



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta, GA 30341-3724

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To: Co-authors who work with CDC authors

From: Associate Director for Science Office,
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Subject: Information to non-CDC coauthors about CDC clearance

CDC values the contributions that scientists outside the agency make when they collaborate with CDC staff, and we thank you for your collaborative efforts.

Please be aware that manuscripts that include a CDC author must successfully complete CDC's clearance review process prior to submission to a journal or dissemination. This process helps ensure that your CDC co-author(s), as employees and representatives of a federal agency, are held to a high standard of scientific rigor. It also ensures that CDC co-authors adhere to applicable federal laws and current policies and do not present individual opinion in a manner that could be interpreted as the position of the agency. Clearance involves multiple levels of review within CDC and can involve relevant subject matter experts across the agency. Clearance is not for editing or peer review but authors may receive suggestions, and sometimes changes are required for clearance approval. Many authors find that comments received during CDC clearance help improve a manuscript.

The CDC clearance process typically takes at least four weeks and can take longer depending on the complexity of the manuscript and the level of clearance review that it might require. CDC appreciates your patience during the review process and asks that authors plan for 4-8 weeks of clearance time in their schedules. If you have questions concerning the CDC clearance process or need status updates about a manuscript undergoing review, please contact the CDC lead author.