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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: Silvia Montoto, John G Gribben and T Andrew Lister

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

• Debra Lillington performed the cytogenetic analysis
• Janet Matthews performed the statistical analysis

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

• Janet Matthews, Paul Greaves and Deborah Anderson collected and analyzed the data
• Silvia Montoto is responsible for all tables and figures

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

• Silvia Montoto, John G Gribben and T Andrew Lister wrote the paper
• All authors approved the final version

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