

London, 18 June 2018

Biostatistics Statement

To whom it may concern

Title of study: Role of colectomy in preventing recurrent PSC in liver transplant recipients.

Manuscript number: 39862

I hereby confirm that I have reviewed the data analysis of the manuscript. No meaningful statistical analysis, that would fall into the description of statistical methodology, as outlined in the Journal's guidelines, was feasible for the reported primary endpoints given the heterogeneity of the values in the reported data of the included studies, apart of the descriptive median MINORS score.

I confirm that I have received special training during my MSc in Surgical Science (Imperial College, London) which included a module in biostatistics. My experience on the field is documented in peer reviewed publications, including original comparative studies and systematic reviews, where I have conducted the statistical analysis as described in author contributions. Furthermore, I frequently teach Research Methodology and Biostatistics in undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you require any further information,

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Panagis Lykoudis". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'P' being large and prominent. The signature is written on a plain white background.

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