Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2010/029934 entitled "Analysis of 12517 inhabitants of a Sardinian geographic isolate reveals that propensity to develop mild thrombocytopenia during ageing and to present mild, transient thrombocytosis in youth are new genetic traits "

Authors: Ginevra Biino, Carlo L. Balduini, Laura Casula, Piergiorgio Cavallo, Simona Vaccargiu, Debora Parracciani, Donatella Serra, Laura Portas, Federico Murgia, Mario Pirastu

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

Guarantor(s), i.e., person(s) who is (are) responsible for the integrity of the work as a whole: •
• Ginevra Biino, Institute of Population Genetics, National Council of Research, Sassari, Italy, biino@igm.cnr.it
• Carlo L. Balduini, Department of Internal Medicine, IRCCS Foundation Policlinico S. Matteo, University of Pavia, Italy, c.balduini@smatteo.pv.it
• Mario Pirastu, Institute of Population Genetics, National Council of Research, Sassari, Italy, pirastu@igp.cnr.it

According to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html): "Authorship credit should be based on: 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3 ................. Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group alone does not constitute authorship".

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: Carlo L. Balduini, Ginevra Biino, Mario Pirastu

3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations (please detail):

• M. Pirastu is the project coordinator
• C.L. Balduini and G. Biino were responsible for the study design
• G. Biino, F. Murgia and L. Portas were responsible for the statistical analysis
• L. Casula and P. Cavallo and were responsible for clinical history and genealogical data elaboration
• D. Parracciani, D. Serra and S. Vaccargiu were responsible for phenotyping

4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables (please indicate the person responsible for each figure and each table):

• L. Casula was responsible for table 1
• G. Biino was responsible for table 2, figures 1,2,3 and S1
• L. Portas and F. Murgia were responsible for heritability analysis
• P. Cavallo was responsible for table 3 and figure S2
5) **Writing the manuscript.** The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:

- C. L Balduini was responsible for Introduction and Discussion sections
- G. Biino was responsible for Methods and Results sections
- M. Pirastu and all the others were responsible for the whole revision

6) **Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:** (Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Corresponding authors must declare whether they had assistance with the study design, data collection, data analysis, or manuscript preparation. If such assistance was available, the authors must disclose the identity of the individuals who provided this assistance and the entity that supported it. Financial and material support should also be acknowledged.)

The authors would like to thank the population of Ogliastra for their collaboration and the municipal administrations for economic and logistic support. Funding: this work was supported by grant from the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) n°: 5571/DSPAR/2002.