



Department of Epidemiology
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
415 N. Washington Street, 2nd Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21231

3 May 2017

Memorandum

To: Trialists

Fr: Curtis Meinert

Re: Authorship forms in 2016 publications

Last week (27 April) I outlined authorship forms for trials. This memo gives frequency of those forms for 2016 publications.

Half of the 2016 publications appearing in the four major journals listed below, indexed as “randomized controlled trial”, had masthead listings that included named authors and the corporate name of the study group (Mod conv). None of the publications had only the corporate name of the study group in masthead listings.

**Masthead listing in 2016 publications indexed as
“randomized controlled trial”**

Journal	Authorship form			Total
	Conv	Mod conv	Corp	
BMJ	9	2	0	11
JAMA	40	27	0	67
Lancet	54	37	0	91
NEJM	51	87	0	138
Total	154	153	0	307

There were 11,532 publications in 2016 indexed to the publication type “randomized controlled trial” (as of 28 March 2017). Only 4.4% (513) of the author fields had corporate names in them and there were just two with only a corporate name in the masthead.