

Biostatistical statement

Statistical analyses were made using GraphPad Prism 5 software. Categorical variables were summarized as frequency and percentage and were compared across independent groups by the Fisher's exact test (two tailed, confidence interval 95%). Numerical variables with asymmetrical distribution were summarized by median and interquartile range (IQR) and were compared by the Kruskal-Wallis test. A p value < 0,05 was considered for significance.

The biostatistical analysis was supervised by dr. **Anna Monica Bianco**, who has a proven experience in the field of biostatistics, as evidenced in several research studies, in particular in the field of genetics and population genetics.

Trieste 22/09/2017

Dr. Anna Monica Bianco

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Anna Monica Bianco', written in a cursive style.