



APPENDIX A

Authorship contract

Project name: _____

Date: _____

The ICMJE recommends that authorship is based on the following four criteria:

- Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- Final approval of the version to be published; AND
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

All those designated as authors shall meet all four criteria for authorship, and all who meet the four criteria shall be identified as authors. Those do not meet all four criteria shall be acknowledged as contributors, typically in the acknowledgements section in the manuscript.

If a group-name is used in the byline, then typically a footnote and the acknowledgement section shall clearly state who are regarded (and indexed) as authors and who shall be regarded (and indexed) as contributors. Other terminology such as protocol committee, writing committee etc. may be misleading for the indexing process and it is highly recommended only to use the terms authors and contributors stating exact names for the persons involved.

In large multi-centre trials, numerous persons will typically be involved in ICMJE-authorship criterion one, e.g. acquisition of data. The present authorship contract designates the criteria for these persons to be offered participation in authorship criteria two, three and four, thus who will be included in the manuscript preparation to an extent that they will qualify to be an author instead of a contributor.

It is the responsibility of the first author, if applicable, to involve all co-authors to an extent that they fulfill all four authorship criteria.



First author: _____

Last author: _____

Predefined members of the writing group, all will be co-authors as they fulfill the four authorship criteria:

Additional persons who will be offered involvement in the manuscript process (authorship criteria two, three and four). Typically 1-2 per participating centre, but more people may be involved.

All the above-mentioned names will appear on the final manuscript in the byline as authors, and all other persons involved in the research project will be mentioned in the Acknowledgements section as contributors.

In order to be listed in the byline as an author, the criteria for manuscript workflow should be fulfilled (see Appendix B). Anyone not fulfilling these workflow criteria will be removed as authors from the byline and mentioned in the Acknowledgements section as contributors.