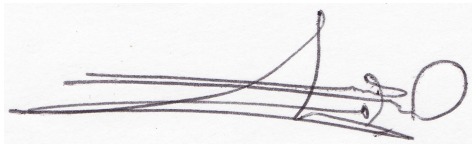


## Biostatistics Statement

The statistical methods used in this study were reviewed by Mir Masood Ali , Professor Emeritus, the Department of Biostatistics, Osmania University. The statistical methods used in this study are adequate and appropriate. All methods could be replicated and the results could be verified.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke, likely representing the name Mir Masood Ali.

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