
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:
   • Alejandro Lazo-Langner, Assistant Professor, Division of Hematology, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada. E-mail: alejandro.lazo@alumni.uottawa.ca

According to the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html): "Authorship credit should be based on: 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3 …………………. Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group alone does not constitute authorship”.

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: Alejandro Lazo-Langner

3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations (please detail):
   • Alejandro Lazo-Langner and Jeff Hawel were responsible for literature search, data collection and data analysis.

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):
   • Alejandro Lazo-Langner, Jeff Hawel, Walter Ageno, and Michael J Kovacs were responsible for data interpretation.

5) Writing the manuscript. The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:
   • Alejandro Lazo-Langner and Jeff Hawel were responsible for Tables 1 and 2 and Figure 1
   • Alejandro Lazo-Langner was responsible for Figures 2 and 3
   • Alejandro Lazo-Langner, Jeff Hawel, Walter Ageno, and Michael J Kovacs drafted the manuscript, provided critical revisions and approved the final version.

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.)