

October 29, 2016

This document is a *brief* description of authorship as it pertains to collaborative studies that will be performed under the “Limb Deformity Study Group (LDSG)” – Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Society branded studies. Analogous to the Canadian Orthopaedic Trauma Society (COTS)

Below are three different types of authorship¹.

1. **Individual authorship.** This is what we are most familiar with. Example below.

- Bernstein M, Desy NM, Matache BA, McKinley TO, Harvey EJ. A Ten Year Analysis of the Orthopaedic Trauma Association’s Funding Program. *J Bone Joint Surg Am.* 2013;95e142(1-6). PMID: 24088977

2. **Corporate authorship.** This is used for larger studies (multiple authors, multiple centers). Advantage is that it eliminates the need to establish order of authors, and there is no need to have a long list of authors in the masthead listings (where all authors would normally appear). The other issue for the editor is that they cannot identify “key authors” who can defend the study in the public forum.

3. **Modified corporate authorship.** The authors establish a “writing committee” or select few who serve this purpose. They are usually the central group who have selected the study and are “putting in the most time”. Examples below^{2,3}:

- FLOW Investigators. Bhandari M, Jeray KJ, et al.: A Trial of Wound Irrigation in the Initial Management of Open Fracture Wounds. *N Engl J Med* 2015;373:2629-2641.
- Reindl R, Harvey EJ, Berry GK, Rahme E, Canadian Orthopaedic Trauma S: Intramedullary Versus Extramedullary Fixation for Unstable Intertrochanteric Fractures: A Prospective Randomized Controlled Trial. *J Bone Joint Surg Am* 2015;97:1905-1912.

Mitchell Bernstein, MD, FRCSC
Chris Iobst, MD
S. Robert Rozbruch, MD
Austin T. Fragomen, MD
Jessica C. Rivera, MD
Joseph Hsu, MD

REFERENCES:

1. Meinert CL: *Clinical Trials: Design, Conduct, and Analysis*. ed 2nd Edition. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2012.
2. Investigators F, Bhandari M, Jeray KJ, et al.: A Trial of Wound Irrigation in the Initial Management of Open Fracture Wounds. *N Engl J Med* 2015;373:2629-2641.
3. Reindl R, Harvey EJ, Berry GK, Rahme E, Canadian Orthopaedic Trauma S: Intramedullary Versus Extramedullary Fixation for Unstable Intertrochanteric Fractures: A Prospective Randomized Controlled Trial. *J Bone Joint Surg Am* 2015;97:1905-1912.