

BIOSTATISTICS STATEMENT

The statistical methods of this study were reviewed by Luis C. L Correia, MD, PhD. Dr. Correia is an associate professor of biostatistics at Bahiana School of Medicine and Public Health, and coordinates the biostatistics program for PhD students at the same institution. Dr. Correia pursued training as a clinical research fellow in cardiology at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Correia underwent intensive training in biostatistics during this period, and is therefore fully qualified to perform comprehensive and accurate statistical analyses. Moreover, Dr. Correia is currently the coordinator of the research department at Hospital Sao Rafael, Salvador-Ba, Brazil, an associate professor of evidence-based medicine at Bahiana School of Medicine and Public Health, Salvador-Ba, Brazil, and has given numerous courses on statistics methodology throughout the country. Dr. Correia has reviewed the statistical methods that were used in the present manuscript and guarantees that they are appropriately described when they are used to verify the results and that statistical techniques are suitable and correct. Provided this information, the authors would like to apply for a waiver of the biostatistics statement, since Dr. Correia encompasses the necessary qualifications in order to review the statistical analysis of this study.