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2) Authors who participated in the conception of the study: Hanna Janiszewska, Olga Haus, Kazimierz Kuliczkowski.

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

- Aneta Bąk, Maria Pilarska, Marta Heise, Anna Junkiert-Czarnecka and Bożena Jaźwiec were responsible for design and performing the laboratory research.
- Małgorzata Kuliszkiwicz-Janus, Małgorzata Całbecka and Dariusz Wołowiec were responsible for recruitment of patients and analysis their clinical and hematological data.

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):

- Hanna Janiszewska was responsible for the analysis of results, preparing all tables and all figures.
- Olga Haus assisted in the interpretation of results.

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

- Hanna Janiszewska was responsible for writing the manuscript.
- Olga Haus and Kazimierz Kuliczkowski revised the manuscript critically for important intellectual content.

6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments: (Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Corresponding authors must declare whether they had assistance with the study design, data collection, data analysis, or manuscript preparation. If such assistance was available, the authors must disclose the identity of the individuals who

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- Corresponding author had no assistance with the study design, data collection, data analysis, or manuscript preparation. All persons involved in the implementation of this work are listed as co-authors.