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

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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: Akira Yoshida and Takanori Ueda.

3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations.
• Akira Yoshida, Kouichi Zokumasu, Yuji Wano, Takahiro Yamauchi, Shin Imamura, Kazutaka Takagi, Shinji Kishi, Yoshimasa Urasaki, Kaoru Tohyama, and Takanori Ueda were responsible for the collection of blood sampling and clinical data.
• Akira Yoshida and Kouichi Zokumasu were responsible for the isolation of CD34+ cells.

4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables:
• Akira Yoshida, Kouichi Zokumasu, Yuji Wano, Takahiro Yamauchi, Shin Imamura, Kazutaka Takagi, Shinji Kishi, Yoshimasa Urasaki, Kaoru Tohyama, and Takanori Ueda were responsible for figure 1 and figure 2.
• Akira Yoshida and Kouichi Zokumasu were responsible for all figures and table.

5) Writing the manuscript. The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript: Akira Yoshida and Takanori Ueda

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