

**Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2011/048827 entitled “ATM germline heterozygosity does not play a role in CLL initiation but influences rapid disease progression through loss of the remaining ATM allele”**

**Authors: Anna Skowronska, Belinda Austen, Judith E. Powell, Victoria Weston, David G. Oscier, Martin J.S. Dyer, Estella Matutes, Guy Pratt, Christopher Fegan, Paul Moss, Malcolm A. Taylor, and Tatjana Stankovic**

**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:  
• Tatjana Stankovic, School of Cancer Sciences, University of Birmingham, UK

According to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) ([http://www.icmje.org/ethical\\_1author.html](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**: Belinda Austen, AMR Taylor, Tatjana Stankovic

3) **Design & Methods**.

The following authors were responsible for specific investigations :

- David Oscier, Martin JS Dyer MJS, Estella Matutes, Guy Pratt, Christopher Fegan and Paul Moss responsible for design of the study
- Anna Skowronska, Belinda Austen, Victoria Weston performed research
- Judith Powell performed statistical analysis

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

- Anna Skowronska and Victoria Weston were responsible for tables 1 and 2
- Belinda Austen was responsible for figure 1

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

- Belinda Austen, AMR Taylor and Tatjana Stankovic wrote the manuscript

6) **Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments**:

We thank Maria Podinovskaya, Clemency Hawksley and Ian Edwards for help with the data collection. We thank Leukaemia Lymphoma Research UK and Cancer Research UK for financial support.