Manuscript no. HAEMATOL/2011/044578 entitled “On the potential involvement of CD11d in co-stimulating the production of interferon-γ by natural killer cells upon interaction with neutrophils via intercellular adhesion molecule-3”

Authors: Claudio Costantini, Alessandra Micheletti, Federica Calzetti, Omar Perbellini, Nicola Tamassia, Cristina Albanesi, William Vermi, and Marco A. Cassatella

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:
• Marco A. Cassatella, Department of Pathology and Diagnostics, Division of General Pathology, University of Verona, Strada Le Grazie 8, 37134 Verona, Italy. E-mail: marco.cassatella@univr.it

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: Marco A. Cassatella, Claudio Costantini

3) Design & Methods. The following authors were responsible for specific investigations (please detail):
• Federica Calzetti and Omar Perbellini were responsible for cytofluorimetric experiments and analysis
• Claudio Costantini, Alessandra Micheletti, Nicola Tamassia were responsible for co-culture experiments, co-stimulation assays and analysis of cytokine production
• Federica Calzetti was responsible for laser confocal microscopy experiments
• William Vermi and Cristina Albanesi were responsible for immunohistochemistry experiments and 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):
• Claudio Costantini, Alessandra Micheletti, Federica Calzetti and Nicola Tamassia were responsible for Figure1
• Claudio Costantini, Alessandra Micheletti, Federica Calzetti and Nicola Tamassia were responsible for Figure2
• Federica Calzetti, Alessandra Micheletti, William Vermi and Cristina Albanesi were responsible for Figure3

5) Writing the manuscript. The following authors were responsible for writing the manuscript:
• Marco A. Cassatella
• Claudio Costantini

6) Contributors Listed in Acknowledgments:
• Alessio Montresor and Silvia Lonardi provided technical help
• Carlo Laudanna, Giampiero Girolomoni, Valentin Yakubenko and Angel L. Corbí provided valuable reagents
• Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell’Università e della Ricerca (PRIN), Fondazione Cariverona and Associazione Italiana per la Ricerca sul Cancro (AIRC 5839) provided financial support