

To whom it may concern,

I certify that I reviewed the statistical methods of the study entitled "*Post-transplantation hepatocellular carcinoma recurrence: patterns and relation between vascularity and differentiation degree*", in which the authors explored the association between pretransplantation HCC enhancement pattern (hypervascular or hypovascular) and explanted liver HCC differentiation degree by means of the Fisher exact test. Moreover, recurrence rate was calculated and the presence of variations in imaging features (enhancement pattern) and histopathological characteristics (differentiation degree) between the primary and the intrahepatic recurred HCC was evaluated. Finally, the association between imaging and histopathological variations was estimated by using the  $\chi^2$  test.

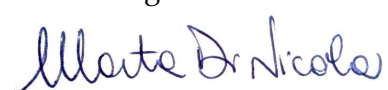
The statistical analyses used in this paper were correct and adequately described in the Materials and Methods section.

Sincerely,

Name: Marta Di Nicola

Institution: Department of Experimental and Clinical Sciences, Laboratory of Biostatistics,  
University of Chieti-Italy

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marta Di Nicola". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.