

Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2010/036129, entitled “Marriage and parenthood among subjects cured of childhood cancer: a report from the Italian AIEOP Off-Therapy Registry“

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- 3) **Design & Methods.** The following authors were responsible for specific investigations:
- Emanuele Pivetta, Milena M Maule, Paola Pisani, Daniela Zugna and Elisa Dama were responsible for the plan and the conduction of the statistical analyses, and interpretation of data.
 - Riccardo Haupt, Momcilo Jankovic, Maurizio Aricò, Fiorina Casale, Anna Clerico, Luca Cordero di Montezemolo, Valentina Kiren, Franco Locatelli, Giovanna Palumbo, Andrea Pession, Marta Pillon, Nicola Santoro, Monica Terenziani, Maria Grazia Valsecchi and Corrado Magnani were responsible for the study design, acquisition of data and interpretation of data.

- 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):
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5) **Writing the manuscript.** The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:

- Emanuele Pivetta, Milena M Maule, Paola Pisani, Daniela Zugna, Elisa Dama and Franco Merletti were responsible for drafting and finalizing the complete manuscript.
- All the authors contributed to the revision of the manuscript.

6) **Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:**

- Piedmont Region;
- Compagnia di San Paolo/FIRMS, the 'Oncology Special Project';
- Italian Association for Cancer Research (AIRC);
- Italian Ministry of Health;
- Master's programme in Epidemiology (University of Turin, Italy);
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