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Authors: Khaled M Musallam, Stefano Rivella, Elliott Vichinsky, and Eliezer A Rachmilewitz

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:
- Khaled M. Musallam, University of Milan, musallamk@gmail.com

The guarantors of this manuscript confirm that all persons designated as authors qualify for authorship, and that each author has participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content.

- **2) Authors who participated in the conception of the study:** Khaled M. Musallam and Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz
- 3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations:
- Khaled M. Musallam was responsible for structuring the outline of the review
- Stefano Rivella, Elliott Vichinsky, and Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz reviewed and modified the outline of the review
- Khaled M. Musallam, Stefano Rivella, Elliott Vichinsky, and Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz were responsible for literature review and data retrieval
- 4) Results. The following authors were responsible for specific portions of the results, including figures and tables:
- Khaled M. Musallam, Stefano Rivella, Elliott Vichinsky, and Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz were responsible for interpretation of retrieved data
- Khaled M. Musallam was responsible for preparing figures 1-4 and tables 1-2
- Stefano Rivella was responsible for preparing table 3
- Khaled M. Musallam, Stefano Rivella, Elliott Vichinsky, and Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz were responsible for reviewing and modifying tables and figures
- 5) Writing the manuscript. The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:
- Khaled M. Musallam, Elliott Vichinsky, and Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz were responsible for drafting the clinical sections of the manuscript
- Stefano Rivella and Khaled M. Musallam were responsible for drafting the basic and translational sections of the manuscript
- Khaled M. Musallam, Stefano Rivella, Elliott Vichinsky, and Eliezer A. Rachmilewitz were responsible for reviewing the full manuscript for intellectual content
- 6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments: None