



Working Group on Cancer Services decisions about authorship of cancer datasets and tissue pathways

1. All commissioned cancer datasets and tissue pathways should have a designated lead author and must be written by at least 2 authors.
2. An author may commit to lead on a maximum number of 2 datasets or tissue pathways. It is acceptable for an author who is leading a writing group on 2 datasets to co-author other datasets or tissue pathways.
3. Retired pathologists who are not currently practising diagnostic pathology should not be involved in writing cancer datasets or tissue pathways.
4. The cancer datasets and tissue pathways must be written with a view to their applicability and implementation in the NHS but as professional standards the intention is that they should be used by members of the College working outside the NHS. The writing of cancer datasets and tissue pathways should be undertaken by Fellows of the RCPATH, pathologists who are familiar with NHS working practices and resources.
5. All authors must agree to follow the format specified in the '*Guidance for authors on writing guidelines and Supplement for authors writing Cancer Datasets*'.

