

# MEDICAL EDITION

*How to write an article*

*by*

ACTA MÉDICA PORTUGUESA

•• **STUDENT**

# Ethical Conflicts

*pay attention*

# *Authorship credit*

## **3** criteria

- > substantial contributions
- > drafting/revising the article
- > final approval to be published

*Editors decide...*

**Rightful** authorship?



## **GIFT** *Authorship*

*Inclusion of authors who did not contribute substantially to the study*

## **GHOST** *Authorship*

*Exclusion of authors who did contribute significantly to the study*

## **GIFT** *Authorship*

- > to someone hierarchically senior
- > to recognize contribution / funding / granting of laboratory space / general advice
- > *fear of retribution / to please the powerful / to aid in the acceptance for publication*
- > *between colleagues/collaborators - favor returned?*

## **GHOST** *Authorship*

- > to someone hierarchically junior
- > to gain greater credit for his own work by not recognizing others
- > *and what about scientific illustrators, medical writers and technical editors - acknowledge?*

*Editors*



**What can one do besides accepting the list of authors supplied with the manuscript?**

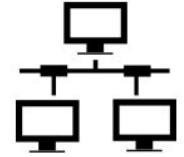
# *Editors - before accepting*



1. **ask for** exact contribution **of each author (with address)**
2. **apply** ICMJE criteria
3. acknowledge reception **and** alert **if included without knowing**



# Editors - after accepting



1. **post** list of titles and authors **of forthcoming accepted manuscripts** - *alert ghost authors*

# *Editors - educating authors*



1. **explain** criteria **for authorship**
2. **stress importance of** discussing while planning **research**
3. publish stated contributions **of each author**

# Authorship

*overlapping publications*

## **DUPLICATE/COMPETING** *Submission*

*Disagreement on who publishes; duplication of peer review and editing*

## **DUPLICATE** *Publication*

*Substantially overlaps with an already published article*

## **SIBLING** *Publication*

*Related papers submitted to different journals with no cross citation*

# Overlapping publications - issues



1. redundancy
2. *waste* **the time of** peer-reviewers **and** editors
3. *consume* journals' resources **and fill pages**
4. *increase* **the work of** indexing **and** abstracting **services**
5. *distort* **the academic** rewards' system
6. *inflate* **the** scientific literature
7. *infringe* **on** copyright
8. *contribute* **to** flawed meta-analysis
9. *fragment* **the** scientific record

# Overlapping publications - prevent



1. **ask authors to provide all related papers, including those in press and under review, when submitting a manuscript**
2. **educate that good publication practice is to provide full disclosure, full citation and full discussion of their related work.**

# Overlapping publications - plagiarism



1. OK: **use someone else's idea or writing**, if made clear in the text **and the** source is cited
2. NOT OK: **passing off as one's own** the ideas or writings of another (**from verbatim copying of scientific texts to the copying and pasting of phrases and sentences**)

# Plagiarism

*There are online services for preventing plagiarism.*



1. eTBLAST (University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center)
2. PubMed (use the 'related article' feature)



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