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Bio-Statistical Statement

Dear Professor Garcia-Olmo,

Dear Professor Naser,

Dear Professor Strom,

Dear Madame, dear Sir,

Please find attached our bio-statistical statement for the manuscript entitled:

" Gut-liver axis improves with meloxicam treatment after cirrhotic liver resection"

I am the responsible senior author of this manuscript and trained biostatistician. My training was two years during my university master course in Medical informatics.

The statistical analysis was planned and conducted as follows:

Statistical analysis

The results are expressed as the mean \pm standard error of mean (SEM) for each group. Levels of ALT, MDA, IL-6, HIF-1 α and TGF- β 1 in the serum, microcirculation of the liver, small bowel and portal venous flow measurements between groups at each time point were tested using 2-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Bonferroni's post-hoc test. Whereas, quantifications of the goblet cells, villus length, Ki-67, COX-2 liver expression between groups at 24 h OT were tested using one-way ANOVA and Tukey's Multiple Comparison Test. A non-parametric method (the Dunn procedure under the Kruskal-Wallis test) was used for RT-

PCR results in liver and small bowel for multiple comparisons between the groups. A P-value of < 0.05 was considered statistically significant. Calculations were made with the help of Prism 5 Windows software (GraphPad Software Inc., San Diego, CA).

We thank you for considering our paper for publication in *World Journal of Gastroenterology*, and we are looking forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,



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