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Revised authorship

During revision of the present manuscript, one of the original authors: Katya Mauff, requested to be removed from the authorship list. Together with Liesbeth C. de Wreede and Edouard F. Bonneville, Ms Mauff – then an EBMT employee - performed the statistical analyses shown in the first submission of the manuscript. Ms Mauff asked to receive formal and individual proof of evidence that each of the 6,627 patients whose data are used in the present study had signed an informed consent at participating EBMT centers. As a consequence of EBMT negative response to her request, Ms Mauff asked her name to be withdrawn from the authorship list.

The request was impossible to comply with, because the original consent forms contain individual and identifying patient data, including name and surname. These original documents are collected under the responsibility of transplant physicians, archived at the treating institution, and not transferred to EBMT, thus not accessible to EBMT personnel including the statistician who performs the analyses from a pseudonymised or anonymized database.

EBMT ensures that all personal data under its responsibility is processed according to the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which includes a written informed consent to use patient data for scientific studies. The data is stored in an electronic database located in a European country which is protected by safeguards that ensure security, including compliance with ISO27001 certification. EBMT is strongly committed to protecting the privacy of personal patient data we obtained from EBMT member centers.

Within the EBMT registry, patient identification is limited to the hospital UPN, patient initials, date of birth and gender (pseudonymisation). In this context, EBMT has developed a Joint Controllership Agreement with Centers with full EBMT membership, which describes the responsibility concerning protection of data reported to the EBMT registry. In this Joint Controllership Agreement, the EBMT member centers who are reporting patient data are responsible of a written informed consent.

For the present study, we can confirm that for all included patients, a written statement of the Principal Investigator of the corresponding center is available, confirming that informed consent was obtained from all patients that were included.