

SOP: updated co-author requirements

Version	Author(s)	Date	Changes	Approved by
1.0	Mathias Lühr Hansen	26.07.21	Initial version	Gorm Greisen

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In the SafeBoosC-III protocol (<https://www.rigshospitalet.dk/english/departments/juliane-marie-centre/departments-of-neonatology/research/SafeboosC-III/Sider/the-protocol.aspx>) it is stated that

“Authorship will be determined according to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. An additional requirement is one author per NICU completing at least 30 participants.”

Thus, up until 26th of July 2021, 30 randomised babies have been required to become a co-author. However, it is clear that not all investigators will reach this, especially when more than 70 centres are randomising. Contribution to the trial should be acknowledged, regardless of failing to randomise 30 babies. On the other hand, some centres will randomise more than 60 babies, while other centres will only randomise four or five. The extra contribution should also be rewarded. Therefore, a new set of co-author requirements were discussed and voted on, during the 14th SafeBoosC-III steering committee meeting (26th of July 2021). All nine members attending the meeting, as well as three additional members who voted per mail, voted in favour for the new co-author requirements. One member voted per mail for a different solution. Thus 12 out of 22 steering committee members voted in favour for the new set of co-author requirements.

As per 26th of July 2021, the new co-author requirements in the SafeBoosC-III trial, are as follows:

- 1) All investigators that have randomised at least one baby will obtain co-authorship. We hereby acknowledge the effort in getting the trial up-and-running, which is quite an effort, and the contribution of one or more babies to the trial.
- 2) Investigators who randomise more than 30 babies, will be allowed to include one additional investigator from their centre as co-author on the main publication – on the condition that he or she has contributed substantially to the conduct of the trial.
- 3) Investigators who randomise more than 60 babies will be allowed to include two additional investigators from the centre as co-authors on the main publication – on the condition that they have contributed substantially to the conduct of the trial.