



SUNY Upstate Medical University Suggested Policies on Authorship and Contributorship

Based upon and excerpted from recommendations from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors: http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html

An “author” is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. An author must take responsibility for at least one component of the work, should be able to identify who is responsible for each other component, and should ideally be confident in their co-authors’ ability and integrity. Some journals now request and publish information about the contributions of each person named as having participated in a submitted study, at least for original research. Obviously all listed authors should be notified of their inclusion as an author and should agree to being an author, preferably in writing.

UMU recommends the following criteria for authorship:

Authorship credit should be based on any or all of the following: 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. All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship, and all those who qualify should be listed. Failure to list as an author, an individual that meets these criteria, could leave the corresponding author open to charges of plagiarism and allegations of research misconduct as defined in UMU’s Policy for Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.

The group should jointly make decisions about contributors/authors before submitting the manuscript for publication. The corresponding author/guarantor should be prepared to explain the presence and order of these individuals.

Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:

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