***Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2011/059030 entitled "The significance of PTEN and AKT aberrations in pediatric T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia"***

***Authors: Linda Zuurbier, Emanuel F. Petricoin III, Maartje J. Vuerhard, Valerie Calvert, Clarissa Kooi, Jessica G.C.A.M. Buijs-Gladdines, Willem K. Smits, Edwin Sonneveld, Anjo J.P. Veerman, Willem A. Kamps, Martin Horstmann, Rob Pieters and Jules P.P. Meijerink***

***Information about the contributions of each person named as having participated in the study***

**1) Guarantor(s)**, i.e., person(s) who is (are) responsible for the integrity of the work as a whole:
• Jules P.P. Meijerink, PhD, j.meijerink@erasmusmc.nl
• Rob Pieters, MD, PhD, rob.pieters@erasmusmc.nl

According to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html): *"Authorship credit should be based on: 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3 ……. Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group alone does not constitute authorship".*

**The guarantors of this manuscript confirm that all persons designated as authors qualify for authorship, and that each author has participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.**

2) Authors who participated in the **conception of the study**: Jules P.P. Meijerink and Rob Pieters

3) **Design & Methods**. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations (please detail):
• Jules P.P. Meijerink and Rob Pieters were responsible for experimental design
• L. Zuurbier was responsible for experimental design and performance of sequencing analyses for detection of mutations and splice variants, cell line experiments, methylation-specific PCR, FISH analyses, western blotting, RPMA experiments and analyses, and statistics.
• M.J. Vuerhard was responsible for performance and analyses of array CGH
• V. Calvert and E.F. Petricoin III were responsible for experimental design, performance and supervision of RPMA experiments
• C. Kooi was responsible for DNA and RNA isolation, sequencing analyses and the detection of splice variants, RQ-PCR, cell line experiments, methylation-specific PCR, FISH analyses and western blotting
• J.G.C.A.M Buijs-Gladdines and W.K. Smits were responsible for DNA and RNA isolation, sequencing analyses, RQ-PCR, array CGH and RPMA experiments
• E. Sonneveld, A.J.P. Veerman, W.A. Kamps and M. Horstmann provided patients samples and clinical data and performed statistics

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):
• J.P.P. Meijerink, R. Pieters and L. Zuurbier were responsible for the detection of PTEN, AKT, PIK3RI and PIK3CA aberrations and PTEN splice variants and there relation to PTEN protein levels (figure 1 and 2, figure S1-3, table S1-4) and GSI sensitivity (figure S6) as well as their relation to AKT, AKT-downstream proteins and NOTCH pathway proteins (figure S5), the association of PTEN/AKT aberrations with other genetic and cytogenetic aberrations (Table 1 and table S5) and their association with clinical data and outcome (figure 3, figure S4, table S6-S8).

• E.F Petricoin III and V. Calvert were responsible for the relation of PTEN/AKT aberrations with PTEN protein levels and AKT, AKT-downstream proteins and NOTCH pathway proteins (figure 1 and figure S2 and S5)
• M.J. Vuerhard was responsible for the detection of PTEN deletions (figure 1, table 1, figure S1, table S1, S3 and S4)
• C. Kooi was responsible for the detection of PTEN, AKT, PIK3R1 and PIK3CA aberrations and PTEN splice variants (figure 1 and 2, figure S1 and S3, Table S1, S3 and S4) and there relation to GSI sensitivity (figure S6) and other genetic and cytogenetic aberrations (Table 1 and table S5).
• J.G.C.A.M Buijs-Gladdines and W.K. Smits were responsible for the detection of PTEN, AKT, PIK3R1 and PIK3CA aberrations and PTEN splice variants (figure 1 and 2, figure S1 and S3, Table S1, S3 and S4) and their relation to AKT, AKT-downstream proteins and NOTCH pathway proteins (figure S5) and other genetic and cytogenetic aberrations (Table 1 and table S5).
• E. Sonneveld, A.J.P. Veerman, W.A. Kamps and M. Horstmann were involved in clinical data analyses (figure 3, table 1, figure S4, table S5-8).

5) **Writing the manuscript**. The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:
• Linda Zuurbier, Emanuel F. Petricoin III, Edwin Sonneveld, Anjo J.P. Veerman, Willem A. Kamps, Martin Horstmann, Rob Pieters and Jules P.P. Meijerink were responsible for writing the manuscript

6**) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments**:
The authors would like to thank M.W. Sahebali for sequencing experiments. This work was financially supported by the The Children Cancer Free Foundation (Stichting Kinderen Kankervrij (KiKa); grant 2007-012 (L.Z. and C.K.) and grant 2008-029 (W.K.S.)) and the Erasmus University Trustfonds foundation.