

Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2010/032805 entitled “Predicting response to immunosuppressive therapy in childhood aplastic anemia “

Authors: Nao Yoshida, Hiroshi Yagasaki, Asahito Hama, Yoshiyuki Takahashi, Yoshiyuki Kosaka, Ryoji Kobayashi, Hiromasa Yabe, Takashi Kaneko, Masahiro Tsuchida, Akira Ohara, Tatsutoshi Nakahata, Seiji Kojima.

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:

- Nao Yoshida, Department of Hematology and Oncology, Children’s Medical Center, Japanese Red Cross Nagoya First Hospital, Nagoya, Japan, nao-y@med.nagoya-u.ac.jp
- Seiji Kojima, Department of Pediatrics, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya, Japan, kojimas@med.nagoya-u.ac.jp

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: Nao Yoshida, Hiroshi Yagasaki, Yoshiyuki Takahashi and Seiji Kojima

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

- Nao Yoshida and Seiji Kojima was responsible for designing and performing the research.
- Asahito Hama and Seiji Kojima were responsible for pathological central review and diagnosis of the patients.
- Yoshiyuki Kosaka, Ryoji Kobayashi, Hiromasa Yabe, Takashi Kaneko, Masahiro Tsuchida, Akira Ohara, Tatsutoshi Nakahata and Seiji Kojima were responsible for the conception of the IST regimen and clinical management and collection of the data.
- Nao Yoshida, Hiroshi Yagasaki and Yoshiyuki Takahashi were responsible for analyzing data.
- All authors reviewed the manuscript and performed a critical revision of the paper.

4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables:

- Nao Yoshida and Seiji Kojima were responsible for all the results section, including all figure and tables.
- All authors contributed to critical review of the results.

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

- Nao Yoshida and Seiji Kojima were responsible for writing the manuscript.

6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments: We thank Ms. Hiroe Namizaki for her skilled secretarial assistance. We also wish to thank all of the patients, families, and referring physicians who contributed samples to the investigators.