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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**: Stefano Molica, Robin Foà.

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

- Diana Giannarelli **was/were responsible for statistical analyses**
- Stefano Molica, Francesca R. Mauro, Francesco Lauria, Agostino Cortelezzi, Maura Brugiattelli, Vincenzo Liso, Antonio Cuneo recruited patients.

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):

- Stefano Molica and Robin Foà interpreted results

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

- Stefano Molica and Robin Foà wrote the manuscript

All authors gave their approval to manuscript

6) **Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments**: As corresponding author I declare that no technical assistance was provided or general support was provided by other than authors. No financial and material support should also be acknowledged.