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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**: Daniela de Toter, Rodolfo Quarto, Paolo Giannoni, Tullio Florio.

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

- Paolo Giannoni was responsible for design, acquisition, analysis, interpretation of data and discussion
- Silvia Scaglione, Roberto Narcisi, Manuela Parodi, Federica Barbieri and Alessandra Pattarozzi were responsible for acquisition and analysis of data
- Rodolfo Quarto, Giorgio Corte, Tullio Florio, Silvano Ferrini were responsible for design of the study and discussion of data
- Enrico Balleari was responsible for recruiting patients, data acquisition and discussion
- Daniela de Toter was responsible for design, acquisition, analysis and interpretation of data and discussion

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

- Daniela de Toter was responsible for Figure 1, 2,3,4, Table S1, Table S4, Figures S2, S3, S5
- Paolo Giannoni was responsible for Figure 2, Figure 3, Table S2, S3, Figure S4
- Silvia Scaglione was responsible for Table S2, S3
- Roberto Narcisi and Manuela Parodi were responsible for Figure 1 and Figure 2
- Federica Barbieri and Alessandra Pattarozzi were responsible for Figure 4 and Figure S1

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

- Daniela de Toter and Paolo Giannoni were responsible for drafting, writing and editing the manuscript

6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:

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