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KS conceived the content and the concept of the study, its realization and takes primarily responsibility for the paper. AB, RU, FM, ST and GK performed the laboratory work for this study. AB analyzed and interpreted data and prepared the manuscript of the paper. CE interpreted data, conducted the statistical analysis, and provided MRD data. AvS and GH provided the clinical data of the international treatment protocol ALL-REZ BFM. All authors have read and approved the manuscript.