Mentoring Consultation—Cases of Interest

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Case

• Individual is a member of a productive and successful clinical research program where numerous people make substantial contributions
  – 1 Senior member (Professor) started program and provides overall leadership and direction & funds 80% of personnel and operating expenses
  – 4 Junior members (all Assistant Professors, Steps 1 and 2), former fellows trained under the senior member, provide time and expertise & combined fund 20% of personnel (to work on their studies) and operating expenses (just for their research studies)
Case

• Each Junior member has their own K23 research studies nested within the Senior member’s research infrastructure
  – First author on their K23-related studies
  – Co-author (when applicable) on Senior member’s R01-related studies

• This research infrastructure has a robust dataset suitable for secondary data analyses
  – Previously used by Junior members during their training (multiple first author papers)
  – Currently being used by newer Fellows/Residents
Case

- Current pressure to demonstrate academic productivity and meet promotion criteria
  - All agree that partnership has been wildly successful and that “the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.”

- Questions related to Authorship on secondary data analyses
  - First authorship criteria - clear

1. Criteria for senior authorship? Based on…
   - Age (academic rank)? Funding?
   - Time? – Proposal, Data Analysis, and/or Writing?
Case

• Concept Proposal mechanism developed
  – First and senior authorship proposed up front
  • Second authorship
  – First author agrees to “typical” first author role and responsibilities
  – Senior author agrees to fund proposal-related costs and to “typical” senior author role – interpretation and presentation of data analysis and major role in writing