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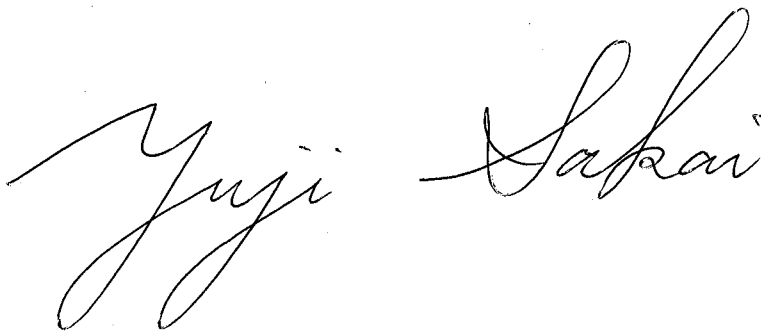
***Prospective Study***

**New tapered metallic stent for unresectable malignant hilar bile duct obstruction**

**Biostatistics statement:**

Harutoshi Sugiyama analyzed it.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Yuji Sakai". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Yuji" is on the left, and the last name "Sakai" is on the right, connected by a thin line. The ink is dark and the background is white.