Authorship
For transparency and to justify someone working on a study, it is often best to define authorship issues in advance.

The usual model for MWPNC studies has been a single investigator and thus a single author from each site that actively participates (i.e. sends data and/or samples and helps edit the manuscript) in the study. The exception is the lead site, which has frequently included 2 contributors (often a fellow and a mentor). The number of contributors/authors may be increased from additional sites at the discretion of the PI, but naturally assumes that the additional authors meet the requirements for authorship (see above).

Including multiple authors from one institution might be appropriate in the following circumstances:
1. Authors with different roles (e.g., 1 has a significant role in protocol development and the other focuses on that site’s data collection/patient enrollment).
2. One or more sites contribute an especially large number of subjects compared to other sites.
3. The study is very time-consuming and thus it makes sense to have 2 or more PIs at all sites.

It would be unfair for one site to have multiple PIs (due to request, for example) and not offer this option to other sites that are contributing equally to the study. Of note, a site is not included in a study if it signs up, but does not enroll any patients. It would seem equally appropriate to set a minimum level of participation (i.e. minimal subject enrollment) for a site to have 2 or more PIs included as authors when authorship is based on subject enrollment.

MWPNC Acknowledgement
All MWPNC manuscripts should have the phrase “Midwest Pediatric Nephrology Consortium” in the manuscript title (e.g., “Hypertension: a Midwest Pediatric Nephrology Consortium Study” or “Treatment of Hypertension in the Midwest Pediatric Nephrology Consortium”).