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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: Carlo L. Balduini, Ginevra Biino, Mario Pirastu

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

- M. Pirastu is the project coordinator
- C.L. Balduini and G. Biino were responsible for the study design
- G. Biino, F. Murgia and L. Portas were responsible for the statistical analysis
- L. Casula and P. Cavallo and were responsible for clinical history and genealogical data elaboration
- D. Parracciani, D. Serra and S. Vaccargiu were responsible for phenotyping

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):

- L. Casula was responsible for table 1
- G. Biino was responsible for table 2, figures 1,2,3 and S1
- L. Portas and F. Murgia were responsible for heritability analysis
- P. Cavallo was responsible for table 3 and figure S2

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

- C. L Balduini was responsible for Introduction and Discussion sections
- G. Biino was responsible for Methods and Results sections
- M. Pirastu and all the others were responsible for the whole revision

6) **Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:** (Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Corresponding authors must declare whether they had assistance with the study design, data collection, data analysis, or manuscript preparation. If such assistance was available, the authors must disclose the identity of the individuals who provided this assistance and the entity that supported it. Financial and material support should also be acknowledged.)

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