

# Review of: "Honorary Authorship in Biomedical Journals: The Endless Story"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

This is an improved version of the editorial. It contains a few typos which need correction, e.g., "ostdifferent" four lines from the end. My main comment is that author list mistakes which are deliberate are seldom punished, and that there needs to be some mechanism to check abuses and punish offenders. Retraction of articles with inflated authorship should be standard, with more severe sanctions for the corresponding author of the ms. But it is difficult to know which articles should be investigated, and how. The presence of many authors on a ms is not sufficient grounds for suspicion, but failure of authors to state on oath that they comply with all ICMJE criteria should lead to further enquiry.