

**Authorship criteria and Ethical Requirements for Publishing in Archives of Pharmacy Practice****Tahir Mehmood Khan**

College of Clinical Pharmacy, King Faisal University, Alahsa 400, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**Citation:** Khan TM. **Authorship criteria and Ethical Requirements for Publishing in Archives of Pharmacy Practice.**

Archives of Pharmacy Practice. 2010;1(1)pp 1

**Archives of Pharmacy Practice (APP)** is a new horizon that offers an open invitation to pharmacy and allied research community to publish scholarly articles at this forum. On other hand it is the first priority of APP to share the quality information to the scientific community that is unbiased, up to date and reliable. Keeping this vision at front APP will strictly follow all the authorship and ethical guides mention in the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals [2]. All the authors should consider the following important issues while publishing with APP.

**Authorship Criteria**

Authorship is generally attributed to persons responsible for the intellectual contents of a published work. According to American Psychiatry Association Manual, (2001) authorship is the legal right reserved for a person who receive the primary credit and hold primary responsibility for a published work [1]. Realizing the worth of this issue the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals has specified the following authorship criteria [2].

- All the enlisted authors should have made a significant, direct and scholarly contribution in designing and conducting the research and most importantly compiling the manuscript. For example (in the case of a research report) all authors should have contributed to the conception, design, analysis and/or interpretation of data. Honorary/guest or Ghost authorship will be discouraged. Acquisition of funding and provision of technical services /supervision, assistance in arranging subjects/materials, while they may be essential to the work, but are not sufficient contributions to justify authorship.
- Significant scholarly contributions to the work are essential to claim the right to be an author. All the individuals that have made other substantial contributions should be acknowledged only.
- To be an author of a scientific manuscript, one must have participated in writing, reviewing and approving the final version.
- This primary author should take the public responsibility and assure that all authors meet basic standards for authorship and should prepare a concise, written description of their contributions to the work, which has been approved by all authors.

It will be strongly appreciated if all the researchers submitting their articles should follow this mentioned authorship criteria. Furthermore it will be more appropriate if all the authors' contributions are mentioned at the end of every article. The

following authors can consider as the primary authors for a manuscript;

*Students will normally be primary authors on research publications that arise from their masters or doctoral thesis work provided they meet APP requirements, Supervisors may only be included as a co-author on a research student's publication, exception can be possible only in the case if the supervisor have a higher contribution in writing, analyzing and final reviewing of the text [3].*

Moreover in the case where some authors are acknowledged, a consent form by the all acknowledged persons and their affiliation and contacts should be submitted. The primary authors of the text should take the responsibility of the information shared and the order of authorship should be clarified in advance before sending the article to APP. An article found with authorship conflicts will not be considered for publication at APP.

**Additional responsibilities of the primary author:**

- Primary author is responsible to provide the copy of all the ethical approvals for surveys, trial and animal studies to APP. One who fail to do so will be refused for consideration to APP
- Plagiarism in all forms should be discouraged, if any author found committing plagiarism he/she be black listed from APP and the name of such authors and their affiliations will be displayed on the news forum of APP.

We hope that all the authors will feel the responsibility to provide reliable information to the readers.

**References:**

- 1- American Psychological Association. (2001). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (5th ed.). Washington, DC.
- 2- International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals: writing and editing for biomedical publication. [online] Retrieved from <http://www.icmje.org>. Accessed on Sept. 6, 2010-7.
- 3- Fine, MA. & Kurdek, LA. (1993) Reflections on determining authorship credit and authorship order on faculty-student collaborations. American Psychologist. 48:1141-1147.