Step 1. Authorship Responsibility, Criteria, and Contributions. Each author should meet all criteria below (A, B, C, and D) and should indicate general and specific contributions by reading criteria A, B, C, and D, and checking the appropriate boxes. A contribution statement based on this form will be published with the final version of your article; please ensure the contributions are accurate.

☐ A. I certify that

- The manuscript represents original and valid work and that neither this manuscript nor one with substantially similar content under my authorship has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere, except as described in the journal's submission form and cover letter submitted with the manuscript, or copies of closely related manuscripts have been provided; and
- I agree 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
- If requested, I will provide the data or will cooperate fully in obtaining and providing the data on which the manuscript is based for examination by the editors or their assignees; and
- For papers with more than 1 author, I agree to allow the corresponding author to serve as the primary correspondent with the editorial office, to review the edited manuscript and proof, and to make decisions regarding release of information in the manuscript to the media, federal agencies, or both; if I am the only author, I will be the corresponding author and agree to serve in the roles described above.

☐ B. I have given final approval of the submitted manuscript.

☐ C. I have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for (check 1 of 2 below)

- part of the content.
- the whole content.

☐ D. To qualify for authorship, you must check at least 1 box for each of the 3 categories of contributions listed below.

I have made substantial contributions to the intellectual content of the paper as described below.

1. Check at least 1 of 2 below

☐ concept and design
☐ acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data

2. Check at least 1 of 2 below

☐ drafting of the manuscript
☐ critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content

3. Check at least 1 below

☐ statistical analysis
☐ obtained funding
☐ administrative, technical, or material support
☐ supervision
☐ no additional contributions
☐ other
Step 1A. Acknowledgement Statement. Authors should obtain written permission from all individuals named in an Acknowledgment, since readers may infer their endorsement of data and conclusions. The corresponding author must check the following box:

☐ I certify that all persons who have made substantial contributions to the work reported in this manuscript (e.g., data collection, analysis, writing or editing assistance) but who do not fulfill the authorship criteria are named, along with their specific contributions in an Acknowledgment in the manuscript—and all such persons have provided me with written permission to be named.

Step 2. Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest
The purpose of this section is to provide readers of your manuscript with information about your other interests that could influence how they receive and understand your work. The section includes the questions from the ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest and is divided into 5 subsections.

Authors are expected to provide detailed information about all relevant financial interests, activities, relationships, and affiliations (other than those affiliations listed in the title page of the manuscript) including, but not limited to, employment, affiliation, funding and grants received or pending, consultancies, honoraria or payment, speakers bureaus, stock ownership or options, expert testimony, royalties, donation of medical equipment, or patents planned, pending, or issued.

- 2A. The work under consideration for publication.

This subsection asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking “No” means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party—that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation, or commercial sponsor, check “Yes.”

- 2B. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This subsection asks about your financial relationships with entities in the biomedical arena that could be perceived to influencer, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if an article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work’s sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations, or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

- 2C. Intellectual property.

This subsection asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed, and/or receiving royalties.

- 2D. Relationships not covered above.

Use this subsection to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

Definitions.

Entity: Government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc
Grant: A grant from an entity, generally (but not always) paid to your organization
Personal Fees: Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations
Non-Financial Support: Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc
Other: Anything not covered under the previous 3 boxes
Pending: The patent has been filed but not issued
Issued: The patent has been issued by the agency
Licensed: The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not
Royalties: Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

- 2E. Disclosure statement.

Step 2A. The Work Under Consideration for Publication
Did you or your institution at any time receive payment or services from a third party (government, commercial, private foundation, etc) for any aspect of the submitted work (including but not limited to grants, data monitoring board, study design, manuscript preparation, statistical analysis, etc)?

Are there any relevant conflicts of interest?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No
Are you certain that you or your institution did not receive payment or services from a third party for any aspect of the submitted work at any time, and that this is consistent with any disclosures you have indicated for recently published articles?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If yes, please fill out the appropriate information below. If you have more than 1 entity, press the “Add” button to add a row. Excess rows can be removed by pressing the “Remove” button.

|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------|------------------------|--------|----------|

Step 2B. Relevant Financial Activities Outside the Submitted Work

Place a check in the appropriate boxes in the table to indicate whether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities as described in the instructions. Use 1 line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by clicking the “Add” button to add a row. Excess rows can be removed by pressing the “Remove” button. You should report relationships that were present during the 36 months prior to publication.

Are there any relevant conflicts of interest?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No
Are you certain that you have no relevant financial activities outside the submitted work in the past 36 months, and that this is consistent with any disclosures you have indicated for recently published articles?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If yes, please fill out the appropriate information below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Entity</th>
<th>Grant?</th>
<th>Personal Fees?</th>
<th>Non-Financial Support?</th>
<th>Other?</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Step 2C. Intellectual Property—Patents and Copyrights

Do you have any patents, whether planned, pending, or issued, broadly relevant to the work?

Are there any relevant conflicts of interest?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No
Are you certain that you have no patents, whether planned, pending, or issued, broadly relevant to the work, and that this is consistent with any disclosures you have indicated for recently published articles?

☐ Yes  ☐ No

If yes, please fill out the appropriate information below. If you have more than 1 entity, press the “Add” button to add a row. Excess rows can be removed by pressing the “Remove” button.

|---------|----------|--------|-----------|------------|-----------|----------|

Step 2D. Relationships Not Covered Above

Are there other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work?

☐ Yes, the following relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):
☐ No other relationships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest
Are you certain that you have no other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work, and that this is consistent with any disclosures you have indicated for recently published articles?

☐ Yes  ☐ No
At the time of manuscript acceptance, the journal will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements. On occasion, the journal may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.

**Step 2E. Disclosure Statement**

Based on the above disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement in the box below after you click the “Generate Disclosure Statement” button. Any subsequent changes will also update the disclosure statement automatically after clicking the “Submit” button.

**Step 3. Publishing Agreement.** The corresponding author has selected an author-pay open access option for this manuscript under a CC-BY License.

**Eligibility:** Available only for authors of manuscripts reporting research funded by a not-for-profit foundation or government agency that requires immediate open access of published research articles in exchange for payment of article processing charges.

**Author requirements:** Payment of $5000 and transfer of a publication license to the journal.

**License rights:** Immediate open access on journal website on the day of publication, access to a PDF copy of the published article, retention of copyright, and the granting of a CC-BY license that permits others to distribute, remix, tweak, and build on the work, even commercially, without permission—provided that credit is given to the original authors and journal.

In addition, a copy of the published article will be deposited in PubMed Central.

All authors must select only 1 of the following: A, or B, or C:

- **A.** Publication License. In consideration of the action of the American Medical Association (AMA) in reviewing and editing this submission (manuscript, tables, figures, video, audio, and other supplemental files for publication), I hereby transfer, assign, or otherwise convey first Publication rights exclusively to the AMA, in the event that such work is published by the AMA, in addition to the attributes of a CC-BY License.

- **B.** Federal Employment. I was an employee of the US federal government or that of another nation when this work was conducted and prepared for publication; therefore, it is not protected by the Copyright Act.

- **C.** Work for hire. I am employed by an institution that considers this submission a “work made for hire” and therefore, I cannot transfer a Publication License.

**Name of Institution:**

**First Name of Authorized Representative:**

**Last Name of Authorized Representative:**

**Email Address of Authorized Representative:**

**Step 4. Confirmation.** Confirm that all information provided is accurate by checking the box below and then enter your complete name as it appears at the top of this form and date of confirmation in the fields below.

I certify that all information I have provided is accurate.

**Complete Name:**

**Date:**