

## ***ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry authorship policy***

Within the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry each paper is being written by a working group dedicated to a specific subject. Participation to a working group is open to contributors from different countries, members of the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry committee and others contributing intellectually to the research performed.

Regarding authorship the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry follows the criteria of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) which state that authorship of biomedical papers 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.

Each author should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3.

Additional criteria for authorship as formulated by the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry Committee:

- 1) Key authors  
The person having provided the largest contribution to the paper will qualify for first authorship. This may be the coordinator of the Registry, a PhD student working on the Registry project, or an investigator from outside the Registry office. Scientists not employed by the Registry are encouraged to join the Registry team at AMC for an internship to work on a research project of their interest.
- 2) Members of the executive committee of the Registry (i.e. the chairs of the ESPN/ERAEDTA Registry committee, the director of the ERA-EDTA Registry (who supervises the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry office) and the coordinator of the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry) are entitled to authorship. They will be involved in every research project from an early stage.
- 3) Being a member of the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry Committee, the two country representatives, are entitled to one authorship per year, based on their contribution to the Registry. This requires their early involvement in these projects.
- 4) National authorships:  
The number of working groups (and therefore authorships) assigned to a contributing country is proportional to its data contribution, and determined by an algorithm developed by the Registry office. The algorithm is based on
  - The number of children on which information is provided (large countries are entitled to more authorships than smaller countries), and on

- The number of variables on which information is provided within a certain period (1990 and further)

National authorship allowances will be updated every two years when the annual national data contributions have been retrieved and the publication plan is updated.

Co-authors from individual countries should be active ESPN or ERA-EDTA members. The representatives of the national registries are contacted by email to propose colleagues from their societies with special expertise and interest in individual publication projects, following a process of review, discussion and decision organized at the national level.

- 5) Any ESPN or ERA-EDTA member who presents an idea for a new analysis accepted by the Registry committee and subsequently provides an important contribution to the realization of the project is eligible for authorship.
- 6) Experts from other specialties can be invited for a co-authorship. The decision on the need of experts is made by first author on the paper, together with the executive committee of the Registry, and the last author on the paper. This can be at maximum one specialist from an ESPN or ERA-EDTA working group or one supervisor of a fellow who joined the Registry for an internship and is first author on paper. These authorships do not count as national authorships.

In general, a draft of the paper is made by the first author of the paper, together with the coordinator of the Registry and the director of the ERA-EDTA Registry, often in collaboration with the executive committee or with the last author of the paper. This draft is distributed to all members of the working group for comments and suggestions. If possible a meeting is arranged during the ESPN or IPNA conference to discuss the contents of the paper.

Exceptions in the allocation of authorships may occur in case of reviews, brief reports, or letters to the editor. For such exceptions approval is needed from the executive committee of the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry. Furthermore, if the number of authors is restricted by a journal, it might be possible that some authors are asked to join in a so-called collaborator group. The choice of those to be included in the collaborator group will depend on the size of their contribution to the paper.