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

1) Guarantor(s), i.e., person(s) who is (are) responsible for the integrity of the work as a whole:
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2) Authors who participated in the **conception of the study**: Teresa Marafioti

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

- Teresa Marafioti and Scott J. Rodig were responsible for co-ordinating the research and reviewing the cases
- Teresa Marafioti and Jennifer C. Paterson were responsible for identifying and characterising the anti-VpreB3 antibody
- Jennifer C. Paterson was responsible for performing the immunohistochemical and western blotting laboratory work
- Hiroaki Nitta and Wenjun Zhang were responsible for performing the CISH technique
- Thomas M. Grogan was responsible for reviewing the CISH staining
- Nathalie A. Johnson and Susana Ben-Neriah were responsible for performing FISH analysis for c-MYC alterations
 - Teresa Marafioti, Scott J. Rodig, Jeffery L. Kutok, Lynette K. Tumwine, Santiago Montes-Moreno, Claudio Agostinelli, Pedro Farinha, Miguel A. Piris, Stefano A. Pileri and Randy D. Gascoyne were responsible for providing the cases
- Margaret A. Shipp was responsible for helping with the clinical identification of cases used in the study

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

- Teresa Marafioti and Scott J. Rodig were responsible for analyzing the results
- Jennifer C. Paterson was responsible for collating the immunohistochemical results and preparation of online supplementary Table 2

- Teresa Marafioti was responsible for creating Figure 1, Figure 2 and online supplementary Figure S1
- Scott J. Rodig was responsible for preparation of Tables 1, 2 and S1, and Figures 3 and S4
- Randy D. Gascoyne was contributed to Tables 1 and 2.
- Bjoern Chapuy was responsible for preparation of online supplementary Figures S2 and S3

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

- Teresa Marafioti and Scott J. Rodig were responsible for writing the manuscript
- Jeffery L. Kutok, Jennifer C. Paterson, Stefano A. Pileri and Randy D. Gascoyne helped in revision of the text

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