

Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2011/051813 entitled “Salvage treatment with lenalidomide and dexamethasone in relapsed/refractory mantle cell lymphoma: clinical results and effects on microenvironment and neoangiogenic biomarkers”

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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: Francesco Zaja, Renato Fanin

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

- Francesco Zaja was responsible for design of the study
- Angelo Vacca was responsible for biological studies (design and methods)
- Roberto Ria was responsible for biological studies (design and methods)
- Chiara Monagheddu was responsible for statistic (design and methods)
- Stefano A. Pileri was responsible for histological revision
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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):

- Francesco Zaja was responsible for data analysis and all tables
- Chiara Monagheddu was responsible for statistical analysis and all figures

- Roberto Ria and Angelo Vacca were responsible for interpretation of the results of the biological studies

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

- Francesco Zaja, Chiara Monagheddu and Roberto Ria were responsible for manuscript writing

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Funding

Supplemental funding for trial recruitment materials was provided by Celgene Corporation.