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*Randomized Clinical Trial*

Randomized controlled trial of remote ischemic preconditioning and atrial fibrillation in patients undergoing cardiac surgery

**BioStatistics Statement:** The statistical methods of this study were reviewed by Dr. Paul Visintainer from Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, Massachusetts. Dr. Visintainer is a Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Baystate Medical Center and is a co-author.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Lotfi', with a large, sweeping underline that extends to the left.