Title | Prognostic significance of reproducible immunophenotypic markers of marrow dysplasia
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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, collection of images, interpretation of data, preparation of the text, etc.)

Matteo G Della Porta and Kiyoyuki Ogata conceived the study and were responsible for preparation of the text; Cristina Picone, Annamaria Tenore and Norio Yokose performed immunophenotypic experiments and performed data analysis; Luca Malcovati and Mario Cazzola collected clinical data and performed data analysis and interpretation.