EAST MULTICENTER STUDY
RULES FOR AUTHORSHIP

The overall study PIs (2) will be the lead (first two) authors for the initial manuscript. The PI and co-PI from each contributing institution will then be listed, in order of highest study enrollment per center. Only two authors from each enrolling center will be included. Depending on the number of authors permitted by the journal of publication (for example, the Journal of Trauma permits a maximum of 10 authors), these rules will be utilized to establish the order of authors on the title page of the manuscript. All remaining site PI's and Co-PI's will be listed at the conclusion of the manuscript as members of the "EAST Study Group" (for example the EAST Multicenter Study Group on Retained Hemothorax….or Open Abdomen after Trauma), with the same rules as above establishing order of listing. This listing at the conclusion of the manuscript allows investigators to define themselves appropriately as a co-author of the manuscript under generally accepted rules of academic authorship for large multicenter studies.

In extenuating circumstances the above authorship rules may be changed but only with prior approval from the EAST MCT Committee and only if clarified up front with all participating site PIs prior to study subject enrollment.

Important supporting personnel, including statisticians and key non-PI or co-PI research personnel, will be recognized in a brief section at the end of the manuscript in a separate Acknowledgement Section.

For subsequent manuscripts which may be constructed, such as reports on subset analysis of the original data, the title page authorship may be adjusted according to contribution to that particular examination. All subset analysis of data collected from EAST studies must be cleared with the EAST multicenter trials committee chair, the AAST multicenter trials committee and the original PI of the study. The results of these subsequent investigations, along with the manuscript should also be shared with all members of the original investigative group. The listing of the "EAST Study Group" at the conclusion of the manuscript, including all original investigators, should also be included in these subsequent reports. This will permit the original investigators to receive recognition of their work in collecting the data, and permit them to appropriately list themselves as co-authors of subsequent works under the aforementioned organization.