

Authorship

An author of an article is a person who has made significant scholarly contributions to the publication of an article. Authorship must be clearly differentiated from contribution-ship. Publication of an article passes through many steps, starting right from the inception of the research project, its feasibility, actual conduction and ultimately data collection and publication. An author must be involved and take the responsibility of at least one major component of any article from its inception to its publication.

According to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, *“Authorship credit should be based on 1) substantial contribution 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” and participants who do not fulfil above criteria should be assumed as contributors and can be mentioned in acknowledgements at the end of the article”.*

Research is still in its infancy in this region. That is why we fail to understand the meaning of the authorship of an article and actually it was never brought to the attention before. Gifting authorship to dears and nears is a routine happening and it falls into the gambit of academic dishonesty. We have to remove this stigma right now so that our next generation does not fall into this ditch. How??? We have to resolve to ourselves and grant authorship to anyone as per guidelines of “International Committee of Medical Journal Editors”.

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