



## **AORN JOURNAL**

### **AUTHOR RESPONSIBILITY & COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT**

*Each author must read and sign the following statement; if necessary, photocopy this form and distribute it to coauthors for their original signatures. It is important that you return this form to the Editorial Office as early as possible. Your manuscript will not be published unless this form is received.*

#### **Authorship**

The *AORN Journal* adheres to the guidelines set by the International Committee of Medical Journals Editors regarding authorship ([www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org)). All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship, and all those who qualify should be so credited. Persons designated as authors must meet all of the following criteria:

- Authors make substantial contributions to conception and design and/or acquisition of data and/or analysis and interpretation of data;
- Authors participate in drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
- Authors give final approval of the version to be submitted and any revised version to be published.

Supporting the study or collecting data does not constitute authorship. Declaring authorship based solely on position (eg, research supervisor, department head) is not permitted.

#### **Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments**

All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in an acknowledgment section. Examples of those who might be acknowledged include an individual who allowed his or her clinical experience (ie, cases) to be included, a person who provided purely technical help or writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support.

#### **Sole Submission**

The author(s) affirms and represents that the submitted manuscript is original, that none of the information has been published previously in either print or electronic media, that the manuscript is not under consideration by another publication, and that nothing contained in the manuscript constitutes an invasion of privacy.

#### **Human Participant Approval**

The author(s) attests that the content is not fraudulent, that any investigations involving human participants received appropriate institutional approval, and that evidence of such approval will be provided upon request.

#### **Retained Rights**

The author(s) understands that she/he retains or is hereby granted (without the need to obtain further permission) rights to use certain versions of the article for certain scholarly purposes, including the right to use the *Pre-print* or *Accepted Author's Manuscript* for *Personal Use*, *Internal Institutional Use*, and for *Scholarly Posting*; and the *Published Journal Article* for *Personal Use* and *Internal Institutional Use*.

To reproduce any text, figures, tables, or illustrations from the manuscript in future works of their own, the author(s) must obtain written permission from AORN by contacting the Elsevier Rights Department at [healthpermissions@elsevier.com](mailto:healthpermissions@elsevier.com); telephone: 1-215-239-3804; fax: 1-215-239-3805. Requests also may be completed online via the Elsevier homepage at [www.elsevier.com/locate/permissions](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/permissions). Such permission cannot unreasonably be withheld by AORN.

---

**Return signed forms by fax to the AORN Journal Editorial Office at 1-303-750-3441.**

AORN Journal Editorial Office • [aornjournal@aorn.org](mailto:aornjournal@aorn.org) • 2170 South Parker Road, Suite 300 • Denver, CO 80231-5711 •  
Phone: 1-800-755-2676 or 1-303-755-6304 • [www.aornjournal.org](http://www.aornjournal.org)

**Government Employees**

If this work has been written in the course of the author’s employment by the United States Government, mark the “Government Employee” line at the end of this form. A work prepared by a government employee as part of his or her official duties is called a “work of the US Government” and is not subject to copyright. If it is not prepared as part of the employee’s official duties, it may be subject to copyright.

**Transfer of Copyright**

In consideration of AORN’s taking action in reviewing and editing this manuscript, the author(s) hereby transfers, assigns, or otherwise conveys copyright ownership to AORN, Inc, for publication by the *AORN Journal*. This copyright release gives AORN, Inc, permanent publication rights for all print and electronic media (including all alternative media currently in existence [eg, Internet, CD-ROM] or that may be developed in the future) and international publication rights (including translations). The author(s) declares that the manuscript contains no matter that is, to the best of his/her knowledge, libelous or unlawful, or that infringes upon any copyright. By signing this statement, the author(s) confirms approval of the manuscript contents and verifies that the manuscript is original and has not been previously published or is not currently under consideration by another publication.

Author Name \_\_\_\_\_

Manuscript Title \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you are a Government Employee

---

**Return signed forms by fax to the *AORN Journal* Editorial Office at 1-303-750-3441.**

AORN Journal Editorial Office • [aornjournal@aorn.org](mailto:aornjournal@aorn.org) • 2170 South Parker Road, Suite 300 • Denver, CO 80231-5711 •  
Phone: 1-800-755-2676 or 1-303-755-6304 • [www.aornjournal.org](http://www.aornjournal.org)