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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:

- Alessandra Cesano and Maria T. Scupoli were responsible for the conception of the study

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

- Omar Perbellini, Federica Cioffi, Chiara Cavallini, Ornella Lovato, Jason Ptacek and James Cordeiro were responsible for flow cytometry experiments
- Ilaria Nichele, Charles C.Chu, Rajendra N. Damle, Xiao-jie Yan were responsible for collecting patients samples and providing clinical data
- Rajendra N. Damle, Jodi R. Ware, Roberta Zanotti were responsible for centralization of CLL samples

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

- Erik Evensen was responsible for statistical analysis and correlation with clinical outcome (Figures 2, 3, S3, S4, S5 and S6; Tables 1 and 2)
- Omar Perbellini, Federica Cioffi, Jason Ptacek, James Cordeiro, Chiara Cavallini, Ornella Lovato were responsible for acquisition and analysis of flow cytometry data (Figure 1A, B, C; Figure S2; Table S3; Table S4; Table S5)
- Roberto Chignola was responsible for correlation analysis between phosphoprotein statuses (Figure 1D)
- Jason Ptacek, Rajendra N. Damle and Ilaria Nichele were responsible for clinical data in Table S1 and S2

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

- Alessandra Cesano and Maria T. Scupoli were responsible for writing the manuscript
- Roberto Chignola, Rachael E. Hawtin, Kanti R. Rai, Nicholas Chiorazzi and Giovanni Pizzolo critically revised the manuscript

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