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To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that I have proofread and revised the English in the manuscript **“The effect of liver cirrhosis on long-term outcomes after a first-ever mechanical ventilation: a population-based study”**, by Chih-Cheng Lai¹, Chung-Han Ho², Kuo-Chen Cheng^{3,4}, Chien-Ming Chao¹, Chin-Ming Chen^{5,6,*} and Willy Chou⁶ (¹Department of Intensive Care Medicine, Chi Mei Medical Center, Liouying District, Tainan, Taiwan; Departments of ²Medical Research and ³Internal Medicine, Chi Mei Medical Center, Tainan, Taiwan; ⁴Department of Safety, Health and Environment, Chung Hwa University of Medical Technology, Tainan, Taiwan; ⁵Department of Intensive Care Medicine, Chi Mei Medical Center, Tainan, Taiwan; ⁶Department of Recreation and Health-Care Management, Chia Nan University of Pharmacy and Science, Tainan, Taiwan).

I also certify that, when this manuscript left my computer, it contained no grammatical errors; however, I cannot prevent authors from making changes to their own manuscripts, regardless of whether they are aware of how they may affect the usage or grammar rules for the words or phrases changed. This manuscript may contain disputed English usages and what some critics object to as “Americanisms”, which are difficult for me to eliminate because I am an American, but these are matters of style that in no way affect the content of the manuscript.

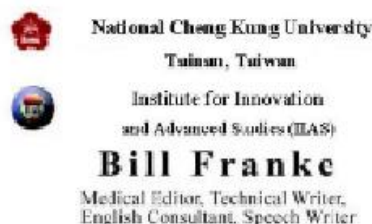
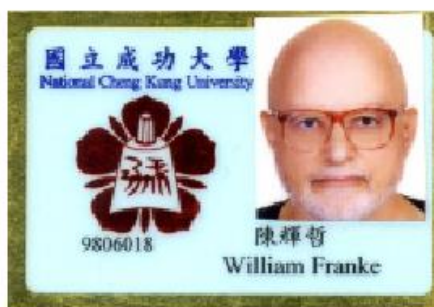
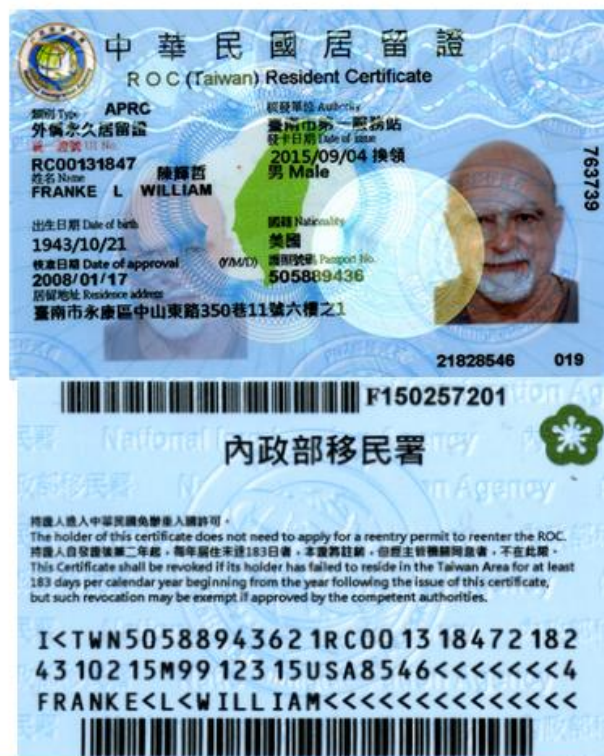
I am a native speaker of American English with an MA in Linguistics. I taught English as a Foreign Language at universities in Far East Asia from April 1983 and retired on January 31, 2009, after 11.5 years as a full-time English teacher in the Department of Applied English, Southern Taiwan University of Technology, Tainan, Taiwan. I have been professionally editing biomedical articles in Taiwan since 1997. I worked full-time as a technical writer and medical editor for seven months for the *Institute for Innovation and Advanced Studies (IIAS)* and for The College of Medicine, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan.

On the next page are multiple images: one of my USA passport ID page to verify my nationality, one of my Taiwan Alien Permanent Resident Certificate to verify my local address, one of my old Southern Taiwan University of Technology faculty ID card, and one of my National Cheng Kung University employee ID card to verify my former employment.

Sincerely yours,



L William Franke



陳輝哲

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