

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

Elisabeth Julie Vargo¹

¹ Center for Open Science

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The article presents a current issue of contemporary academics, i.e., the assignment of honorary authorships on scientific publications. This is indeed a pressing issue in academic publishing that should be addressed by the scientific community.

Although the author effectively brings forth the issue, they do little to suggest original solutions. This would be important for a well-rounded paper and to justify its publication. Criteria for authorship according to the ICMJE are described, however, how does the author view these criteria? How can they be improved? What can be done to ensure that journals effectively investigate and verify the role of each author in the work they publish?

Moreover, the title entails that honorary authorship is an endless story – how is this explained in the article? What is intended exactly with this statement?

Further suggestions for improvement:

- In the paragraph starting with "To clarify how unethical this practice is, I would like to remind.." Here, it would be advisable to describe from an objective point of view the unethicity of honorary authorship, rather than presenting it as a personal point of view of the author.
- Also, the presentation of advantages/disadvantages relating to honorary authorship could be presented in a more orderly fashion, separating the advantages/disadvantages for the scholar receiving the honorary authorship from the advantages/disadvantages for the scholar giving the honorary authorship.
- Finally, the author could attempt to critically assess this phenomenon in the context of the macro-cultural trends characterizing contemporary academia.