

# Natural Experiments Study Group

## -- Publication policy --

### Purpose

As part of the activities of the NEXT study group, output will be generated, including for example presentations at conferences, manuscripts published on pre-print servers, and journal articles. This document describes the NEXT study group policy regarding publication of these types of output by any of its members.

### Open access

Journals with Open Access publication standards are preferred for the NEXT study group publications.

### Authorship

All authors are expected to qualify as (co-)author, according to international guidelines (see ICMJE guidelines, <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html> )

### When to acknowledge the NEXT study group?

In principle, any output that is the result of activities by the NEXT study group, should acknowledge the group. It is at the discretion of the group members to decide whether a publication should acknowledge the NEXT study group.

### Acknowledgement

Preferably, the consortium is included in the author list, e.g., "Johnson A, Michaels B, on behalf of the Natural Experiments Study Group". Otherwise, the consortium could be acknowledged in the acknowledgement section, by means of the following text: "This work was part of the activities of the Natural Experiments Study Group."

### Publications with authors outside of the consortium

For publications together with authors who are not members of the consortium, the following comment can be added to the acknowledgment section: "A. Johnson and B. Michaels are members of the Natural Experiments Study Group."

### Procedure

In case output is considered to be the result of a group activity, the corresponding author decides whether the output is considered to be an article that is intended to be published in an international scientific journal.

In case the output is considered an article that is intended to be published in an international scientific journal, the corresponding author sends the manuscript to the members of the publication panel (see below for current details) via email. The members of the publication panel assess whether the publication can indeed be considered part of the consortium's activities and whether it can be approved. They decide within 7 days; if the corresponding author does not receive a response within these 7 days, (s)he can consider this to be an implicit approval. However, if the members send an email within 7 days in which they indicate more time is needed to assess the publication, the corresponding author has to await that deferred decision. After a positive response, the corresponding author can continue with disseminating the output as planned.

Otherwise (i.e., no article for an international scientific journal), the corresponding author informs the members of the publication panel (see below for current details) via email about the output, including relevant detail (title, co-authors, type of output, etc.). After that, the corresponding author can continue with disseminating the output as planned.

#### Publication panel

1. PD. Dr FJP Beeres, LUKS, Luzern, Switzerland: [frank.beeres@luks.ch](mailto:frank.beeres@luks.ch)
2. Prof. Dr. RHH Groenwold, LUMC, Leiden, the Netherlands: [r.h.h.groenwold@lumc.nl](mailto:r.h.h.groenwold@lumc.nl)
3. Dr. RM Houwert, UMCU, Utrecht, the Netherlands: [r.m.houwert@umcutrecht.nl](mailto:r.m.houwert@umcutrecht.nl)

#### Exceptions and concerns

Any concerns or requests for exceptions to these guidelines should be brought to the attention prof. dr. L.P.H. Leenen (UMCU, the Netherlands, [l.h.m.leenen@umcutrecht.nl](mailto:l.h.m.leenen@umcutrecht.nl)) and prof. dr. R. Babst ([reto.babst@luks.ch](mailto:reto.babst@luks.ch)) who will decide about the concern or request.