

This policy has two (2) parts

1. Projects initiating outside of NODAL Work Groups (investigator initiated)
2. Projects initiating from a NODAL Work Group

PROJECTS INITIATING OUTSIDE OF NODAL WORK GROUPS

- The NODAL Executive Committee Co-Chairs will route all [project requests](#) to all members of the Executive Committee to review.

Project review: All projects will be routed to the NODAL Executive Committee for review. The Committee may approve with comments, return for revisions, or reject the proposal.

Project team: Once the project request is approved, the NODAL Executive Committee will make the following recommendations regarding the project team:

- The NODAL Executive Committee will determine if the project requires additional experts to be added to the team. This might include (a) individual(s) who played a key role in generating the data to be actively involved in the analysis of the data and preparing the study abstracts and manuscripts and/or (b) "specialty" experts (for example, pathologists, cytogeneticists, radiologists, etc.).
- Based on the extensive work of the cooperative group statisticians, the NODAL Executive Committee and cooperative group chairs will be invited to nominate a statistician to participate in the work and be included on the manuscript (for cooperative groups that contributed patients to be included in the proposed project).

Authorship of Abstracts and Manuscripts

- Nominated individuals **MUST** be actively and intellectually involved in the project to be a co-author.
- It is anticipated that collaboration with international experts will greatly enhance the research conducted with these data.
- Authorship will be determined by the primary investigators for this project request, in alignment with the above rules.
- Co-authorship will only be warranted for collaborators who meet the [ICMJE recommendations for authorship](#).
- The Co-Chairs of NODAL are not automatically co-authors; they will be co-authors only if they have been actively and intellectually involved in the project.
- To support the training goals of NODAL, (full) professors are asked to consider co-senior authorship or not being senior author.

Acknowledgments: The [hodgkiN lymphOma DatA coLLaboration \(NODAL\)](#) and the Pediatric Cancer Data Commons are supported in part by Children's Research Foundation, Circle of Service Foundation, Comer Development Board, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS), St. Baldrick's Foundation (SBF), and McDonough B+ (Be Positive) Foundation. This work is made possible through the efforts of Children's Oncology Group (COG), St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the Pediatric Hodgkin Consortium (St. Jude-Stanford-Dana-Farber).

Review: The NODAL Executive Committee will review all abstracts and manuscripts prior to submission for publication to ensure proper acknowledgments are included.

PROJECTS INITIATING FROM A NODAL WORK GROUP

Project and project team: The NODAL Executive Committee will make the following recommendations regarding the project and the project team:

1. All NODAL Work Groups will submit project and manuscript ideas to the NODAL Executive Committee, including the topic, lead author, and identified co-authors.
 - a. The Executive Committee will ensure appropriate and balanced representation from all cooperative groups.
 - b. For projects and manuscripts that cross disciplines, the initiating Work Group lead will contact the Work Group lead(s) of the additional discipline(s) for a collaborator recommendation. Consideration will be given to expertise and cooperative groups. The NODAL Executive Committee Co-Chairs may be consulted for recommendations.
2. The NODAL Executive Committee will review and approve the ideas and the author lists.
3. The NODAL Executive Committee will maintain a list of planned projects and manuscripts identified by all NODAL Work Groups.

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Review: The NODAL co-chairs and cooperative group/consortium chairs will review all abstracts and manuscripts prior to submission for publication to assure:

- A consensus paper reflects a true consensus of the groups and not just the expert opinions of the work group authors. Feedback will be provided along with an indication that re-review is required or authors may proceed with submission.
- Proper acknowledgments are included.