

## SBNS Academic Committee

### Good Research Authorship Practice (GRAP Principles)

The SBNS Academic Committee wish to make it clear that these are guidelines for good practice, and not a directive. Each study and research output will have nuances and variations that may make some of these principles less or more applicable.

1. Scientific contribution is the fundamental underpinning of research authorship
2. Identify the First Author(s) and Senior Author(s) at the outset so that it is clear who will do most of the work, lead and provide oversight
3. The Senior Author(s) has overall responsibility to ensure rigorous research ethics, governance and fairness in the conduct of the study
4. Multi-centre studies (e.g. NIHR funded, BNTRC and NANSIG projects) should respect the contributions of the following:
  - a. Study Lead Group (study inception, protocol, central ethics, funding) – it is recognised that this group has **‘made the trial happen’** and so could be recognised separate to the main group by being named authors (e.g. The BASICS trial. 2019. Mallucci CL, Jenkinson MD, Conroy EJ etc.)
  - b. Local Study Participants (Local Consultant and Trainee PIs, gained local approvals, encouraged local data collection, submitted data) – it is recognised that this group has **‘made the trial better’** and so should be recognised as citable-authors (including as part of the contributorship list [e.g. ‘BASICS Study collaborators’] or as part of corporate authorship [e.g. British Neurosurgical Trainee Research Collaborative (BNTRC) or Neurology and Neurosurgery Interest Group [NANSIG]])
  - c. Collaborators – these are individuals who have not participated directly in the initiation or conduct of the study but have **‘made the outputs better’** and so could be recognised as citable authors (including as part of a corporate authorship model (e.g. BNTRC) or named in acknowledgements at the discretion of the senior author
5. Groups who publish purely clinical work (e.g. outcomes, unit experiences, case series) may choose to include Consultants simply because included patients have been under their care but better practice is to qualify authorship with scientific contribution

6. All authors must have access to data on request, the right to withdraw authorship, and feel able to express any concerns about any aspect they feel might compromise the scientific rigour under which the research has been conducted
7. All authors must robustly respect the consent, safety and dignity of patients and their data

Guideline Authors

Michael Jenkinson

Ryan Mathew

Daniel Fountain

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