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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**: Giovanna Tosato and Ombretta Salvucci

3) **Design & Methods**. The following authors were responsible for the design of experiments and methodological approach: Giovanna Tosato and Ombretta Salvucci

- Ombretta Salvucci and Giovanna Tosato were responsible for the experimental design, data analysis and interpretation, and writing the manuscript.

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):

- Ombretta Salvucci, Georgina Espigol-Frigole were responsible for performing and interpreting cell-based experiments
- Paola Gasperini contributed to the mouse-based experiments;
- Shuhei Sakakibara and Kan Jiang contributed to the biochemical experiments.
- Dragan Maric was responsible for flow cytometry-based experiments.
- Jinfang Zhu and Shushang Wang were responsible for the generation of the genetically-modified mouse strains

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

- Ombretta Salvucci and Giovanna Tosato

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Doug Lowy is the department chair who provided general support; Linda Wolff discussed with the authors aspects of the work; Robert Yarchoan had suggestions on the paper organization; Lily Huang maintained critical equipment; the NIH clinical pathology laboratory provided blood cell counts and differentials; the Lab animal science program cared for the animals.