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Lian-Sheng Ma Founder and CEO Baishideng Publishing Group Inc 7041 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 160, Pleasanton, CA 94566, USA

4 November, 2021

Dear Dr. Ma.

This letter is to declare that I am the principal investigator (PI) of the project with reference PI20/00229 funded by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III (Spain), co-supported by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)'. The Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII) is the Public Research Organization of the Spanish Government responsible for funding and executing national biomedical research. It depends on the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (MCIU), although it is also attached to the Ministry of Health, Consumption and Social Welfare (MSCBS). You could see further details on the ISCIII here: https://eng.isciii.es/eng.isciii.es/Paginas/Inicio.html

The PI20/00229 project was funded under the 2020 ISCIII Health Research and Development Strategy funding scheme. A detailed list of funded projects within the aforementioned call can be accessed here:

https://firmadoc.isciii.es/firmadoccontroller?action=download&id=24/11/2020-617ba0f6c3

Moreover, I would like to declare that I am an associate researcher of the research project with reference PI19/01256 funded by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III (Spain), co-





supported by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)'. Dr. Marina Diaz-Marsa is the PI of this project.

The PI19/01256 project was funded under the 2019 ISCIII Health Research and Development Strategy funding scheme. A detailed list of funded projects within the aforementioned call can be accessed here (I would like to apologize because the document is in Spanish language, as no document exists in other language):

http://gesdoc.isciii.es/gesdoccontroller?action=download&id=31/07/2019-9372efd883

Finally, I would like to declare that our research study (manuscript ID: 67870) was supported by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III-FIS under grant number PI20/00229 and PI19/01256, co-supported by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) 'a way to build Europe'.

Please, keep funding details within the manuscript with ID 67870.

Sincerely,

Alejandro de la Torre-Luque Universidad Complutense de Madrid Madrid, Spain