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2) Authors who participated in the **conception of the study**: I.H.I.M. Hollink, M.M. van den Heuvel-Eibrink, R. Pieters, P.J.M. Valk and C.M. Zwaan.

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

- E. Sonneveld, G.J.L. Kaspers, E.S.J.M. de Bont, D. Reinhardt, U. Creutzig, J. Trka and A. Baruchel made this research possible by collecting patients samples and clinical, morphological and cytogenetic data in their own study groups.
- I.H.I.M. Hollink, B.V.B. Balgobind and T.C.J.M. Arentsen-Peters performed the laboratory research.

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

- I.H.I.M. Hollink, J.K.Peeters, P.Valk, M.M. van den Heuvel-Eibrink and C.M. Zwaan analyzed and interpreted the data.
- M. Zimmermann performed statistical analysis.
- I.H.I.M. Hollink and T.C.J.M. Peters were responsible for Figure 1; I.H.I.M. Hollink was responsible for Table 1 and Table 3; I.H.I.M. Hollink and M. Zimmermann were responsible for Table 2 and Figure 2; I.H.I.M. Hollink and J.K. Peeters were responsible for Figure 3.

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

- I.H.I.M. Hollink, M.M. van den Heuvel-Eibrink, R. Pieters and C.M. Zwaan wrote the manuscript.
- All authors critically reviewed the manuscript and gave their final approval for publication.

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