore, 2010	COPE, 2011	Journals should adopt an authorship policy relevant to their field of science. Instructions for authors should guide on what constitutes authorship. For multiauthor articles, each author should take responsibility for a certain part of the work; all authors should contribute significantly to and be familiar with the entire paper. Contributions should be disclosed in a separate statement. Settling authorship disputes is the prime responsibility of authors
Algorithms on common publishing ethics problems	COPE, 2008	Flowcharts guide on how to resolve authorship disputes (addition and removal of authors before and after publication), how to spot authorship problems and what to do when ghost, guest or gift authorship is suspected
Policy statements	WAME, 2007	A scholarly journal's authorship policy should be transparent and accessible. Ghost and guest authorships are dishonest acts. Editors can require limit number of authors, if not all authors satisfy the criteria. Order of authors should be decided by authors themselves