Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2010/031013, entitled "Quantitative different red cells/nucleated cells chimerism in patients with long-term hemopoietic persistent mixed chimerism after bone marrow transplantation for thalassemia major or sickle cell disease " Authors: Marco Andreani, Manuela Testi, Javid Gaziev, Rossella Condello, Andrea Bontadini, PierLuigi Tazzari, Francesca Ricci, Lidia De Felice, Francesca Agostini, Daniela Fraboni, Giuliana Ferrari, Mariarosa Battarra, Maria Troiano, Pietro Sodani and Guido Lucarelli.

Information about the contributions of each person named as having participated in the study

1) Guarantor(s), i.e., person(s) who is (are) responsible for the integrity of the work as a whole:
• Marco Andreani, Laboratorio di Immunogenetica e Biologia dei Trapianti, Fondazione IME, Policlinico Tor Vergata - m.andreani@fondazioneime.org

The guarantors of this manuscript confirm that all persons designated as authors qualify for authorship, and that each author has participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.

2) Authors who participated in the conception of the study:
• Marco Andreani, Laboratorio di Immunogenetica e Biologia dei Trapianti, Fondazione IME, Policlinico Tor Vergata - m.andreani@fondazioneime.org
• Manuela Testi, Laboratorio di Immunogenetica e Biologia dei Trapianti, Fondazione IME, Policlinico Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy, Rome, Italy - m.testi@fondazioneime.org
• Guido Lucarelli, International Center for Transplantation in Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Anemia, , IME Foundation, Policlinic of Tor Vergata Foundation, Rome, Italy, g.lucarelli@fondazioneime.org

3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations:
• Lidia De Felice, Department of Biopathology and Diagnostic Images, Polyclinic of Tor Vergata Foundation, Rome, Italy - BFU-E cultures
• Francesca Agostini, Department of Biopathology and Diagnostic Images, Polyclinic of Tor Vergata Foundation, Rome, Italy - BFU-E cultures
• Daniela Fraboni, Department of Biopathology and Diagnostic Images, Polyclinic of Tor Vergata Foundation, Rome, Italy - Identification of donor/recipient Red Blood cells origin
• Pier Luigi Tazzari, Blood Transfusion Service, Ospedale S. Orsola-Malpighi, Bologna, Italy - Identification of donor/recipient Red Blood cells origin
• Francesca Ricci, Blood Transfusion Service, Ospedale S. Orsola-Malpighi, Bologna, Italy - Identification of donor/recipient Red Blood cells origin
• Rossella Condello, Laboratorio di Immunogenetica e Biologia dei Trapianti, Fondazione IME, Policlinico Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy - engraftment monitoring
• Mariarosa Battarra, Laboratorio di Immunogenetica e Biologia dei Trapianti, Fondazione IME, Policlinico Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy - engraftment monitoring

4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables:
• Maria Troiano, Laboratorio di Immunogenetica e Biologia dei Trapianti, Fondazione IME, Policlinico Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy
• Javid Gaziev, International Center for Transplantation in Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Anemia, , IME Foundation, Policlinic of Tor Vergata Foundation, Rome, Italy
• Pietro Sodani, International Center for Transplantation in Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Anemia, , IME Foundation, Policlinic of Tor Vergata Foundation, Rome, Italy

5) Writing the manuscript. The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:
• Andrea Bontadini, Blood Transfusion Service, Ospedale S. Orsola-Malpighi, Bologna, Italy
6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:
This work was supported by a grant from Telethon (N°: GGP08201A), ISS (RF-FSR-2007-633525) and IME Foundation (Rome, Italy).