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

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2) Authors who participated in the conception of the study: George E. Georges, Rainer Storb, Brenda M. Sandmaier, David G. Maloney, Michael B. Maris

3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations:
   • George E. Georges, Rainer Storb, Brenda M. Sandmaier, David G. Maloney, Michael B. Maris were responsible for design of the clinical study.
   • George E. Georges, Rainer Storb, Brenda M. Sandmaier, David G. Maloney, Michael B. Maris, Barry Storer were responsible for methods/implementation of the study.
   • Barry Storer, Ron Ram and George Georges were responsible for the statistical analysis.

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):
   • Ron Ram, George E. Georges, Barry Storer, Brenda M. Sandmaier, David G. Maloney, Mary E. D. Flowers, Michael B. Maris, Ginna G. Laport, Thomas R. Chauncey, Thoralf Lange, Amelia A. Langston, Ann Woolfrey were responsible for evaluation, collection, assembly of the patient data including patient data and analysis from the individual participating clinical study sites.
   • Ron Ram, George E Georges, Barry Storer, Rainer F. Storb, Brenda M. Sandmaier were responsible for data analysis and interpretation.
   • Ron Ram, Barry Storer and George E Georges were responsible for Figures 1, 2 and 3 and for Table 3.
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5) Writing the manuscript. The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:
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• All of the authors contributed to the editing of the manuscript and all authors gave their approval for the final version of the manuscript.

The authors indicate no potential conflicts of interest.

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