



## MATURA

Maximising Therapeutic Utility in Rheumatoid Arthritis (MATURA) Consortium

### Proposed Generic Authorship and Publication Guidelines.

These guidelines are adapted from the current BRAGGSS Authorship Guidelines (2007)

1. The MATURA Consortium Management Board (CMB), conceived by a group of collaborators in several centres, will consider and agree guidelines for authorship, contributor-ship and acknowledgments before any publications are submitted. The principals of these guidelines are taken from the Vancouver Authorship guidelines (1). Authorship should be discussed and agreed at the onset of the study, or at latest at time of decision to write a manuscript, to avoid disputes at a later date.
2. These guidelines will apply to both abstracts and manuscript submitted.
3. **Authorship** should be based upon 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; and 2) drafting the article or revising it critically; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. Conditions 1, 2, and 3 must be met by authors. Acquisition of funding, the collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, by themselves, do not necessarily justify authorship.
4. It is not necessary for all members of the collaboration to be authors or contributors on all publications every time. This issue will be considered by the MATURA Project Steering Groups (PSG's). Any publications resulting from the group should list authors followed by the statement 'on behalf of the *MATURA Consortium*', and members of the group will then be listed elsewhere in the manuscript (see below - contributors)
5. The **lead author** is the person responsible for the reporting of the results according to the Vancouver guidelines. The lead author may be listed as first or last in the list of authors and should be responsible for the work as a whole, as reflected by the addition of their contact details for correspondence.
6. For most papers a **first** author and a **senior** author will be agreed: in general the **lead** author will take one or other of these roles. Agreement should be sought as to which of these two is taking the lead role for writing and final revising of the manuscript.
7. All authors are accountable, together, for the content of the paper and must be given the opportunity to read and comment on drafts and the finished paper prior to publication.
8. The same data may generate various publications: these may have different lead, first, or senior authors, depending on contributions made.

9. **Contributors** and/or contributing centres that are not authors, will be listed or acknowledged. These are defined as those individuals or centres who have contributed to the work (e.g. by provision of clinical data; samples or statistical advice) but are not authors. Every effort should be made to contact contributors to inform them of the impending submission of the paper, though they will not necessarily have the opportunity to comment on the work prior to publication.
10. Additional individuals, organisations, or centres can also be acknowledged by the authors and should reflect those who have provided information and or advice. This list can be proposed by the lead author.
11. The exact style of the contributor list or acknowledgement may depend on publication style, formatting, or rules of the journal.
12. All studies should be written up in a timely manner following analysis of the data. If this cannot be achieved by the lead author, the task should be handed over to someone else.
13. Authorship of **abstracts** will also follow these guidelines. Limited space for abstracts may preclude acknowledging all centres or contributors within the abstract. They should, however, be acknowledged in presentations and posters. On some occasions, rapid turn-around required for submission of abstracts may mean that not all authors have much time to comment on drafts. However every effort should be made to make drafts available as early as possible to the authors.
14. A copy of all manuscripts and abstracts using data arising from the MATURA Consortium should be deposited with Professors Costantino Pitzalis and Anne Barton ([c.pitzalis@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:c.pitzalis@qmul.ac.uk) and [Anne.Barton@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Anne.Barton@manchester.ac.uk)) ahead of their planned submission. Pharmaceutical companies will not be able to alter the contents of the publication but would like advanced notice of pending publications.

***Timescale for review:***

**10 business days (ie 15 calender days)**

Abstracts for conference presentations.

**60 business days (ie 85 calender days)**

Papers to be submitted for full publication in a scientific or medical journal.

### **1. The Vancouver Authorship Guidelines**

*An “author” is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study, and biomedical authorship continues to have important academic, social, and financial implications. In the past, readers were rarely provided with information about contributions to studies from those listed as authors and in acknowledgments. Some journals now request and publish information about the contributions of each person named as having participated in a submitted study, at least for original research.*

*All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship, and all those who qualify should be listed. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content. One or more authors should take responsibility for the integrity of the work as a whole, from inception to published article.*

*Authorship credit should be based on 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, or 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. Acquisition of funding, the collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, by themselves, do not justify authorship. Authors should provide a description of what each contributed, and editors should publish that information. All others who contributed to the work who are not authors should be named in the Acknowledgments, and what they did should be described (see Acknowledgments).*

*Increasingly, authorship of multicenter trials is attributed to a group. All members of the group who are named as authors should fully meet the above criteria for authorship. Group members who do not meet these criteria should be listed, with their permission, in the Acknowledgments or in an appendix (see Acknowledgments). The order of authorship on the byline should be a joint decision of the coauthors. Authors should be prepared to explain the order in which authors are listed.*

*From Vancouver Guidelines full document see*

*<http://www.icmje.org/index.html>*

