

Manuscript no. HAEMATOLHAEMATOL/2010/023358 entitled "Lack of expression of inhibitory KIR3DL1 receptor in patients with NK-type lymphoproliferative disease of granular lymphocytes " Authors: Gattazzo C, Miorin M, Scquizzato E, Teramo A, Cabrelle A, Balsamo M, Agostini C, Vendrame E, Facco M, Albergoni MP, Trentin L, Vitale M, Semenzato G, Zambello R.

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:

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

- Cristina Gattazzo and Renato Zambello were responsible for the study design;
- Cristina Gattazzo, Mirna Balsamo, Elisa Scquizzaqto, Antonella Teramo and Elena Vendrame were responsible for blood samples processing;
- Anna Cabrelle was responsible for flow cytometry assay;
- Cristina Gattazzo was responsible for DNA and RNA purification, TOPO TA cloning, DNA methylation assay;
- Elisa Scquizzato, Antonella Teramo and Elena Vendrame were responsible for PCR investigation (semi-quantitative and RT-PCR);
- Marta Miorin was responsible of plasmid sequencing.

4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables (please indicate the person responsible for each figure and each table):

- Cristina Gattazzo, Marta Miorin were responsible for methylation assay, KIR sequencing, data collection, analysis of data and Figure 2, 3 and 4;

- Antonella Teramo, Elisa Scquizzato and Elena Vendrame were responsible for KIR genotyping analysis, KIR and DNMTs expression analysis, Figure 1 and Table 2;
- Anna Cabrelle was responsible for flow cytometry analysis and cell sorting;
- Carlo Agostini, Monica Facco, Maria Paola Albergoni, Livio Trentin, Massimo Vitale and Mirna Balsamo were responsible of patients enrollment, data analysis and Table 1;
- Renato Zambello and Gianpietro Semenzato were responsible of data analysis.

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

- Cristina Gattazzo and Renato Zambello were responsible for preparation and writing the manuscript;
- Gianpietro Semenzato was responsible for reviewing the manuscript.

6) **Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:** research was supported by A.I.R.C. (Milan) to Gianpietro Semenzato , by a grant from Fondazione Berlucci per la Ricerca sul Cancro on “Approccio clinico/biologico ai pazienti con leucemia linfaticacronica” and by a grant from Regione Veneto for research on chronic lymphocytic leukemia.