

Authorship of Scholarly Articles

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Contact Office:

Assistant Dean for Research
PO Box 800419
Charlottesville, VA 22980
phone: 434-243-7088
fax: 434-982-0874

Oversight Executive:

Senior Associate Dean for Research
PO Box 800419
Charlottesville, VA 22980
phone: 434-243-7088
fax: 434-982-0874

Applies to:

Any employee, trainee, or other person making substantial use of University of Virginia School of Medicine research or clinical resources, or any individual who shares authorship of an article or publication where the first author is a University of Virginia School of Medicine employee.

Reason for Policy:

Ethical considerations and concerns for professional status may create uncertainty and difficult dilemmas for an investigator who is publishing results of research. This policy provides guidance on how to determine authorship.

Policy Statement:

In preparing a scientific report for publication, investigators must follow the guidelines for authorship as listed below. Before submitting a manuscript or revision, each author must read and approve the document and agree to take public or legal responsibility for its content.

Guidelines

1. Authorship. To be listed as an author of an original scientific article, an investigator must have: (a) made substantial contributions to the conception, design, or data acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of the project; (b) drafted or critically revised the resulting manuscript; and (c) given approval of the manuscript to be submitted for publication. All individuals who meet these three criteria should be listed as authors; however, any individual may refuse to be included as a co-author. Honorary or courtesy authors should not be included.

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Subsequent changes in authorship or responsibilities should be reviewed and approved by the entire group.

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Related Policies and Guidelines:

Research Misconduct Policy

<https://etg07.itc.virginia.edu/policy/policydisplay?id='RES-004'>

[JAMA](#) guidelines (see “Authorship Criteria and Contributions”)

[International Committee of Medical Journal Editors](#) guidelines (see II.A. “Authorship and Contributorship”)

Next Scheduled Review: August 2010

Revision history: This is the first version of this policy.