### Title

*Lenalidomide interferes with tumor-promoting properties of nurse-like cells in chronic lymphocytic leukemia*

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### Author contributions

*Please describe the contributions of each author, indicating who was responsible for each part of the study and the preparation of the manuscript (collection of data, experiments, data analysis, generation of figures, interpretation of data, preparation of the text, etc.):*

Stefania Fiorcari and Rossana Maffei conceived the research and planned every aspect of the research, coordinated the research, analyzed and interpreted the results, did all the statistical analyses and wrote the manuscript.

Stefania Fiorcari, Rossana Maffei, Silvia Martinelli and Jenny Bulgarelli performed the in vitro experiments; Rossana Maffei performed gene expression analysis; Stefania Fiorcari and Jenny Bulgarelli acquired and analyzed flow cytometric data; Valentina Audrito performed the confocal microscopy experiments, reviewed drafts and approved the final version of the paper; Patrizia Zucchini assisted with experiments and data analysis, reviewed drafts and approved the final version of the paper; Elisabetta Colaci was involved in recruitment of patient and in management of clinical data, reviewed drafts and approved the final version of the paper; Leonardo Potenza, Franco Narni, Mario Luppi, Silvia Deaglio and Roberto Marasca obtained funding for the research, supervised the work-flow, revised the manuscript critically and approved the final version of the paper.