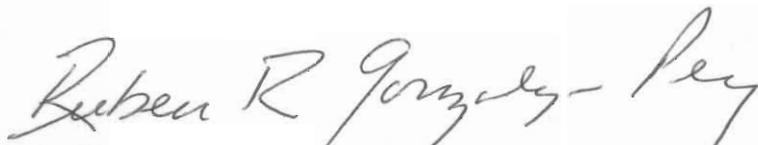


Dear Editor,

We appreciate the work and efforts made by the Editors and Reviewers in reviewing our manuscript. We have corrected the format and added sections required to the revised manuscript. The abstract was re-written according to the Editor's comments. The Biostatistics Statement was included in the revised version. The comments section was added and the references were updated per the journal style. The new Figures show the re-calculated statistics. The core tip was prepared. Additionally, we are sending the signed required documents related to Copyright Assignment and Conflicts of Interest with the revised version of the manuscript.

We believe that the revised manuscript has now been considerably strengthened. Please find attached the revised manuscript showing the highlighted changes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruben R Gonzalez-Perez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

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