

Biostatistics statement

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The statistical methods of this study were reviewed by **Clélia Akiko Hiruma-Lima, PhD**, Department of Physiology, Institute of Biosciences, São Paulo State University (UNESP), Botucatu, São Paulo, Brazil hiruma@ibb.unesp.br. The results were expressed as the mean \pm standard error of the mean. Two-group comparisons were performed using Student's *t*-test, while comparisons of three or more groups were performed using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Dunnett's or Tukey's test, or using two-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's test. The minimal significance level considered was $P < 0.05$. All data were analyzed using the software GraphPad Prism 6.0 (San Diego, CA, United States).

Sincerely,

Clélia Akiko Hiruma-Lima

