Biostatistics statement

All the statistical analyses of the clinical study, "Multicenter cooperative observational study of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis with non-small cell lung cancer", were planned and conducted by one of the coauthors, Shoji Tokunaga, who is an experienced biomedical statistician. I certify that the statistical quality of this study satisfied the level of medical statistics required by the clinical research.

Shoji Tokunaga 21st Dec 2015.
PhD in Biology, PhD in Medical Science
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An excerpt of statistical analysis section is as follows;

Statistical Analysis

We assessed the incidence of AE-IPF as the clinical course of IPF with advanced NSCLC according to the presence or absence of chemotherapy. The associations between AE-IPF and pre-enrollment parameters, including CRP, LDH, KL-6, SP-D, PaO2, %VC, %DLCO, and desaturation during 6MWT were examined using the Wilcoxon rank-sum test. The progression-free survival (PFS) was measured as the period from the start of chemotherapy to an identifiable time for progression. The overall survival (OS) was measured as the period from the entry of this study until death by all causes. Survival curves for the PFS and OS were estimated using the Kaplan–Meier method. The log-rank test was used for the comparison of the survival times. The confidence interval for the response rate was estimated by exact binomial method. All tests were two-tailed and *P* values less than 0.05 were considered to be statistically significant. All statistical analyses were performed using the Stata 11 software program (Stata Corporation, Texas, USA). The statistical analyses were performed by one of the authors (ST), an expert biomedical statistician, assuring the standard of biostatistics required for a clinical research.