Dear colleagues

Thank you for the comments of the initial assessment. We have included now the list of email addresses of all co-authors on the title page, and added a list of abbreviations, a competing interests statement and author’s contributions.

An informed consent was obtained from all patients. An ethical approval was not required as this study was a retrospective analysis of anonymized data, and since a generalized ethical approval for retrospective studies with anonymous data is given by the local ethical committee. Both statements are now included in the Methods.

Kind regards

Emin Aghayev