
EDITORIAL

Transparency and Accountability of Authorship

Publication of medical research finding, particularly clinical trials, in peer-reviewed medical journal is the goal of investigators. Public recognize about this published evidence of efficacy and safety rest on the assumption that clinical trials data have been gathered and are presented in an objective and dispassionate manner. However, the current intellectual environment may threaten this precious objectivity. Many clinical trials are performed to facilitate regulatory approval of a drug rather than to test a specific novel scientific hypothesis. As trials have become more sophisticated, the more expenses have been expected. The sources of funding, mainly the pharmaceutical industry, have involved in research. So, if the outcomes are effect the morale and ethics of authors. Authorship means transparency, accountability and independence. An original research article is the intellectual property of its authors, not the study sponsor. The contract between sponsor and investigator should give the investigator a substantial say in research design, recruitment of subjects, collecting the data, responsibly for data analysis and interpretation, and the right to publish. The academic freedom is the ultimate goal of researchers. Moreover, the principle author should have the right to name the co-authors in the article and should be able to elaborate the contribution of co-authors. The editors of the medical journals should concern these principles seriously before accept the manuscript for publication.

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