### Change of authorship request form - Journals (pre-acceptance)

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Section 2: Please provide the previous authorship, in the order shown on the manuscript before the changes were introduced. Please indicate the corresponding author by adding (CA) behind the name.

	First name(s)	Family name	ORCID or SCOPUS id, if available
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2 <sup>nd</sup> author	Camilla	Bangura	
3 <sup>rd</sup> author	Abdul-Aziz	Seidu	
4 <sup>th</sup> author	Bright Opoku	Ahinkorah	
5 <sup>th</sup> author			
6 <sup>th</sup> author			
7 <sup>th</sup> author			
8 <sup>th</sup> author			
9 <sup>th</sup> author			
10 <sup>th</sup> author			

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Dr. Abdul-Aziz Seidu has decided to withdraw his authorship due to personal reasons.

Section 4: Proposed new authorship. Please provide your new authorship list in the order you would like it to appear on the manuscript. Please indicate the corresponding author by adding (CA) behind the name. If the Corresponding Author has changed, please indicate the reason under section 3.

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2 <sup>nd</sup> author	Camilla	Bangura	Department of Biological Sciences, School of Basic Sciences, Njala University, PMB, Freetown, Sierra Leone	camillabangura2@gmail.com
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New acknowledgements:

We wish to thank Abdul-Aziz Seidu for his contributions during the initial draft of the manuscript and his critical review of the manuscript.

New Disclosures (financial and non-financial interests, funding):

Not applicable

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4 <sup>th</sup> authors	Bright Opoku	Ahinkorah	I agree to the proposed new authorship shown in section 4 /and the addition/removal*of my name to the authorship list /and the proposed change in corresponding author	BY	26/9/24
5 <sup>th</sup> author			I agree to the proposed new authorship shown in section 4 /and the addition/removal*of my name to the authorship list /and the proposed change in corresponding author		
6 <sup>th</sup> author			I agree to the proposed new authorship shown in section 4 /and the addition/removal*of my name to the authorship list /and the proposed change in corresponding author		
7 <sup>th</sup> author			I agree to the proposed new authorship shown in section 4 /and the addition/removal*of my name to the authorship list /and the proposed change in corresponding author		

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Representative/legal guarantor				I agree to the proposed new authorship shown in section 4 /and the addition/removal*of my name to the authorship list /and the proposed change in corresponding author		

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