

The ICMJE recommends that authorship be based on the following 4 criteria:

- ✓ Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- ✓ Drafting the work or reviewing it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- ✓ **Final approval** of the version to be published; AND
- ✓ Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Non-Author Contributors

Contributors who meet fewer than all 4 of the above criteria for authorship should not be listed as authors, but they should be acknowledged. Examples of activities that alone (without other contributions) do not qualify a contributor for authorship are acquisition of funding; general supervision of a research group or general administrative support; and writing assistance, technical editing, language editing, and proofreading. Those whose contributions do not justify authorship may be acknowledged individually or together as a group under a single heading (e.g. "Clinical Investigators" or "Participating Investigators"), and their contributions should be specified (e.g., "served as scientific advisors," "critically reviewed the study proposal," "collected data," "provided and cared for study patients," "participated in writing or technical editing of the manuscript").

Because acknowledgment may imply endorsement by acknowledged individuals of a study's data and conclusions, editors are advised to require that the corresponding author obtain written permission to be acknowledged from all acknowledged individuals.

Sequence of Authorship

1. The first author will be the person who contributed most to the work, including writing the manuscript.
2. The sequence of authors will be determined by the relative overall contributions to the manuscript.
3. The senior author, meeting all criteria for authorship, usually appears last in the authorship list. But if the senior author/supervisor is writing the paper/manuscript then S/He could become a corresponding author.
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3010799/>

Authorship removal:

The corresponding author/supervisor can request the removal/replacement of any author. The editor will contact all authors and will decide further. <https://publicationethics.org/authorship>

Acknowledgement

The acknowledgment section includes contributors who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Medical Writers; Financial and material support should also be acknowledged.

Groups of persons who have contributed materially to the paper but whose contributions do not justify authorship may be listed under a heading such as 'clinical investigators' or 'participating investigators,' and their function or contribution should be described-for example, 'served as scientific advisors,' 'critically reviewed the study proposal,' 'collected data,' or 'provided and cared for study patients.'