

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL
DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY
CENTER FOR CLINICAL EFFECTIVENESS IN SURGERY

AUTHORSHIP GUIDELINES

Background

These authorship guidelines are meant to assist the primary author in identifying participants who are eligible to be listed as an author on a publishable paper. Authorship should be reviewed upon inception of the project and at any point when a change in membership of the project occurs.

Minimum Criteria

Persons designated as authors should meet all of the following criteria:

1. Conceived and planned the work that led to the paper or interpreted the evidence presented, or both.
2. Wrote the paper, or reviewed successive versions and took part in the revision process.
3. Approved the final version.
4. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.

Signed Statement

All Authors must sign a statement:

I (we) also warrant that I (we) have made an important contribution to the study and am thoroughly familiar with the primary data. I (we) have read the complete manuscript and understand that I (we) share responsibility for the integrity of the material and interpretations contained therein.

Acknowledgements

All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in an acknowledgments section. The Center for Clinical Effectiveness in Surgery must be acknowledged in all publications to which the Center contributed.

Order of Authors

The order of authorship on the byline should be a joint decision of the co-authors. Authors should be prepared to explain the order in which authors are listed. Order of authorship, or at least the "first" author, should be designated before work on the project begins.