

Author Contributions Form

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Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content. **Allowing one's name to appear as an author without having contributed significantly to the study or adding the name of an individual who has not contributed or who has not agreed to the work in its current form is considered a breach of appropriate authorship.**

Ghost-writing is NOT acceptable. No one, other than the authors listed below, should have contributed substantially to the writing and revising of the manuscript. Contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in the acknowledgment. Examples include: individuals who allowed their clinical experience to be included, a person who provided purely technical help, copyediting, proofreading or translation assistance (NO ghostwriters allowed), or a department Chair who provided only general support.

Groups of persons who have contributed materially to the paper, but whose contributions do not justify authorship may be listed under a heading such as "clinical investigators" or "participating investigators," and their function or contribution should be described; for example, "served as scientific advisors," "critically reviewed the study proposal."

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