

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The statistical review of the study entitled "Detection of hyper-conserved regions in hepatitis B virus X gene potentially useful for gene therapy" was performed by Dr. Josep Gregori, who is a bioinformatician and biomedical statistician, member of the liver disease laboratory-viral hepatitis (Vall d'Hebron Institut Recerca-Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron) and 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, e-mail josep.gregori@vhir.org.

The corresponding author of this study is Dr. Maria Francesca Cortese member of the liver pathology unit of departments of biochemistry and microbiology (Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron) and an employee of Vall d'Hebron Research Institute (Vhir).

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As corresponding author, she confirms that Dr. Josep Gregori has conducted and reviewed the bioinformatics and statistics analysis of this study, ensuring their adequation, correctness and proper explanation in the manuscript.

Sincerely,



Dr. Josep Gregori



Dr. Maria Francesca Cortese