

Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2011/060632 entitled “Cytogenetic profiles in multiple myeloma and monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance: a study in highly purified aberrant plasma cells“

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

Martin Schmidt-Hieber, Maria Laura Gutierrez, Martin Perez-Andres, Bruno Paiva, Alberto Orfao

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

- Martin Schmidt Hieber was responsible for data analysis including statistical studies.
- Maria Laura Gutierrez, Ana Rasillo, Maria Dolores Tabernero, José Maria Sayagues performed FISH stainings and analyses; they read the iFISH data and established the clones per case.
- Antonio Lopez was responsible for the immunophenotypic studies and characterization at diagnosis
- Paloma Barcena and Maria Luz Sanchez performed immunological stains and purification of clonal plasma cells by FACS.
- Antonio Lopez, Norma Gutierrez and Bruno Paiva were responsible for patient data.
- Alberto Orfao designed the study

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):

- Maria Laura Gutierrez, Ana Rasillo, Maria Dolores Tabernero, José Maria Sayagues were responsible for the iFISH results per case and Maria Laura Gutierrez and Martin Perez Andres were responsible together with Martin Schmidt-Hieber for the data in figures and tables containing iFISH results (Figures 1 and 2; Tables 1, 2 and 3, plus supplementary tables).
- Antonio Lopez was responsible for the primary immunophenotypic results per case.
- Martin Schmidt-Hieber, Martin Perez Andres and Bruno Paiva was responsible for data analysis and final formatting of all figures and tables.
- Alberto Orfao and Martin-Schmidt-Hieber designed all tables and figures

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

- Martin Schmidt-Hieber and Alberto Orfao were responsible for writing a first revised draft of the manuscript. Jesus San Miguel reviewed the manuscript before it was distributed to other authors.
- All authors contributed to the final written version of the manuscript.

6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments: (Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Corresponding authors must declare whether they had assistance with the study design, data collection, data analysis, or manuscript preparation. If such assistance was available, the authors must disclose the identity of the individuals who provided this assistance and the entity that supported it. Financial and material support should also be acknowledged.)

The authors would like to thank the Cooperative Research Thematic Network (RTICs; RTICC RD06/0020/0035, RD06/0020/0006 and G03/136), MM Jevitt, SL firm, Instituto de Salud Carlos III/Subdirección General de Investigación Sanitaria (FIS: PI060339; 02/0905; 01/0089/01-02; PS09/01897) and Gerencia Regional de Salud de Castilla y León; Ayuda de Excelencia de Castilla y León, Consejería de Educación (EDU/894/2009, GR37), and Consejería de Sanidad (557/A/10), Junta de Castilla y León, Valladolid, Spain for supporting this study. JMS is supported by a grant (CP05/00321) from the ISCIII, Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación, Madrid, Spain.