# AUTHORSHIP AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# LECTURE OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Authorship
  - criteria
  - corresponding author
  - group authors & collaborators
- Acknowledgements
- Summary



# INTRODUCTION

- Requirements for authorship
- Important document by
  International Committee of
  Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)
  [previously AKA "Vancouver
  group"]

#### INTRODUCTION

# **ICMJE**

- Current membership
  - 11 journals (Annals Intern Med, BMJ, Chinese Med J, JAMA, Dutch Med J, NEJM, New Zealand Med J, Lancet, Revista Medica de Chile, J Norwegian Med Assoc, J Danish Med J)

# **INTRODUCTION**

#### **ICMJE**

- Revisions panel (August 2013)
  - 11 member journals
  - US National Library of Medicine
  - World Association of Medical Journal Editors (WAME)





# General principles

- All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship
- All those who qualify as authors should be listed



# **AUTHORSHIP**

# General principles

- Each author should have
  - <u>participated sufficiently</u> in the work
  - to take <u>public responsibility</u> for the contents



# **AUTHORSHIP**

# Authorship contributions

- Authors may be asked to provide description of each one's role
- Author contribution declaration
  - recommended for journals to publish this information





# **AUTHORSHIP**

# ICMJE criteria (2010 version)

The ICJME has recommended the following criteria for authorship: these criteria are still appropriate for journals that distinguish authors from other contributors.

• Authorship credit should be based on 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3.



# **AUTHORSHIP**

# ICMJE criteria (2010 version)

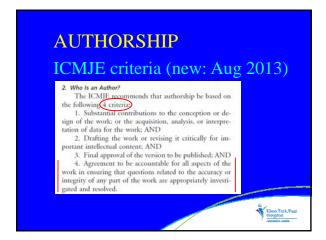
- All 3 criteria must be met
- 1. Substantial contributions to
  - study conception and design or
  - acquisition of data or
  - analysis and interpretation of data



ICMJE criteria (2010 version)

- 2. Drafting the article and revising it critically for important intellectual content
- 3. Final approval of the version to be published





#### **AUTHORSHIP**

ICMJE criteria (new: Aug 2013)

- 4. Each author agrees to
  - be accountable for <u>all aspects of the work</u> in ensuring that questions related to the <u>accuracy and integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved</u>

# **AUTHORSHIP**

ICMJE criteria (new: Aug 2013)

New item 4

• Addresses situations in which individual authors have responded to inquiries regarding scientific misconduct involving some aspect of the study by denying responsibility

# **AUTHORSHIP**

ICMJE criteria (new: Aug 2013)

New item 4

- Each author needs to
  - understand the full scope of work
  - know which coauthors are responsible for specific contributions
  - have confidence in coauthors' ability and integrity

# **AUTHORSHIP**

ICMJE criteria (new: Aug 2013)

New item 4

- If any questions arise regarding the study, onus on all authors to investigate and ensure resolution of issue
- Author has to accept that any problem related to paper is his problem



ICMJE criteria (new: Aug 2013)

New item 4

- Balances credit with responsibility
- Establishes expectation that editors may engage all authors in helping to determine integrity of the work
- In short: emphasizes accountability



# **AUTHORSHIP**

Authorship not justified for

- Contributors who do not meet the 4 criteria for authorship
- Consider placing them under the "Acknowledgements" section



#### **AUTHORSHIP**

Corresponding author

- Recommendations (2013)
  - new section detailing the role and responsibilities has been added
  - term "guarantor" has been dropped



# **AUTHORSHIP**

Uniform requirements (2010)

Some journals now also request that one or more as those, referred to a "guestness" be identified as the per sons who take responsibility for the integrity of the work a a whole, from inception to published article, and publish that information.

Increasingly, authorship of multicenter trials is attrib uted to a group. All members of the group who are name as authors should fully meet the above criteria for author ship/contents.

The group should jointly make decisions about contributors/authors before submitting the manuscript publication. The <u>contropolition</u> author/grazunar should be prepared to explain the presence and order of these individuals. It is not the role of editors to make authorship contributorship decisions or to arbitrate conflicts related to authorship.



# **AUTHORSHIP**

ICMJE Recommendations (2013)

The corresponding atthet takes primary responsibility for communication with the journal during the manuscript submission, peer review, and publication process, and type sally ensures that all the journal's administrative requirements, such as providing details of authorship, ethics committee approved, clinical trial epistration documentation, and gathering conflict of interest forms and statements, are properly completed, although these duties may be deligated to one or more countrion. The corresponding authorhould be available throughout the submission and per review process to respond to editorial queries in a timely way, and should be available after publication to respond you are submissionally the control of the submission and per review process to respond to editorial queries in a timely queries of the available after publication. Although the corresponding author has primary responsibility for correspondence with the journal he ICME recommend that editors send copies of all correspondence to all listed authors.



# **AUTHORSHIP**

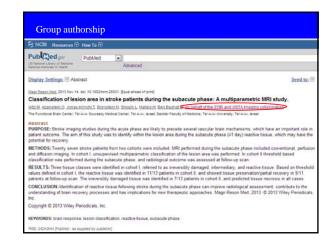
Corresponding author

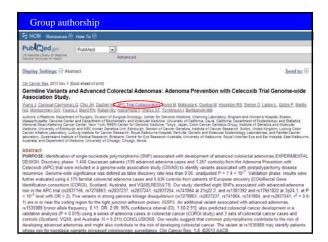
- Takes primary responsibility for communication with journal including administrative matters
- Available to respond to queries and critiques post-publication, including provision of data



# Group authorship

- Becoming increasingly common
- Many variations in how individual authors and research group names are listed in the paper's bylines





# **AUTHORSHIP**

# Group authorship

- All authors still need to meet criteria for authorship, regardless of byline format
- Additional role of corresponding author: identify authors and nonauthors

# **AUTHORSHIP**

# Group authorship

When a large multi-author group has conducted the work, the group ideally should decide who will be an author before the work is started and confirm who is an author before submitting the manuscript for publication. All members of the group named as authors should meet all four criteria for authorship, including approval of the final manuscript, and they should be able to take public responsibility for the work and should have full confidence in the accuracy and integrity of the work of other group authors. They will also be expected as individuals to complete conflict-of-interest disclosure forms.

ICMJE Recommendations: August 2013

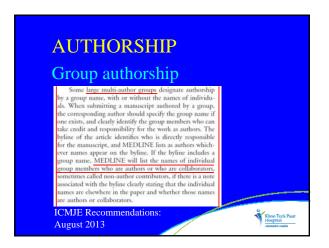


# **AUTHORSHIP**

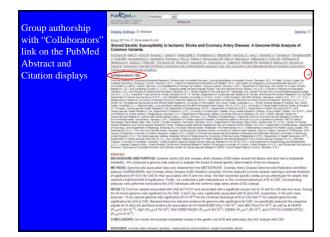
# Group authorship

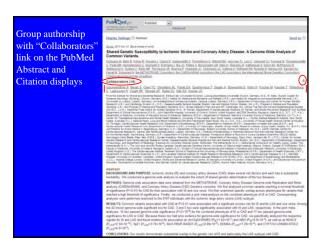
ICMJE Recommendations (2013)

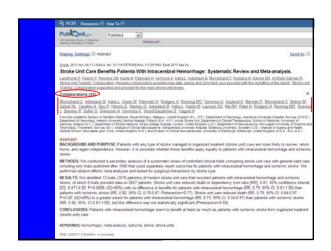
- National Library of Medicine
  - will index individual authors or collaborators
  - <u>provided</u> that there is a note indicating that the individual roles are listed elsewhere



# CONTRIBUTORSHIP ICMJE Recommendations (2013) • Introduces term "collaborators" • "sometimes called non-author contributors" (confusing) • members of a research group who have not met criteria for authorship but will be listed in MEDLINE









# **CONTRIBUTORSHIP**

Non-author contributors

# Examples

- Acquisition of funding
- General administrative support
- Writing assistance, technical editing, language editing & proofreading



# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

# General principles

• Contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship



#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

State specific contribution

- Clinical investigator
- Scientific advisor
- Collected data
- Provided and cared for patients



# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

General principles

- Also acknowledge
  - financial support
  - material support
  - grant-awarding bodies



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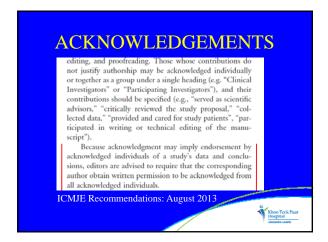
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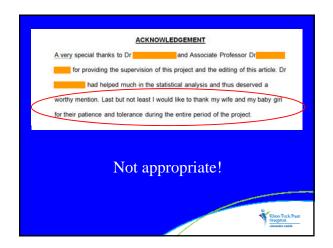
# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

State specific contribution

- Persons who are acknowledged
  - should give written permission
  - otherwise their endorsement may be inferred







# **SUMMARY**

Authorship and acknowledgements

- Criteria for authorship should be met
- Others consider listing under the acknowledgements section



# **SUMMARY**

Authorship and acknowledgements

- Significant changes in the new ICMJE Recommendations (2013)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> criteria, corresponding authors, group authors and collaborators
  - authors and editors need to be familiar with this document

