

## Certificate of Biostatistics

2 May 2022

To whom it may concern,

Title of manuscript: Effects of illness perception on negative emotions and fatigue in chronic rheumatic diseases: Rumination as a possible mediator

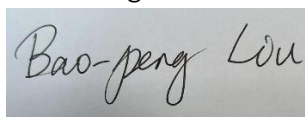
Authors: Yanxia Lu, Xia Jin, Liwei Feng, Catherine Tang, Michelle Neo, Anselm Mak, Roger C. M. Ho

This letter is written to confirm that I have read the ethics application prepared for this study, and that in my point of view the statistical methods and techniques involved in this study are appropriate for the research.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further queries.

Sincerely,

Bao-Peng Liu, PhD,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bao-peng Liu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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