

## **Explanatory notes on editorial integrity. Prohibition on *ghostwriting***

Academic integrity is one of the cornerstones of the quality of academic work. Readers should be confident that the authors of a publication present the results of their work in a transparent, reliable and honest way, irrespective of whether they have written it themselves or with the support of a specialised entity (an individual or an institution).

The ethical attitude of a researcher and the highest editorial standards should be evidenced by the inclusion of clear information about the entities involved in the creation of a given work (through their expertise, contribution in kind, financial contribution, etc.). This is a manifestation not only of courtesy, but also of social responsibility.

Examples to the contrary include “*ghostwriting*” and “*guest authorship*”.

In the case of “*ghostwriting*”, a person has made a substantial contribution to the manuscript without disclosing his/her participation as a co-author or without being credited as a writer in the acknowledgement section of the publication.

In the case of “*guest authorship*” (“*honorary authorship*”), a person is listed as the author or co-author of a manuscript even though his/her contribution was minimal or non-existent.(...)

To prevent “*ghostwriting*” and “*guest authorship*”, editors of periodicals should put in place appropriate field-specific or discipline-specific procedures or implement the following solutions:

1. Editors are obliged to require that authors disclose the involvement of individual authors in the creation of a manuscript (including their affiliations and contributions, i.e. who is the author of the concepts, principles, methods, the protocol, etc. used in preparing the manuscript). However, the primary responsibility lies with the author submitting the manuscript.
2. In the “Instructions for Authors”, editors should explain that “*ghostwriting*” and “*guest authorship*” are manifestations of academic misconduct, and that all detected cases will be revealed and reported to the relevant entities (authors’ employing institutions, academic societies, associations of academic editors, etc.)
3. Editors should obtain information about the funding sources of a given publication and contributions of scientific research institutions, associations and other entities (financial disclosure).
4. Editors should document all forms of academic misconduct, in particular, violations and breaches of the ethical rules pertaining to academic work.

Quoted after:

[http://www.nauka.gov.pl/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Finansowanie/finansowanie\\_nauki/List\\_a\\_za\\_sopism/20111128\\_FAQ.pdf](http://www.nauka.gov.pl/fileadmin/user_upload/Finansowanie/finansowanie_nauki/List_a_za_sopism/20111128_FAQ.pdf); accessed on 12 January 2012.