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Response to Viana MB et al

Paolo Di Bartolomeo

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To the editor: We thank Dr. Viana and colleagues for their relevant comments. [1] As they suggested, we have estimated the graft-versus-host data as cumulative incidence taking into account the competing events and compared them with those obtained with the Kaplan-Meyer method as reported in our original paper.[2] We found the following differences:

	Original Kaplan-Meyer Method	Cumulative incidence
Acute GvHD grade I to IV	37%	35.6%
Acute GvHD – CSA alone	27%	27%
Acute GvHD – CSA + MTX	54% P=0.001*	51.2% P=0.002**
Chronic GvHD	17%	14.8%

*Log-rank test; ** Gray test

Based on the data reported above, we believe that the possible overestimation of the cumulative incidence of GvHD due to the presence of competing events is minimal, given the low number of competing risks (early death before the possible occurrence of GvHD and graft rejection).

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References

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