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## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION FORM

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*Please describe the contributions of each author, indicating who was responsible for each part of the study and the preparation of the manuscript (collection of data, experiments, data analysis, generation of figures, interpretation of data, preparation of the text, etc.) :*

All authors provided substantial contributions in study conception and in the acquisition, analysis or interpretation of data. They also revised the article at any stage and finally approved the version to be published. S.C., M.R., S.A., M.G. and D.O. mainly performed the laboratory analyses (multiparameter flow cytometry, plasma cells purification, interphase fluorescence in situ hybridization). S.C. and M.R. mainly designed the FISH and immunophenotypic study, collected/merged/analyzed all the data and wrote the manuscript. P.O. supervised the project. R.P. performed statistical analyses. F.G., S.B., C.M., L.B., P.M., M.T.P., G.G., B.B., A.P., M.B. were involved in the trial design, patients enrolment and clinical data collection and analysis.