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## Memorandum

To: Trialists

Fr: Curtis Meinert

Re: My wishes for 2019

### Wish # 1

That authors of results of trials include registration numbers in abstracts of their papers or statements indicating that the trials were not registered and to do so independent of editors.

Registration is now part of the fabric of trials. The research community and those who volunteer in trials should know the uptake of registration. A step forward in learning that is with authors indicating whether the trials being reported were registered.

Authors should assume that publications will be indexed by the NLM to the publication type [controlled clinical trials] if they involve prospective followup and are comparative and, therefore, that information on registration should be reported in the publication.

### Wish # 2

That the ICMJE revise its edict of “no registration, no publication” to one in which editors indicate if the trial was registered and when it was registered relative to start of enrollment.

*member journals will require, as a condition of consideration for publication, registration in a public trials registry. Trials must register at or before the onset of patient enrollment. This policy applies to any clinical trial starting enrollment after July 1, 2005. For trials that began enrollment prior to this date, the ICMJE member journals will require registration by September 13, 2005, before considering the trial for publication. (JAMA 2004; 292:1,363-1,364)*

The policy attaches stigma to authors who, for whatever reason, fail to register or register after the start of enrollment, and to editors for publishing such trials. The policy is an “incentive” for editors to not report registration numbers rather than indicate results are from a trial that was not registered or registered “late”.