

# AUTHOR(S) DECLARATION FORM

## Article Title:

The corresponding or the first author is responsible for the article and must be submitted to the editorial team of our journals alongside this completed and signed form.

Use this form to specify the contribution of each author of your article. A distinction is made between five types of contributions: Conceived and designed the analysis; Collected the data; Contributed data or analysis tools; Performed the analysis; Wrote the paper.

## **SECTION A: AUTHOR(S) AND CONTRIBUTION**

1. To be an author, a person must have made substantive contributions to the study at least 4 of the criteria presented in the following table.
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3. It is of all authors' responsibility to approve the final version of the article before publication.
4. All authors are to fulfil the conditions specified in the above-mentioned first 3 items.
5. Those who do not fulfil the specified number of contributions and conditions are to be mentioned in the final "Acknowledgements" section of the article.

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## **SECTION B: CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE**

With reference to the **Conflict of Interest Policy**, and in the interest of transparency, we ask the author(s) to disclose all relationships/ activities/ interests listed below that are related to the content of your article. "Related" means any relation with for-profit or not-for-profit third parties whose interests may be affected by the content of the article. Disclosure represents a commitment to transparency and does not necessarily indicate a bias. If you are in doubt about whether to list a relationship/ activity/ interest, it is preferable that you do so.

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*The declaration shall be made by the first and corresponding author on behalf of the co-authors and contributors of the article. The first and corresponding author is the one individual who takes primary responsibility for communication with the journal during the article submission, peer-review, and publication process.*

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