

Appendix A: Prohibited Authorship Practices

There are various practices of assigning authorship credit for scientific or scholarly publications that are inconsistent with WRAIR policy and widely accepted standards of research ethics and integrity. The following includes regrettably common examples of such prohibited practices:

- Forged Authorship: assigning authorship credit to an individual who was not involved in producing the work in order to promote the work's publication or prestige, where this is done without the individual's knowledge or permission.
- Ghost Authorship: failing to assign authorship credit to an individual who meets the criteria for authorship (i.e., making a substantial contribution and participating in drafting or critically revising the work) in order to hide the individual's involvement in the work from editors, reviewers, or readers.
- Gift Authorship: assigning authorship to an individual who does not meet the criteria for authorship but is given credit in the hope that they will return the favor at some point in the future.
- Guest Authorship: assigning authorship credit to an individual with a prominent scientific or scholarly reputation who was not involved in producing the work in order to promote the work's publication or prestige.
- Honorary Authorship: assigning authorship credit to an individual who does not meet the criteria for authorship but is given credit because they occupy a senior position or provided funding or other resources for the work.
- Orphan Authorship: failing to assign authorship credit to an individual who meets the criteria for authorship.

Sources

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