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

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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**: Wolfgang A. Bethge, Rupert Handgretinger

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

- Wolfgang A. Bethge was responsible for design, protocol writing, protocol approval, data compilation and analysis
- Birgit Federmann was responsible for patient inclusion, clinical visits, data collection and compilation and analysis
- Martin Bornhauser was responsible for patient inclusion, clinical visits, data collection
- Christoph Meisner was responsible for statistical data analysis
- Lambros Kordelas was responsible for patient inclusion, clinical visits, data collection
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- Rupert Handgretinger was responsible for design and protocol approval
- Lothar Kanz was responsible for protocol approval and protocol approval

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):

- Wolfgang A. Bethge was responsible for Table 1-2, Figure 1-3
- Birgit Federmann was responsible for Table 1-2, Figure 1-3
- Christoph Meisner was responsible for Figure 1 and Table 3

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

- Wolfgang A. Bethge was responsible for writing, editing and final approval
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