

## FAIRVASC Authorship Policy

### *1. Submission and Evaluation Process*

Before submitting any scientific material—such as papers, abstracts, or related outputs—produced using the FAIRVASC infrastructure, the authors must submit a formal application to the FAIRVASC Consortium. This ensures alignment with the consortium's principles and collaborative standards.

To initiate this process, the Corresponding Author must submit the final manuscript draft to the Consortium Coordinator (Giacomo Emmi) and Secretary (Giacomo Bagni). The draft will then be circulated among Consortium members involved in the manuscript for review; the Consortium Coordinator will collect the feedback, including any suggested revisions, and provide the revised manuscript version to the Corresponding Author.

Submission of the work will only proceed upon receiving formal approval from the Consortium Coordinator.

#### **Important Considerations:**

- Only studies compliant with FAIRVASC's Authorship Policy and Terms of Reference will be reviewed.
- The results should be disseminated through publication in peer-reviewed international journals and/or by submission to congresses with abstract selection committees
- Submissions must derive from projects formally approved via the FAIRVASC Project Proposal Form (FORM A for independent researchers, academics, or hospital-based researchers) and endorsed by the FAIRVASC Scientific Research Committee (SRC) (see the FAIRVASC COLLABORATIVE FAIRVASC PROJECTS PROPOSALS POLICY Document).
- Scientific outputs not subjected to this preliminary approval process will not be authorized for submission.
- These requirements apply to both internal Consortium members and external contributors.

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### *2. Authorship Criteria*

FAIRVASC adopts authorship guidelines aligned with the Vancouver recommendations (ICMJE, 2018).

To qualify for authorship, individuals must meet criterion 1 (1a and/or 1b and/or 1c) AND criterion 2 AND criterion 3 below:

**Criterion 1:** a) Substantial contributions to study conception and design; and/or b) Substantial contributions to acquisition of data; and/or c) Substantial contributions to analysis and interpretation of data.

**Criterion 2:** Drafting the article and/or critically revising the intellectual content .

**Criterion 3:** Approval of the final version of the article.

**Authorship Order:**

- **First/Co-First Authors:** Individuals who contributed most significantly, including project leadership, conducting most of the work, and manuscript drafting.
- **Middle Authors:** Collaborators who contributed substantially to data acquisition, analysis, interpretation, or manuscript preparation (listed alphabetically).
- **Senior Authors:** Typically, principal investigators or senior researchers providing oversight and intellectual contributions.
- **Corresponding Author:** Manages manuscript submission, communication with journals, and ensures co-author acknowledgment and informed consent.

Given FAIRVASC's collaborative framework, its consortium-based nature, and the collaborative effort for infrastructure maintenance, **all publications must reference the core consortium members, and indicate their role as collaborators.** This will generally take the form of “*on behalf of the FAIRVASC consortium*” at the end of the author list.

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### 3. Guidelines for Specific Research Output types

**Clinical Research Using Federated Data:**

- At least one representative from each registry site should be invited to join the writing team as co-author.
- Registry representatives must ensure acknowledgment of national collaborators (e.g., Ph.D. students, fellows, and clinical experts).

**Technical/Computational Modeling:**

- Publications using FAIRVASC platform technology, without applied use of federated clinical data, must still reference the core consortium members, appended with “on behalf of the FAIRVASC consortium,” and accompanied by a detailed contribution footnote.

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### 4. Acknowledgment of Contributions

Contributors who do not meet authorship criteria, but have provided significant support (e.g., technical assistance, data collection, or advisory roles) should be recognized in the acknowledgment section.

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### 5. Disputes, Changes, and Compliance

- **Authorship Disputes:** Resolved through mediation, expert consultation, or institutional policies.
- **Changes in Authorship:** Require written consent from all affected parties and are permissible only in cases of misattribution or disputes.

- **Ethical Standards:** Authors must adhere to ethical principles, including data sharing, conflict of interest disclosure, and data integrity.

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#### *6. Policy Review and Amendments*

The FAIRVASC Authorship Policy will undergo periodic review by the Steering Committee to ensure relevance and effectiveness. Changes will be formally communicated to all Consortium members. This policy underscores FAIRVASC's commitment to fostering collaboration, ethical conduct, and responsible authorship in scientific endeavors.