

Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2012/069583 entitled “Myeloablative chemotherapy for chemo-sensitive recurrent follicular lymphoma: potential benefit in second relapse“

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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: Silvia Montoto, John G Gribben and T Andrew Lister

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

- Debra Lillington performed the cytogenetic analysis
- Janet Matthews performed the statistical analysis

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

- Janet Matthews, Paul Greaves and Deborah Anderson collected and analyzed the data
- Silvia Montoto is responsible for all tables and figures

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

- Silvia Montoto, John G Gribben and T Andrew Lister wrote the paper
- All authors approved the final version

6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments: Silvia Montoto is kindly supported by grants from The Olivia Walduck Family and from The Mark Ridgwell Family Trust