

Post-Publication Authorship Modification Policy

Addition, Deletion, or Alteration of Authorship

The Journal recognizes that, in exceptional circumstances, a change to the authorship of a published article may be necessary. Any post-publication modification to the **author list, author order, or authorship status** must be handled transparently and in accordance with recognized principles of publication ethics.

Procedure

1. Submit a formal request

A request for addition, deletion, or alteration of authorship must be submitted in writing to the Editorial Office (From the corresponding author). The request should include:

- Article title, DOI, and publication details;
- The nature of the proposed authorship change;
- A clear explanation and justification for the change;
- The proposed revised author list and order, where applicable; and
- A revised statement of author/contributor contributions, where applicable.

2. Obtain agreement from all affected parties

The Journal requires written confirmation of agreement from **all currently listed authors and any person proposed to be added or removed**. The confirmation should clearly indicate that the parties agree to the proposed change.

3. Review the proposed change

The Editorial Office may request relevant documentation or evidence of contributions to assess whether the proposed modification is consistent with the Journal's authorship and contributorship policy.

Where applicable, the Journal may use a recognized contributor-role framework, such as the **CRedit (Contributor Roles Taxonomy)**, to clarify individual contributions.

4. Handle disagreements

If all parties do not agree to the proposed change, the Journal will not normally adjudicate the authorship dispute. The matter may be referred to the relevant institution(s), employer(s), or other appropriate research-integrity authority for investigation and resolution.

The Journal may defer any authorship decision until the outcome of such an investigation is available.

5. Editorial decision

The editorial office will review the request and supporting documentation and determine whether the proposed change is justified and consistent with the Journal's policies and applicable publication-ethics principles.

6. Publish an authorship correction

If the request is approved, the Journal will normally publish an **Authorship Correction/Corrigendum** linked to the original article. The correction will clearly state the nature of the authorship change and, where appropriate, update the author-contribution statement, affiliations, acknowledgements, and publication metadata.

7. Maintain the integrity of the published record

The original article will remain part of the scholarly record. The correction will be permanently linked to the original publication, ensuring transparency and traceability of the change.

Important Principles

- Post-publication authorship changes are **exceptional** and must be supported by a legitimate reason.
- Authorship should reflect an individual's substantive contribution in accordance with the Journal's authorship policy.
- The author list and order should be finalized and confirmed by all authors before publication.
- A change in institutional affiliation, employment, or professional status **does not, by itself, constitute sufficient grounds for removal of an author.**
- Authorship disputes should normally be resolved by the authors and/or their relevant institutions rather than by the Journal.
- Where an authorship request raises concerns about research misconduct or other serious breaches of publication ethics, the Journal may initiate or refer the matter under its applicable research-integrity or publication-ethics procedures.
- The Journal reserves the right to request additional information or documentation where necessary to protect the integrity of the scholarly record.

References

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