ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest

Instructions

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1. Given Name (First Name)  
   Xiaoping

2. Surname (Last Name)  
   Li

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4. Are you the corresponding author?  
   ☐ Yes  ☑ No  
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   Xi Zhang

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Chen
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   Ting

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Qiangguo

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Gao

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<tr>
<td>Wei</td>
<td>Zhang</td>
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Section 1. Identifying Information

1. Given Name (First Name)  Wen
2. Surname (Last Name)      Zhu
3. Date                      09-July-2019

4. Are you the corresponding author?  □ Yes  ✓ No

Corresponding Author’s Name
Xi Zhang

5. Manuscript Title
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6. Manuscript Identifying Number (if you know it)
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<th>1. Given Name (First Name)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Zeng</td>
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1. Given Name (First Name)  Zhenyu
2. Surname (Last Name)  Li
3. Date  09-July-2019

4. Are you the corresponding author?  ☑ No

Corresponding Author’s Name  Xi Zhang

5. Manuscript Title
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1. Given Name (First Name)  
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   Yang

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   Xiaoeqi

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   Wang

3. Date  
   09-July-2019

4. Are you the corresponding author?  
   [ ] Yes  [✓] No

   Corresponding Author's Name  
   Xi Zhang

5. Manuscript Title  
   A panel of 4 biomarkers for the early diagnosis and therapeutic efficacy of aGVHD

6. Manuscript Identifying Number (if you know it)  
   130413-INS-CMED-RV-2

### The Work Under Consideration for Publication

Did you or your institution at any time receive payment or services from a third party (government, commercial, private foundation, etc.) for any aspect of the submitted work (including but not limited to grants, data monitoring board, study design, manuscript preparation, statistical analysis, etc.)?

Are there any relevant conflicts of interest?  
[ ] Yes  [✓] No

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Are there any relevant conflicts of interest?  
[ ] Yes  [✓] No

### Intellectual Property -- Patents & Copyrights

Do you have any patents, whether planned, pending or issued, broadly relevant to the work?  
[ ] Yes  [✓] No
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The purpose of this form is to provide readers of your manuscript with information about your other interests that could influence how they receive and understand your work. The form is designed to be completed electronically and stored electronically. It contains programming that allows appropriate data display. Each author should submit a separate form and is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the submitted information. The form is in six parts.

1. Identifying information.

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<td>None</td>
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<td>None</td>
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<td>OTHER INFORMATION</td>
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STARD 2015

**AIM**

STARD stands for “Standards for Reporting Diagnostic accuracy studies”. This list of items was developed to contribute to the completeness and transparency of reporting of diagnostic accuracy studies. Authors can use the list to write informative study reports. Editors and peer-reviewers can use it to evaluate whether the information has been included in manuscripts submitted for publication.

**EXPLANATION**

A **diagnostic accuracy study** evaluates the ability of one or more medical tests to correctly classify study participants as having a **target condition**. This can be a disease, a disease stage, response or benefit from therapy, or an event or condition in the future. A medical test can be an imaging procedure, a laboratory test, elements from history and physical examination, a combination of these, or any other method for collecting information about the current health status of a patient.

The test whose accuracy is evaluated is called **index test**. A study can evaluate the accuracy of one or more index tests. Evaluating the ability of a medical test to correctly classify patients is typically done by comparing the distribution of the index test results with those of the **reference standard**. The reference standard is the best available method for establishing the presence or absence of the target condition. An accuracy study can rely on one or more reference standards.

If test results are categorized as either positive or negative, the cross tabulation of the index test results against those of the reference standard can be used to estimate the **sensitivity** of the index test (the proportion of participants with the target condition who have a positive index test), and its **specificity** (the proportion without the target condition who have a negative index test). From this cross tabulation (sometimes referred to as the contingency or “2x2” table), several other accuracy statistics can be estimated, such as the positive and negative **predictive values** of the test. Confidence intervals around estimates of accuracy can then be calculated to quantify the statistical **precision** of the measurements.

If the index test results can take more than two values, categorization of test results as positive or negative requires a **test positivity cut-off**. When multiple such cut-offs can be defined, authors can report a receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve which graphically represents the combination of sensitivity and specificity for each possible test positivity cut-off. The **area under the ROC curve** informs in a single numerical value about the overall diagnostic accuracy of the index test.

The **intended use** of a medical test can be diagnosis, screening, staging, monitoring, surveillance, prediction or prognosis. The **clinical role** of a test explains its position relative to existing tests in the clinical pathway. A replacement test, for example, replaces an existing test. A triage test is used before an existing test; an add-on test is used after an existing test.

Besides diagnostic accuracy, several other outcomes and statistics may be relevant in the evaluation of medical tests. Medical tests can also be used to classify patients for purposes other than diagnosis, such as staging or prognosis. The STARD list was not explicitly developed for these other outcomes, statistics, and study types, although most STARD items would still apply.

**DEVELOPMENT**

This STARD list was released in 2015. The 30 items were identified by an international expert group of methodologists, researchers, and editors. The guiding principle in the development of STARD was to select items that, when reported, would help readers to judge the potential for bias in the study, to appraise the applicability of the study findings and the validity of conclusions and recommendations. The list represents an update of the first version, which was published in 2003.