Changes in authorship
(d) Request for removal of author after publication

- Clarify reason for change in authorship
  - Author(s) gives acceptable reason for change
    - Check that all authors agree to change (including excluded author)
      - Publish correction
  - Author(s) alleges fraud / misconduct
    - See flowchart for fabricated data
  - Author(s) has difference in interpretation of data
    - Suggest author(s) put views in a letter and explain you will give other authors a chance to respond and will publish both letters if suitable (i.e., correct length, not libellous)
      - Author(s) writes a letter
        - Contact other authors explaining what is happening
          - Other authors submit response
            - Publish both letters
          - Other authors do not wish to respond
            - Publish minority view letter
      - Author(s) does not agree to write letter (or writes something unpublishable)
        - If author insists on removal of name and other authors agree, then consider publishing correction
          - Suggest author(s) put views in a letter and explain you will give other authors a chance to respond and will publish both letters if suitable (i.e., correct length, not libellous)
            - Ask why author wishes to be removed from list – refer to journal guidelines or authorship declaration which should state that all authors meet appropriate criteria. Ask if author suspects fraud/misconduct