



Muscle Study Group

The 12th Annual Meeting of
The Muscle Study Group

1998-2009

Robert C. Griggs, M.D.

Chair, MSG Executive committee



“For a few seconds I think Griggs changed his mind about polymyositis.”

MSG Executive Committee 2009-2010

Chair:	Robert Griggs, MD (2014)
Co-Chair:	Richard Barohn, MD (2014)
Investigator Members:	Petra Kaufmann, MD (2010) Anthony Amato, MD (2009) Donald Sanders, MD (2009)
Evaluator Member:	Laura Herbelin (2011)
Study coordinator:	Kristen Whiteside (2011)
Biostatistician:	Michael McDermott, PhD (2011)
Director, MSG Coordination Center:	Rabi Tawil, MD (2011)



MSG History

- Mid 1970's: CIDD Group Michael Brooke, Jerry Mendell, Gerald Fenichel, Robert Griggs, Wendy King, Shree Pandya, Julaine Florence
- Mid 1980's: CIDD added Alan Pestronk and Richard T. Moxley, III
- Early 1990's: Canadian Collaborators
- Mid 1990's: FSH-DY and PP Working Groups
- 1998: Muscle Study Group formed

MSG Organizational Steps

- Modeled constitution on Parkinson Study Group
- Michael McDermott: Biostatistician
- Rabi Tawil: MSG Coordination Center
- Studies of IBM, FSHD, ALS: John Kissel, Carlayne Jackson
- MG: Donald Sanders

Diseases Studied: Support

ALS: Foundation

SMA: Foundation

MG: FDA, industry

CMT: MDA, Foundation

FSHD: NIH, MDA

DMD: NIH, MDA

Periodic Paralysis: NIH, MDA

Myotonia: NIH, FDA

Successes of the MSG

- Ten multicenter trials
- Many other multicenter studies (quality of life, other outcome measures)
- Annual meeting: Extramural support, mentoring focus
- Mentoring activities for other investigators/groups

MSG: Work-in-Progress

- Regulatory approval? (Periodic paralysis – dichlorphenamide; DMD – deflazacort)
- Large international collaborations: Periodic Paralysis (5 countries, 13 centers): DMD with Treat-NMD(10 countries, 41 centers)
- Pharma collaborations
- Integration with Rare Disease Network; CTSA/CTSI

MSG: Possible Future Goals

- Mentoring session for junior investigators/trainees – annual or biannual
- Pilot grant funding ?
- Fellowship support ?
- Expanding the international reach
 - China
 - India
 - Africa

MSG Challenges (1)

- Infrastructure support
 - Administration
 - Biostatistics
 - Coordination Center
 - Too much work vs too little work
 - Meeting expenses

MSG Challenges (2)

- How big is too big?
- Investigator support
- Authorship issues
- Building collaborations with other groups for shared projects
- “Rochester’s thing”

The Authorship Lottery: An Impediment to Multicenter Studies

- Authorship credit
- The problem with first-final author conventions
- The case for “Muscle Study Group” as author
- Having your cake and eating it too.



I'm fifty-three, but I have the résumé of a much younger man.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Genomewide Association Studies of Stroke

M. Arfan Ikram, M.D., Sudha Seshadri, M.D., Joshua C. Bis, Ph.D.,
Myriam Fornage, Ph.D., Anita L. DeStefano, Ph.D., Yurii S. Aulchenko, Ph.D.,
Stephanie Debette, M.D., Ph.D., Thomas Lumley, Ph.D.,
Aaron R. Folsom, M.D., M.P.H., Evita G. van den Herik, M.D.,
Michiel J. Bos, M.D., Ph.D., Alexa Beiser, Ph.D., Mary Cushman, M.D., M.Sc.,
Lenore J. Launer, Ph.D., Eyal Shahar, M.D., M.P.H., Maksim Struchalin, M.Sc.,
Yangchun Du, B.A., Nicole L. Glazer, Ph.D., Wayne D. Rosamond, Ph.D.,
Fernando Rivadeneira, M.D., Ph.D., Margaret Kelly-Hayes, R.N., D.Ed.,
Oscar L. Lopez, M.D., Josef Coresh, M.D., Ph.D., Albert Hofman, M.D., Ph.D.,
Charles DeCarli, M.D., Susan R. Heckbert, M.D., Ph.D.,
Peter J. Koudstaal, M.D., Ph.D., Qiong Yang, Ph.D., Nicholas L. Smith, Ph.D.,
Carlos S. Kase, M.D., Kenneth Rice, Ph.D., Talin Haritunians, Ph.D.,
Gerwin Roks, M.D., Ph.D., Paul L.M. de Kort, M.D., Ph.D., Kent D. Taylor, Ph.D.,
Lonneke M. de Lau, M.D., Ph.D., Ben A. Oostra, Ph.D., Andre G. Uitterlinden, Ph.D.,
Jerome I. Rotter, M.D., Eric Boerwinkle, Ph.D., Bruce M. Psaty, M.D., Ph.D.,
Thomas H. Mosley, Ph.D., Cornelia M. van Duijn, Ph.D.,
Monique M.B. Breteler, M.D., Ph.D., W.T. Longstreth, Jr., M.D.,
and Philip A. Wolf, M.D.

The authors' affiliations are listed in the Appendix. Address reprint requests to Dr. Seshadri at the Department of Neurology, Boston University School of Medicine, 72 E. Concord St., Boston, MA 02118, or at suseshad@bu.edu.

Drs. Ikram, Seshadri, Bis, Fornage, DeStefano, Mosley, van Duijn, Breteler, Longstreth, and Wolf contributed equally to this article.

This article (10.1056/NEJMoa0900094) was published at NEJM.org on April 15, 2009.

N Engl J Med 2009;360:1718-28.

Copyright © 2009 Massachusetts Medical Society.

Authorship Credit – Essential for:

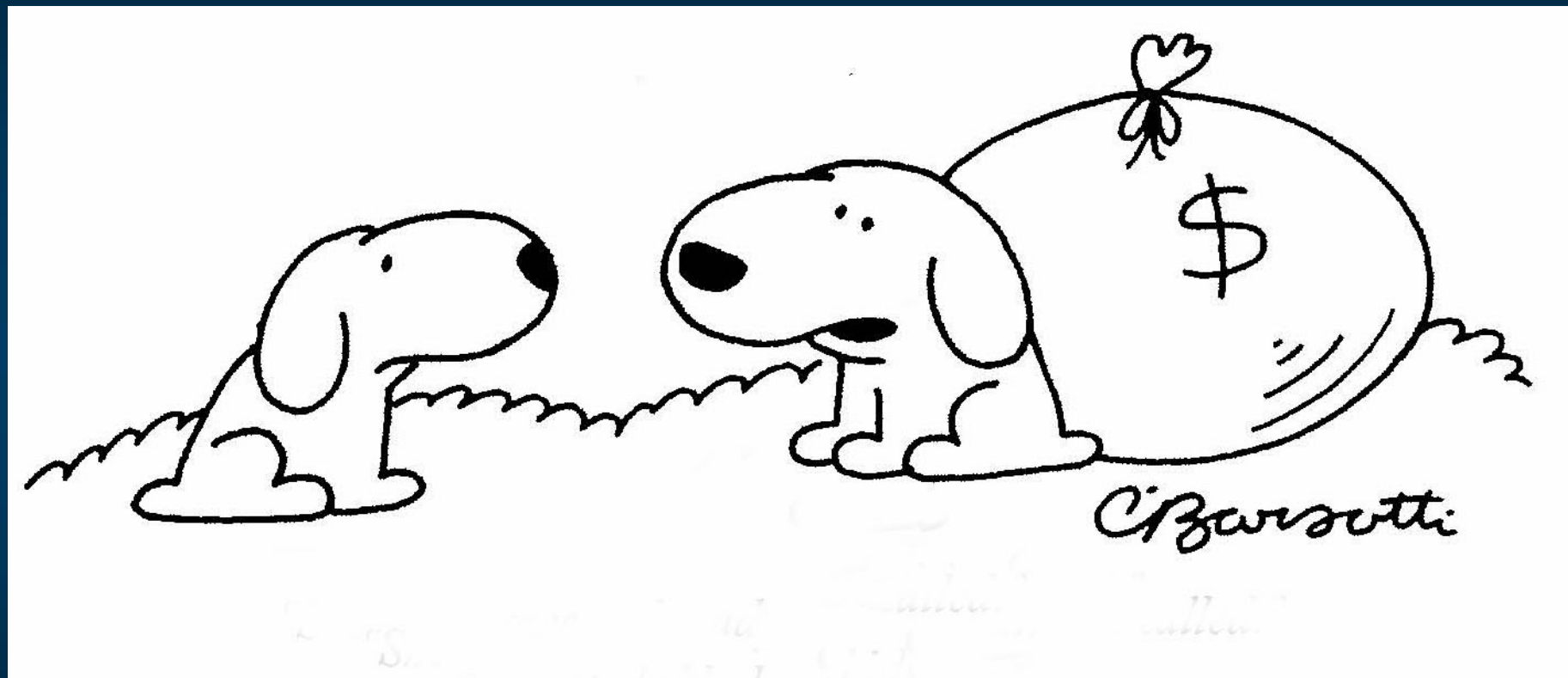
- Academic credentials
- Appointments, promotions
- Grant submissions
- Grant renewals

Authorship Credit – Necessary or Advisable for:

- Team building
- Decisions of mentees
 - A clue as to generosity of mentor
 - Evidence of mentoring experience
- Intellectual property
- Sense of self-worth

Authorship: The Case for “Study Group as Author” (1)

- Identifies a collaborative team: “The whole is greater than the sum of the parts”
- Examples:
 - Parkinson Study Group
 - CIDDD group
 - Cardiology, diabetes, oncology many other specialties



“You definitely qualify for final author”

Authorship: The Case for “Study Group as Author” (2)

- Avoids assigning one *first* and one *final* author
- A foot-note or table gives each person’s role in the study
- Arguably more important to be the “Biostatistician” or a large clinical contributor than merely a position in a list

The Risks of Not Addressing and Fixing Authorship Issues:

- Discourages multicenter, multi-laboratory research
- Discourages longitudinal research projects
- Breeds competition instead of collegiality
- Perpetuates misjudgment of research skills and accomplishments (both over- and under-estimation.)

Another Risk of Not Addressing Authorship Issues

If each relatively senior author and each younger person mentored by a senior person needs a final/first-authored paper, then the research will be reported in multiple papers as opposed to one complete paper.

Having Your Cake and Eating it Too?

- Study group authorship with authorship table
- Ancillary, subgroup, extension, other papers allowing individual authors plus the study group
- Earlier papers (before big study completed) by specific authors:
 - reviews,
 - study design
 - cross-sectional