

## Coauthorships

In recent years, the EuroSIDA Study has identified 12 authors for each peer-reviewed manuscript. However, this does not solve the issue of ensuring that all people involved are acknowledged appropriately- project leads, staff from the coordinating and statistical centres as well as investigators from the clinical centres.

The EuroSIDA Steering Committee (SC) has therefore decided to use writing groups instead including 22 persons for each article.

The author of scientific articles will be ‘the EuroSIDA Study’ – and members of the writing group will be listed in the article.

The 22 persons include:

- the project lead and members of the proposing team (if project not proposed by staff at the coordinating or statistical centres)
- staff member(s) from the coordinating centre
- staff members from the statistical centre (in particular, the statistician who is performing the statistical analyses and persons supervising the statistical work)
- investigators from the clinical centres

If relevant, authors can also include experts from outside the EuroSIDA Study. Decisions on this will be made by the EuroSIDA SC.

The aim is to involve coauthors early in the writing process and to involve more junior clinicians/ researchers who will get the opportunity to participate in the writing process. The idea is to involve more junior clinicians who have shown an interest in research and who would benefit from being involved in a scientific project at an international level. The invitation to act as a coauthor will go to the principal investigator/head of department with a specific request that they nominate a more junior person, whenever possible. When identified, junior authors will be asked to take part in the project as much as possible, and provide scientific input.

The identification of coauthors from the clinical centres will be based on the contribution of enrolled patients and person-years of follow-up accumulated from the given clinical centre. As per the Vancouver Declaration, the authorship requires the coauthor’s active scientific involvement and approval of the final manuscript before submission.



Based on these principles, staff at the coordinating centre will identify coauthors within 2 weeks after a proposal for a scientific project has been approved by the SC.

When contacted by staff from the coordinating centre, potential coauthors are to confirm their interest in serving as a coauthor within 2 weeks. If people do not respond to the invitation to act as a coauthor within 2 weeks, they will be taken off the list again.

Once identified, coauthors should be actively involved in the process of developing the manuscript.

In addition to scientific involvement, coauthors should also complete documents as requested by the journals including author declarations/conflicts of interest. If coauthors do not respond to such requests within 2 weeks, they can be taken off the list, and another coauthor will be identified.

If there are difficulties in getting authors from the writing group listed in PubMed for the institutional recognition, the corresponding author and staff at the coordination centre will work together on solving the issue – and potentially involve the EuroSIDA SC.

The approach of using writing groups will be evaluated by the SC in the beginning of 2017.