Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2011/054924 entitled “Physical contact with endothelial cells through $\beta_1$- and $\beta_2$-integrins rescues chronic lymphocytic leukemia from spontaneous and drug-induced apoptosis and induces a peculiar gene expression profile on leukemic cells”

Authors: Rossana Maffei, Stefania Fiorcari, Jenny Bulgarelli, Silvia Martinelli, Ilaria Castelli, Silvia Deaglio, Giulia Debbia, Marcella Fontana, Valeria Coluccio, Goretta Bonacorsi, Patrizia Zucchini, Franco Narni, Giuseppe Torelli, Mario Luppi, and Roberto Marasca

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:
   • Rossana Maffei, Hematology Unit, Department of Oncology, Hematology and Respiratory Diseases, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy; email: rossana.maffei@unimore.it
   • Roberto Marasca, Hematology Unit, Department of Oncology, Hematology and Respiratory Diseases, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy; email: roberto.marasca@unimore.it

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2) Authors who participated in the conception of the study: Rossana Maffei, Roberto Marasca, Stefania Fiorcari

3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations (please detail):
   • Patrizia Zucchini and Valeria Coluccio were responsible for acquisition of clinical data and management of biological samples
   • Stefania Fiorcari and Jenny Bulgarelli were responsible for flow cytometric analyses
   • Stefania Fiorcari and Rossana Maffei were responsible for management of cell cultures
   • Marcella Fontana and Silvia Martinelli were responsible for acquisition and interpretation of ELISA assays
   • Goretta Bonacorsi and Ilaria Castelli were responsible for stainings of CLL co-culture and immunohistochemistry of lymph nodes
   • Silvia Deaglio was responsible for confocal microscopy studies
   • Rossana Maffei and Roberto Marasca were responsible for acquisition, analysis and interpretation of gene expression profiling data
   • Rossana Maffei was responsible for in vitro angiogenesis assays
   • Rossana Maffei and Giulia Debbia were responsible for statistical analyses
   • Franco Narni, Giuseppe Torelli, Mario Luppi and Roberto Marasca were responsible for drafting the article or revising it critically
4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables:
• Rossana Maffei, Stefania Fiorcari and Jenny Bulgarelli were responsible for results concerning cell culture assays and flow cytometric data and for Figure 2, 3 and 4 and Supplementary Figure 3A
• Rossana Maffei and Roberto Marasca were responsible for results of gene expression profiling, Figure 5 and Supplementary Figure 2 and 4
• Marcella Fontana and Silvia Martinelli were responsible for results of ELISA assays and Figure 6A
• Ilaria Castelli and Goretta Bonaccorsi were responsible for visualization of HUVEC/CLL coculture (Figure 1A,B,C) and for immunohistochemical stainings (Figure 6C)
• Silvia Deaglio was responsible for results of confocal microscopy comprising Figure 1A and Supplementary Figure 3B
• Rossana Maffei was responsible for results and representation in Figure 6B of angiogenesis assays

5) Writing the manuscript. The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:
• Rossana Maffei and Roberto Marasca were responsible for writing the manuscript and final approval of the version to be published.

6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:
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