

Biostatistics statement

The statistical methods of this study were reviewed by Ken Haruma from the Department of General Internal Medicine 2, Kawasaki Hospital, Kawasaki Medical School, Okayama, Japan. Statistical methods in this study are adequately and appropriately which could verify the results.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ken Haruma', written in a cursive style.

Ken Haruma, M.D.

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