



Active Healthy Kids Global Alliance (AHKGA) Publications and Data Ownership Policy

The purpose of the AHKGA Publications and Data Ownership Policy is to provide structure and support to the planning of the dissemination of findings/data generated by AHKGA activities.

Goals

The goals of the AHKGA Publications Policy and Data Ownership Policy are to:

- ensure accurate, uniform, timely, transparent, and high-quality reporting of AHKGA activities and results (reporting may be in the form of press releases, interviews, presentations, infographics, webinars, reports, publications or other knowledge transfer mechanism)
- preserve the scientific integrity of AHKGA
- avoid overlapping publications
- respect the contributions of AHKGA members (AHKGA Board of Directors' members, Report Card leaders, Report Card team members, AHKGA trainees)
- ensure that the timing of publications and presentations serves the right of the public to know our findings without jeopardizing AHKGA activities
- maintain an up-to-date list of AHKGA presentations, publications, and approved proposals
- support publication/knowledge transfer initiatives by researchers with diverse backgrounds and ensure their fair representation.

The criteria for authorship for AHKGA publications will be guided by the principles described in the [Harvard Medical School Authorship Guidelines](#). By extension of this reasoning, it is logical that those who meet the criteria for authorship are not unduly excluded as authors.

Procedures for Knowledge Transfer Proposals

Proposals for presentations, publications, theses, and other knowledge dissemination/transfer activities using data gathered and synthesized by the AHKGA from multiple countries should be made to the Chair of the AHKGA Publications Committee. Proposals should include a working title of the publication, the name of the lead author and a list of proposed co-authors (i.e., the writing group), a brief rationale and description of the hypothesis or aim of the paper/poster/presentation, a list of variables required as well as a time plan. The AHKGA Publications Committee can suggest additional contributors/co-authors to ensure the respect of relevant AHKGA members' contributions. The AHKGA Publications Committee must approve all abstract and paper proposals prior to submission. Please submit proposals for publications, abstracts, manuscripts that use AHKGA Global Matrix related materials before starting to write it to ensure adequate time for review by the AHKGA Publications Committee. Submissions will generally be reviewed within two weeks.

Possible decisions by the Publications Committee are: (a) unconditional approval; (b) approval pending minor revision; (c) revise and resubmit; or (d) rejection.



Once approved, the writing group leader (lead author) will track and keep the Chair of the AHKGA Publications Committee informed of the status of all communications, from their inception through review and the final presentation or publication.

Authorship Guidelines

The writing group should do their best to include contributors with diverse backgrounds in terms of gender, ethnicity, and career stage, in particular from low- and middle- income countries, provided authorship guidelines are met. Researchers with such background are also encouraged to lead new publication/knowledge transfer initiatives and can approach the Publications Committee for support. The AHKGA endorses the principles of inclusion as summarized in Morton et al. (2022).¹

In the Acknowledgments section of published papers, when relevant, the “AHKGA Report Card team members and leaders” must be mentioned.

Individual authorship credit should be based on 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. All authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3.

Publications in Peer-reviewed Journal

AHKGA members are encouraged to present findings generated by secondary analyses using international data generated by AHKGA/Global Matrix activities. All abstracts need to be submitted to the AHKGA Publications Committee for approval at least three weeks prior to the beginning of the analyses.

Presentations at Local, Regional and International Meetings

AHKGA members are encouraged to present findings generated by AHKGA Global Matrix activities from multiple countries at scientific meetings. All abstracts need to be submitted to the AHKGA Publications Committee for approval at least five weeks prior to submission deadline.

Student Theses

A major aspect of AHKGA efforts is the development of research expertise and capacity building. Thus, the engagement of students, trainees and post-doctoral fellows is an important consideration. Students are encouraged to use AHKGA data in their graduate theses and the AHKGA Publications Committee must be notified before starting to document the student's intentions to use AHKGA data/findings from multiple countries. Individual papers contained within a thesis are subject to the overarching AHKGA Publications Policy; thus, it is imperative that students and their supervisors submit the proper documentation to the AHKGA Publications Committee at least five weeks before the student begins to work with AHKGA data.



Authorship Order

The order that authors are listed should be decided upon at the time the publication is proposed. However, it is understood that contributions may change during the course of analysis and writing, so deviations in the final authorship order are acceptable as long as justification is provided.

Data Ownership

Given the global relevance and scope of the Global Matrices, requests from third parties interested in performing deeper analyses/study of the Global Matrix data may be received. Once published, the AHKGA Global Matrices' grades are in the public domain while each country participating in the Global Matrix/developing a national Report Card can freely publish/promote their findings the way they see is best. Prior to their publication, AHKGA data (grades and associated rationales) from multiple countries are available upon reasonable request to the AHKGA Publications Committee.

The AHKGA owns the data from surveys previously circulated to Report Card team leaders/members. The AHKGA maintains a catalogue of related publications, presentations, success stories and potentially other forms of evidence of impact. These data are also available upon reasonable request to the AHKGA Publications Committee.

AHKGA Publications Committee

The AHKGA Publications Committee will be composed of five members, nominated by the AHKGA Publications Committee Chair and approved by the AHKGA Board of Directors. The AHKGA Publications Committee Chair will be nominated by the AHKGA Board of Directors. The Publications Committee will serve as a resource to facilitate the dissemination of research and findings generated by AHKGA activities, keep track of all research outputs, and provide scientific expertise and support to the AHKGA Board when needed.

Reference

1. Morton B, Vercueil A, Masekela R, Heinz E, Reimer L, Saleh S, Kalinga C, Seekles M, Biccard B, Chakaya J, Abimbola S. Consensus statement on measures to promote equitable authorship in the publication of research from international partnerships. *Anaesthesia*. 2022;77(3):264-76.