



# Expression of Concern for Co-detection of Human Herpes Viruses in Cerebrospinal Fluid Samples of Pediatric Patients with Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome: A Single Center Experience in Isfahan, Iran [Arch Pediatr Infect Dis. 2024;12(2): e135959]

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This is an expression of concern about the following article: [Co-detection of Human Herpes Viruses in Cerebrospinal Fluid Samples of Pediatric Patients with Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome: A Single Center Experience in Isfahan, Iran](#)

Dear Readers,

We, the editorial team of APID, are committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and ethical publishing practices. It is with this commitment in mind that we address the current situation regarding the mentioned article recently published as inpress in our journal.

Recently, we received a concerning claim (#526278) from a whistleblower regarding potential misconduct related to the authorship criteria and the presence of ghost authors in the mentioned article (1). As custodians of scholarly integrity, we take such claims seriously and have initiated a thorough investigation into the matter. The essence of the whistleblower's claim revolves around the possibility that the authorship criteria were not met in accordance with our established guidelines (link), and there may have been undisclosed contributors, commonly referred to as ghost authors, involved in the research or writing process without proper acknowledgment.

In light of these allegations and respecting our policy about allegations of misconduct (link), we are conducting a comprehensive review to ascertain the validity of the claims and ensure that the integrity of the published research is maintained. This investigation will involve a meticulous examination of the authorship criteria outlined by recognized bodies, such as the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), and an assessment of any potential ghost

authorship based on the COPE flowchart "Ghost, guest, or gift authorship in a submitted manuscript" (COPE Council, 2019), accessible at <https://doi.org/10.24318/cope.2019.2.18>.

As we navigate through this process, we remain committed to transparency and will provide updates on the investigation's progress and outcomes. We understand the importance of promptly addressing concerns related to research integrity and appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to uphold the principles of ethical publishing.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Your trust and confidence in the integrity of our journal are of utmost importance to us, and we are dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of scholarly publishing ethics.

Sincerely,

Head of Ethics Committee, Brieflands

On Behalf of Editorial Team of APID

References

## References

1. Rahimi Hajiabadi H, Saleh R, Javadi N, Dehghan A, Sadeghizadeh A, Pourmoghaddas Z. Co-detection of Human Herpes Viruses in Cerebrospinal Fluid Samples of Pediatric Patients with Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome: A Single Center Experience in Isfahan, Iran. *Archives of Pediatric Infectious Diseases*. 2024;12(2). e135959. <https://doi.org/10.5812/apid-135959>.