Changes in authorship
(d) Request for removal of author after publication

Clarify reason for change in authorship

- Author(s) gives acceptable reason for change
- Check that all authors agree to change (including excluded author)
- Publish correction

Author(s) alleges fraud/misconduct

See flowchart for fabricated data

Author(s) has difference in interpretation of data

Suggest author(s) put views in a letter and explain you will give other authors a chance to respond and will publish both letters if suitable (i.e. correct length, not libellous)

- Author(s) writes a letter
- Other authors submit response
- Publish both letters

- Author(s) does not agree to write letter (or writes something unpublishable)
- Other authors do not wish to respond
- Publish minority view letter

Ask why author wishes to be removed from list – refer to journal guidelines or authorship declaration which should state that all authors meet appropriate criteria. Ask if author suspects fraud/misconduct

Author(s) has difference in interpretation of data

Suggest author(s) put views in a letter and explain you will give other authors a chance to respond and will publish both letters if suitable (i.e. correct length, not libellous)

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