

Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts
accepted by
International Committee of Medical Journal Editors

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SA Tydskrif Natuurwetenskap en Tegnologie
SA Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns

Introduction

- SATNT published 50 years only Afrikaans
- Funded SA Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns
- Afrikaans Journal Humanities ISI accredited
- SATNT limited access, convinced SA Akademie to fund properly, now open access OASIS, translate
- When revised author instructions noticed importance of ethical considerations re authorship
- Own experience, as reviewer, colleague, student

Defining an author

- make substantive intellectual contributions to a published study
- take responsibility for at least one component of the work,
- able to identify who is responsible for each other component, and
- ideally be confident in their co-authors' ability and integrity

Some medical journals require

- the contributions of each person named as having participated in a submitted study, at least for original research.
- Editors are strongly encouraged to develop and implement a contributorship policy
- and a policy on identifying who is responsible for the integrity of the work as a whole.

ICJME recommended the following criteria for authorship

- 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;
- 3) final approval of the version to be published.
- Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3

Multi author papers

- identify the individuals who accept direct responsibility for the manuscript
- corresponding author should clearly indicate the preferred citation and identify all individual authors as well as the group name
- Journals generally list other members of the group in the Acknowledgments

Other criteria

- Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group alone does not constitute authorship.
- All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship, and all those who qualify should be listed.
- Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.

Other guidelines

- Meet at least 3/5 of following criteria
- The person who came up with the idea
- The person financing the research
- The researcher
- The participants in planning the research
- The participants in writing the paper

Difference between disciplines

- Should the student supervisor be a co-author?
- Where are the prime positions (first, last, corresponding author)?
- Should a student be the first author?
- Should technician who has done analyses as part of job be a co-author?
- Should statistician analysing data be a co-author?
- Should head of department be a co-author?
- Should person providing research material be co-author?

Most questions can be resolved if

- 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

Finally

- I suggest that Editors should consider including some of this information in their author guidelines
- Reviewers of papers should also ask these questions if there are many authors for a relatively simple paper
- Thank you for your attention