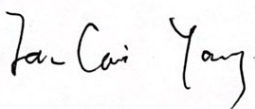


**Biostatistics statement**

**Title:** Decreased expression of the long non-coding RNA HOXD-AS2 promotes gastric cancer cell migration and invasion by targeting HOXD8 and activating the PI3K/Akt signalling pathway

The statistical methods of this study were reviewed by a member of the Biostatistic Service from the North Sichuan Medical College.

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