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

- Aristoteles Giagounidis was responsible for recruiting the patients.
- Eva Hellström-Lindbergh was responsible for recruiting the patients.
- Pierre Fenaux was responsible for recruiting the patients.
- Gudrun Göhring was responsible for the laboratory work for this study.
- Guntram Büsche was responsible for the laboratory work for this study.
- Hans Kreipe was responsible for the laboratory work for this study.

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):

- Gudrun Göhring was responsible for the figures and tables.
- Winfried Hofmann was responsible for statistical analysis

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

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