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Dr. Josep Gregori has conducted and reviewed the bioinformatics and statistics analysis of the study entitled "*Analyses of HBV preS1 variability and prevalence of the rs2296651 polymorphism in a Spanish population*", ensuring their adequation, correctness and proper explanation in the manuscript. Dr. Josep Gregori is an author of this study and serves as bioinformatician and biomedical statistician in the liver disease laboratory-viral hepatitis of Vall d'Hebron Institut Recerca (VHIR)-University hospital Vall d'Hebron (HUVH). Hes is a member of CIBERehd and an employee of Roche Diagnostics SL. His contact information is Liver Unit, Liver Disease Laboratory-Viral Hepatitis, Lab 007, Vall d'Hebron Institut Recerca, 08035 Barcelona, Spain, telephone +34 934 894 034, e-mail josep.gregori@vhir.org.

The corresponding author of this study is Dr. David Taberero certifies the role of Dr. Josep Gregori in this Study. Dr. David Taberero is a member of the liver pathology unit of departments of biochemistry and microbiology of Universitary hospital Vall d'Hebron, and an employee of CIBERehd. His contact address is Liver Pathology Unit, Departments of Biochemistry and Microbiology, Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron (HUVH), Passeig Vall d'Hebron 119-129, clinical laboratories, 08035 Barcelona, Spain, e-mail david.taberero@ciberehd.org, telephone number +34 932 746 897.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Josep Gregori**

**Dr. David Taberero**