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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: Giorgio Zauli, Paola Secchiero

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

- Manuele Ongari, Mario Tiribelli, Francesco Lanza, were responsible for recruiting patients.
- Claudio Celeghini, Elisabetta Melloni, Rebecca Voltan, Maria Grazia di lasio were responsible for acquisition and analysis of 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):

- Claudio Celeghini, Elisabetta Melloni, Rebecca Voltan, Maria Grazia di lasio were responsible for acquisition and analysis of data and interpretation of results
- Manuele Ongari, Mario Tiribelli, Francesco Lanza were responsible for Suppl Table 1
- Elisabetta Melloni was responsible for Suppl Table 2, Suppl Figure S1, S3-S5, Fig 1
- Claudio Celeghini was responsible for Fig 3, Suppl Figure S1, S3-S5
- Rebecca Voltan was responsible for Fig 2, Fig 4, Fig 5, Suppl Figure S2
- Maria Grazia di lasio was responsible for Fig 4, Fig 5
- Paola Secchiero and Giorgio Zauli were responsible for collection, analysis and interpretation of results

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

- Claudio Celeghini, Elisabetta Melloni, Rebecca Voltan, Maria Grazia di lasio were responsible for writing Design & Methods and revising the manuscript
- Paola Secchiero was responsible for writing the manuscript and revising the manuscript
- Giorgio Zauli, Manuele Ongari, Mario Tiribelli, Francesco Lanza were responsible for revising the manuscript

6) **Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:** none.