Editorial

Authorship in Scientific Papers

Authorship in a scientific research paper requires public responsibility and accountability stating that the content is in the public domain. The purpose of this editorial is to discuss the criteria for authorship in scientific papers and to address the need for transparency.

Authorship criteria are crucial in ensuring that all contributors receive the recognition they deserve for their contributions to the research work. Different journals and organizations may have their own specific guidelines, but the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) recommends that four criteria be met for authorship:

1. **Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work.**
2. **Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content.**
3. **Final approval of the version to be published.**
4. **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.**

Each author must meet all four criteria to be considered for authorship. The ICMJE has also provided a list of conditions that authors must consider when determining authorship, including:

- **Original authorship:**
- **Contributions after manuscript submission:**
- **Removal or addition of an author:**
- **Corresponding author:**
- **Ownership of authorship:**
- **Conflicts of interest:**
- **Ethical considerations:**
- **Acknowledgments:**
- **Compliance with ethical standards:**

It is important to ensure that all contributors are adequately acknowledged, and that authorship is attributed based on a fair and transparent process. The ICMJE guidelines provide a framework for decision-making in authorship determination, ensuring that all contributors are given the recognition they deserve.

By following these guidelines, journals and researchers can maintain the integrity and reputation of the scientific community, promoting transparency and accountability in research communication.

Reference:

Authorship in Scientific Papers

Authorship is a complex issue that ensures responsibility, accountability, and credit to individuals who contribute to the research and publication of scientific papers. The criteria for authorship vary across different fields and journals, and it is crucial to adhere to the guidelines set by scientific societies and journals to maintain the integrity of research publications.

**Authorship criteria in scientific papers**

- **Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work:**
- **Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content:**
- **Final approval of the version to be published:**
- **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.**

**Authorship determination**

In general, all authors listed on a manuscript must have contributed adequately to the work and meet the specified authorship criteria. If agreement cannot be reached about who qualifies for authorship, the journal editors should seek an appropriate resolution.

**Authorship conflicts**

If authors of a scientific paper request removal or addition of an author after manuscript submission or publication, journal editors should seek an appropriate resolution.

**Large multi-author group**

In cases where large multi-author groups are involved, the group should decide who will be author/authors before the work is started. All members named as authors must 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.

**Guest authorship**

Guest authors are individuals whose names are included in a manuscript for reasons other than contributing to the work itself. They may include individuals who provided editorial or administrative support, or who provided funding or other resources. The inclusion of guest authors is important to acknowledge the contributions of those who support the research project but do not meet the criteria for authorship.

**Gift authorship**

Gift authorship refers to circumstances where an author is listed on a manuscript as a token of gratitude or in recognition of a significant contribution to the research project. This practice is important to acknowledge the contributions of individuals who have supported the research effort.

**Ghost authorship**

Ghost authorship refers to situations where an individual is listed as an author on a manuscript without making a substantial contribution to the work. Ghost authorship is unethical and goes against the principles of authorship.

**Pressured authorship**

Pressured authorship occurs when an individual is listed as an author on a manuscript under duress or pressure from others. This practice is unethical and goes against the principles of authorship.

**Conclusion**

Authorship is a complex issue that requires careful consideration and adherence to the guidelines set by scientific societies and journals. It is crucial to maintain the integrity of research publications and ensure that all authors are appropriately acknowledged for their contributions.
Authorship in Scientific Papers

Authorship in a scientific research paper implies public responsibility and accountability including the right to defend the content of the paper. The presence of the author’s name on the paper certifies that the author has been involved in all stages of the research from planning to conclusion. The authorship is therefore a matter of academic and ethical concern.

Authorship by multiple individuals, either from different institutions or across different countries, should not be considered as diluting the responsibility of the author, but rather a multiplier effect of the work. There is no need to “publish multiple” names because of the fear of “over publish” or “overshare.”

In cases of co-authorship, the contribution of each co-author should be clearly defined. Co-authorship criteria are widely accepted and used by scientific societies and publishers. These criteria include:

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data.
2. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content.
3. Final approval of the version to be published.
4. 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.

Following these criteria, authorship must be recognized and acknowledged in the final version of the manuscript. The lack of acknowledgment is a violation of the ethical standards of scientific publishing.

Declarations of authorship are important in maintaining the integrity of scientific research. They ensure that all contributions are recognized and properly credited. In cases of disagreement, journal editors should seek an agreement from all authors before publication.

In conclusion, authorship in scientific papers implies that authors have contributed significantly to the research, and their names are listed in the paper. The responsibility of the author is not diminished by the number of authors, but rather increased by the collective effort. The integrity of scientific research depends on the recognition and acknowledgment of all contributors.

References