

The Michigan Trauma Quality Improvement Program (MTQIP) is comprised of trauma centers across Michigan who have partnered to share data regarding outcomes, processes of care, and best practices for trauma patients. Dissemination of new knowledge learned through this project is desired and expected. The collaborative nature of MTQIP necessitates that guidelines for abstracts, presentations, and publication be created and appropriate recognition of intellectual contributions towards these efforts acknowledged. Therefore, the following publication policy has been developed:

- 1) Sites participating in MTQIP own their individual institutional data and may use it as they see fit.
- 2) Analyzed data contained in MTQIP reports and comparative data from other MTQIP centers may be used for quality improvement efforts or clinical research. These data are not to be used externally for competitive advantage (i.e. for marketing purposes). These data are also not to be published without written permission from MTQIP.
- 3) The Publications Committee is comprised of representatives of each of the major parties involved and will be responsible for setting policy regarding publications based on MTQIP data including:
 - a. Authorship
 - b. Conflict of Interest
 - c. Setting of processes for proposing and approving research questions within the collaborative
- 4) The Publications Committee will be chaired by Judy Mikhail, MTQIP Program Manager and will include representation from two additional participating sites as well as Dr. Share or his designated representative from Blue Cross. Nominations for membership will be forwarded to the Program Director for consideration /approval.
- 5) The Publications Committee will:
 - a. Review concepts for abstracts and manuscripts based on MTQIP data (prior to data analysis and manuscript preparation) to ensure that plans are consistent with the mission of MTQIP, and to manage any potential conflicts that may arise due to multiple interests in publishing the same subject matter. The committee will recommend proposed abstracts/manuscripts for approval from the Program Director.
 - i. Concepts should be submitted in writing as a brief one to two paragraph proposal. The proposal should include:
 1. Names of the participants
 2. Working hypothesis

3. Inclusion and exclusion criteria
 4. Major outcomes to be studied
 5. Basic outline of analysis to be performed
- ii. Following acceptance of the proposal, analysis will be performed by the MTQIP coordinating center. Please allow 6 months for this to occur.
- b. Review abstracts and publications prior to submission. The Committee and Program Director will reply with approval or recommendations for revision. Please allow 14 working days for this to occur.
 - c. Ensure that proposed authorship appropriately represents intellectual contributions to the study, including appropriate recognition for MTQIP development by the Program Director, Dr. Share, and others. MTQIP will follow authorship guidelines set forth by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors:
 - “Authorship credit should be based on 1) substantial contribution to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3.
 - When a large, multicenter group has conducted the work, the group should identify the individuals who accept direct responsibility for the manuscript. These individuals should fully meet the criteria for authorship/contributorship defined above, and editors will ask these individuals to complete journal-specific author and conflict-of-interest disclosure forms. When submitting a manuscript authored by a group, the corresponding author should clearly indicate the preferred citation and identify all individual authors as well as the group name. Journals generally list other members of the group in the Acknowledgments. The NLM indexes the group name and the names of individuals the group has identified as being directly responsible for the manuscript; it also lists the names of collaborators if they are listed in Acknowledgments.
 - Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group alone does not constitute authorship.
 - All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship, and all those who qualify should be listed.
 - Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.” (1)

¹International Community of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Ethical Considerations in the Conduct and Reporting of Research: Authorship and Contributorship. *ICMJE* 2009. http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html. Accessed March 11, 2011.