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2) Authors who participated in the conception of the study:

Barbara Deschler, Uwe Platzbecker, Ulrich Germing, Peter Haas, Michael Luebbert

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

- März, Eva, de Figuerido Marcelo, Fritzsche, Kurt, were responsible for psycho-oncological investigations and interpretations as well as data evaluation
- Gabriele Ihorst was responsible for the statistical study design and the biometrical methods applied.
- Barbara Deschler, Peter Haas, Uwe Platzbecker, Ulrich Germing performed the assessments.

4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables:

- Gabriele Ihorst performed the statistical calculations and is responsible for all figures.
- Gabriele Ihorst, Barbara Deschler, Uwe Platzbecker, Ulrich Germing, Peter Haas, Michael Luebbert were responsible for data collection, selection and way of presentation in all tables.
- Helmut R. Salih, Aristoteles Giagounidis, Dominik Selleslag, Boris Labar, Theo de Witte, Pierre Wijermans supplied data (i.e. Supplementary Appendix) and critically discussed them.

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

• Barbara Deschler, Gabriele Ihorst, Uwe Platzbecker, Ulrich Germing, Peter Haas, Michael Luebbert were the primarily involved in writing the manuscript
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