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2) Authors who participated in the **conception of the study**: Peter Schellongowski, Peter Valent, Wolfgang R. Sperr

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

- Peter Schellongowski was responsible for the collection of data
- Michael Kundi performed the statistical analysis
- Peter Schellongowski, Thomas Staudinger, Peter Valent and Wolfgang R. Sperr performed the interpretation of data

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

- Thomas Staudinger contributed to the analysis and to the collection of data
- Klaus Laczika contributed to the analysis and to the collection of data
- Gottfried J. Locker contributed to the analysis and to the collection of data
- Andja Bojic contributed to the analysis and to the collection of data
- Oliver Robak contributed to the analysis and to the collection of data
- Valentin Fuhrmann contributed to the analysis and to the collection of data
- Ulrich Jäger contributed to the analysis and to the collection of data
- Peter Schellongowski, Michael Kundi and Wolfgang R. Sperr were responsible for all figures and tables

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

- Peter Schellongowski, Peter Valent and Wolfgang R. Sperr wrote the final draft
- All other authors critically revised the manuscript and approved the final draft

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