Authorship and EUSEM Research Committee

In Vienna meeting, we discussed about surveys and studies carried out by the EUSEM Research Committee (Later: EUSEM RC). Principally, we agreed that scientific work carried out together should be well organised. Further, to enhance scientific cooperation, the EUSEM RC follows fair play principles. When individual researchers use their intellectual, time and/or monetary resources, their work should be properly acknowledged.

ICMJE Criteria

The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) has published criteria for authorship. They can be found in http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/

Defining the Role of Authors and Contributors

The ICMJE recommends that authorship be based on the following 4 criteria:

- Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- Final approval of the version to be published; AND
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

In addition to being accountable for the parts of the work he or she has done, an author should be able to identify which co-authors are responsible for specific other parts of the work. In addition, authors should have confidence in the integrity of the contributions of their co-authors.

Proposal for EUSEM RC

In multinational European research, the EUSEM RC accepts uniform principles concerning cooperation, authorship and acknowledged collaborators.

1. The EUSEM RC adopts the ICMJE criteria of authorship;
2. The EUSEM RC studies are planned in true collaboration of members;
3. The Principal Investigator (PI) of the whole study must be a member of the EUSEM. He/She has to be a member of the EUSEM RC or nominated by the RC. He/She has the responsibility to draft the manuscript with selected members of the EUSEM RC or other national PIs. The writing group and the final list of authors have to be confirmed by the EUSEM RC;
4. A member of the EUSEM RC (or other nominated person) taking part in the study acts as a national PI and an author in the study. As an author her/his responsibility besides national data acquisition is to take part in manuscript preparation according to the ICMJE criteria of authorship;
5. EUSEM to be acknowledged in the manuscript/publication
6. Other collaborators are acknowledged in the manuscript/publication.

Ari Palomäki
Member of the EUSEM RC
Professor in Emergency Medicine, Tampere University, Finland
President, Finnish Society of Emergency Medicine