

August 21, 2013

Dear WJGO Editors:

This letter is written to inform you that I am a trained biostatistician who has helped prepare the manuscript "A Novel Blood-based MicroRNA Biomarker Panel for Early Diagnosis of Pancreatic Cancer." I can attest to the appropriateness of the statistical methodology utilized for this study as well as the accuracy of the analysis results.

I possess a Master's degree in applied statistics from the Pennsylvania State University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Rutledge", is positioned above a horizontal line.

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