## **Author Disclosure & Copyright Agreement**

For open-access publishing, *HSF* uses the <u>Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0)</u>. This license permits authors and third parties to reuse, modify, and create derivative works from the article for non-commercial purposes without requiring our permission, provided proper attribution and citation are given. For commercial purposes, authors must obtain permission from us. Starting with Volume 27, Issue 9 (2024), authors will retain the copyright to their published articles. Articles published prior to this issue have their copyright held by Forum Multimedia Publishing LLC. and are available under the <u>CC BY-NC 4.0 License</u>.

Please ensure that authors comply with the following statement before submitting their manuscripts:

I have participated in the conception and design of this work and in the writing of the manuscript and take public responsibility for it. Neither this manuscript nor one with substantially similar content under my authorship has been published, has been submitted for publication elsewhere, or will be submitted for publication elsewhere while under consideration by The Heart Surgery Forum, except as described in an attachment. I have reviewed this manuscript (original version) and approved its submission. If I am listed above as corresponding author, I will provide all authors with information regarding this manuscript and will obtain their approval before submitting any revision. I attest to the validity, accuracy, and legitimacy of the content of the manuscript and understand that the publisher assumes no responsibility for the validity, accuracy, and legitimacy of its content. I warrant that this manuscript is original with me and that I have full power to make this Agreement. I warrant that it contains no matter that is libelous or otherwise unlawful or that invades individual privacy or infringes any copyright or other proprietary right. I agree to indemnify and hold Publisher harmless of and from any claim made against Publisher that relates to or arises out of the publication of the manuscript and agree that this indemnification shall include payment of all costs and expenses relating to the defense of any such claim, including all reasonable attorney's fees.

I warrant that I have no financial interest in the drugs, devices, or procedures described in the manuscript (except as disclosed in the attached statement). I state that the institutional Human Subjects Committee and/or the Ethics Committee approved the clinical protocol reported in this manuscript for the use of experimental techniques, drugs, or devices in human subjects and appropriate informed consent documents were utilized.

Furthermore, I state that any and all animals used for experimental purposes received humane care in USDA registered facilities in compliance with the "Principles of Laboratory Animal Care" formulated by the National Society for Medical Research and the "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals" prepared by the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources and published by the National Institutes of Health (NIH Publication No. 85-23, revised 1985).