

Example Publication Guidelines

General:

Authorships and Co-authorships are not granted by individual institutions but by groups or consortia of study centers. All calculations regarding the number and position of co-authorships will be based on numbers of recruited patients by group. Each group is completely free and independent to fill in individual names according to its number and position of co-authorships (the group even may appoint persons not having recruited patients by themselves). The following “rules” should guarantee participation and benefits for all groups involved and share as much attractive positions among the groups as possible.

Fixed authorship positions:

All co-authorship positions depend on recruitment of groups except one authorship position of the chairman (**name**) and one for the statistician (**name** – commonly 4th position). The chairman’s position is first author or senior author depending on the occasion unless he grants this to anyone else.

Flexible co-authorship positions.

Each group receives their first guaranteed authorship position when a patient has been recruited. The 2nd position will be achieved when the **x**st patient has been recruited, the third position when the **y**st patient has been recruited by the respective group and from then on by every **z** patients.

The specific place of the group’s representative is defined by the overall recruitment by the group; e.g. if group A has the highest recruitment number, group B the 2nd highest recruitment number, group C the 3rd highest, and group D the lowest, 2nd author would be appointed by group A, 3rd author by group B etc.

Example:

Group A: 25 pts. = 5 authorship positions

Group B: 20 pts. = 4 authorship positions

Group C: 10 pts = 2 authorship positions

Group D: 4 pts = 1 position

Group E: 1 pts = 1 position

Result:

I. Chairman, A1, B1, statistician, C1, D, E, A2, B2, C2, A3, B3, A4, B4, A5

(A4 = senior author by strongest recruiting group)

Additional publications of subgroup data or sub-projects:

First author should be of the group performing the analysis. Other groups should be mentioned and have co-authorship positions similar to the rules for primary and main publication. PI usually senior author. All sub-publications or meta-analyses can only be published after the full manuscript of the study has been published.

Full paper on general analyses of secondary endpoints (eg prognostic factors etc.) should be shared among the groups with first author by group A, then 2nd general paper first author by group B etc.

Presentations:

The study should be presented as often as possible to give as many groups as possible the opportunity to present. Local and national presentations should be done by the national group as first author (with mentioning all other groups, PI usually senior author).