



VASCERN Authorship Guidelines

This document refers to the set of guidelines that should be followed when listing the names of authors/contributors in a VASCERN output.*

1) Names of all members of each RDWG (including ePAG co-chair and potentially other ePAG patient advocates) that participated in the creation or validation of an output will be included at the beginning of a document (i.e. title page), except in the case of PoKs, where they will appear on a slide at the end of the video (credits).

- a. Only the participating members will be included: to sign authorship for a document, you have to participate in its creation. If a member of the group did not participate, he is not an author.
- b. A maximum of 2 HCP reps per HCP should be included, unless an additional representative provided a considerable contribution to the output. And the overall weighting between HCPs should still remain comparable
- c. Affiliated Partners, when officially named and affiliated to VASCERN and when applicable, will be listed together with the HCP reps and not in a separate list.
- d. Guests are to be included in a separate list with the mention "Cooperating Guests", like for existing Do's and Don'ts published.

2) Names of members will be listed with their affiliated country in brackets.

3) Ordering of the names will be as follows:

- Lead author (person who initiated the document, speaker of PoK, leader of a work package/ task force leading the document etc.) will be in first position.
- Co-Chair and Chair of RDWG are in second-last and last position, and

- The rest of the participating members of the RDWG are presented in alphabetical order of their last name, alternating A-Z and reverse alphabetical order Z-A.

Specific situations:

- In the case that the Chair or Co-Chair is the lead author, they will be in first position, followed by the rest of the group in alphabetical order.
- In the case of 2 Co-Chairs (specific to HHT): the asterix will be used to signify that 2 people did the same amount of work.
- Membership of VASCERN is not a guarantee of authorship.

4) In the case of an original document that is modified/recognised by VASCERN:

a. Document modified by VASCERN:

- i. At the beginning or the end of the document : "Updated by XX RDWG of VASCERN (list of authors, following our general author rules) based on a document by XX (list of authors, if exists, based on the rules of the original document)"
- ii. "Revised" can be used instead of "updated" if extensive modifications are made

b. Document not modified but recognised by the group: add to the existing list of authors (if it existed), followed by "validated/approved by XX RDWG of VASCERN" and names of group members following the same rules as above.

5) Flexibility with these guidelines will be considered for specific issues (e.g. formal scientific journal publications with specific rules, see point 6), but there should be a good reason not to follow the guidelines. These guidelines are a guarantee of recognition for everyone who makes a contribution to VASCERN.

6) For Scientific Publications sent to scientific journals for publication:

Scientific journal publications should follow the ICMJE rules:

"All those designated as authors should meet all four criteria for authorship:

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND

2. *Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND*
3. *Final approval of the version to be published; AND*
4. *Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved. “*
“and all who meet the four criteria should be identified as authors.”

a) For each VASCERN member’s affiliation in the publication, please add: “VASCERN (RDWG abbreviation) European Reference Centre”.

Example for full HCP reps:

¹ Department of Clinical Genetics and Cardiology, Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands; *VASCERN HTAD European Reference Centre*

Example for affiliated partners:

¹ Department of Clinical Genetics and Cardiology, Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands; *VASCERN HTAD Affiliated Partner Centre*

b) In the **Acknowledgement** section of the scientific publication, please include one of the three sentences that name VASCERN and the project ID. The three situations are given in the table below and will help you choose which sentence to use.

VASCERN Acknowledgement	Situation
<p>1. " <u>Two (or more) of the author(s) of this publication is/are (a) member(s) of the European Reference Network on Rare Multisystemic Vascular Diseases (VASCERN) - Project ID: 769036</u></p>	<p>A general option that members can use regardless of there being 2 or more HCPS involved. This gives attention to the existence of ERN without it acknowledging any direct input from it.</p>
<p>2. "This work is generated within the European Reference Network on Rare Multisystemic Vascular Diseases (VASCERN) - Project ID: 769036</p>	<p>An option that an HCP can choose to add if the work has come into being by the work carried out by at least 2 or more ERN members working within the structure of the network (WP/SNW)</p>

<p>3. "This study/project/publication/Guidelines/survey¹ has been supported by the European Reference Network on Rare Multisystemic Vascular Diseases (VASCERN) - Project ID: 769036, which is partly co-funded by the European Union within the framework of the Third Health Programme "ERN-2016 - Framework Partnership Agreement 2017-2021."</p> <p>please choose appropriate wording</p>	<p>If funding is allocated to a publication/project/etc.¹</p> <p>This can apply if the project was discussed during RDWG face-to-face meetings, which are funded by VASCERN, or if VASCERN provides funding for the article-processing charges.</p>
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c) For scientific publications in which you are the only co-author from VASCERN, we recommend that you add "VASCERN (RDWG) European Reference Centre" (see point 6a) to you author affiliations.

If there are two or more members from your HCP as co-authors then you can equally add the VASCERN acknowledgement option 1 (see point 6b) to the acknowledgement section of your paper (even if it will not be counted as a collaborative publication) as it will raise awareness for our network and the ERN certification of your expert center.

***For VASCERN outputs please use the appropriate VASCERN template that follows our visual identify guidelines (VASCERN PoK template, VASCERN Patient pathways template etc.)**