***Quality Improvements Report***

***Manuscript Title***

First Name(s) Surnamea, First Name(s) Surnamea, First Name(s) Surnameb, First Name(s) Surnamec, First Name(s) Surnamea

a Department, Institute/University/Hospital, City, (State,) Country

b Department, Institute/University/Hospital, City, (State,) Country

c Department, Institute/University/Hospital, City, (State,) Country

Short Title: to be used as running head

Corresponding Author:

First and last name

E-mail address:

Keywords: Please provide 3–5 keywords highlighting the most important points of your paper.

**Abstract**

A short Abstract should summarize the main points and reflect the content of the article. It should be written in a clear and concise way and be structured using the following subheadings: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Conclusion. Abbreviations used in the main text may be introduced and used. Use neither bibliographic references nor references to figures or tables in the Abstract.

**Introduction**

The Introduction should provide a summary of the background to the relevant field of research and the specific problems addressed and should state the hypotheses being explored as well as the main goal(s) of the study. Conclusions or findings should not appear in the Introduction.

**Methods**

The Materials and Methods section should shortly summarize the methods of research and should state how outcomes were assessed. For all details on the methodology, the reader should be pointed to the previously published Registered Report – Protocol (Stage 1). If any deviations to the previously published protocol occurred, these should be mentioned here, and the reasons for change should be justified. If your manuscript is a clinical trial, please provide the clinical trial number.

**Results**

The Results section should describe the most important findings of the study, analysis, or experiment. The most important results should be indicated, and relevant trends and patterns should be described.

**Discussion**

The Discussion should provide an evaluation of the results. There should be a clear discussion of the implications, significance, and novelty of the results presented and whether the data support or contradict previous studies. A final conclusion may be added.

**Statements**

All papers must contain the following statements after the main body of the text and before the reference list. More detailed information can be found at [Publication Ethics and Editorial Policies | Karger Publishers](https://karger.com/pages/publication-ethics).

**A****cknowledgement (optional)**

In the Acknowledgement section, authors may include individuals, who are not listed as authors, and organizations that have made substantive contributions to the research or the manuscript. An exception is where funding was provided, which should be included in Funding Sources.

###### Statement of Ethics

Please address the following aspects in your Statement of Ethics.

Study approval statement: Provide name and affiliation of the committee who approved the study and the decision reference number. An example statement can be found here: "*This study protocol was reviewed and approved by [committee name and affiliation], approval number [XXX]*." If ethics approval was not required, or if the study has been granted an exemption from requiring ethics approval, this should also be stated, including the name of the ethics committee who made that decision.

Consent to participate statement: For studies using human participants, state whether written informed consent was obtained from participants (or their parent/legal guardian/next of kin) to participate in the study. If written informed consent was not required, or if the study has been granted an exemption from requiring written informed consent, this should also be stated, including the name of the ethics committee who made that decision.

###### Conflict of Interest Statement

Authors are required to disclose any possible conflicts of interest. All forms of support and financial involvement (e.g. employment, consultancies, honoraria, stock ownership and options, expert testimony, grants or patents received or pending, royalties) which took place in the previous three years should be listed, regardless of their potential relevance to the paper. Also the nonfinancial relationships (personal, political, or professional) that may potentially influence the writing of the manuscript should be declared. If there is no conflict of interest, please state: “The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.”

###### Funding Sources

Authors must give full details about the funding of any research relevant to their study, including sponsor names and explanations of the roles of these sources in the study design, execution and analysis, and manuscript conception, planning, writing and decision to publish. If the sponsor or funder had no role in any of the above, please use the following statement: "The funder had no role in the design, data collection, data analysis, and reporting of this study." Please ensure to include any support that could be perceived as a potential conflict of interest in the Conflict of Interest Statement. It is strongly advised to write out the funding body in full and add the grant number in brackets. Multiple grant numbers should be separated by commas and spaces. If no funding was received for the study, please use the following statement: "This study was not supported by any sponsor or funder."

###### Author Contributions

In the Author Contributions section, a short statement detailing the contributions of each person named as an author should be included. Please include the initials of each author and their contribution. Contributors to the paper who do not fulfil the [[ICMJE Criteria for Authorship](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.icmje.org%2Frecommendations%2Fbrowse%2Froles-and-responsibilities%2Fdefining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html&data=04%7C01%7Ck.fava%40karger.com%7Cff60788f01494d8ede1508d90a2bbe0c%7C69e7eb606e904a0590b15b8d6d697087%7C0%7C0%7C637552005543144066%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=QBfoT6JcFIpswsIllt2YnvL4fkIMHENDcVTlHkfgnPI%3D&reserved=0)](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.icmje.org%2Frecommendations%2Fbrowse%2Froles-and-responsibilities%2Fdefining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html&data=04%7C01%7Ck.fava%40karger.com%7Cff60788f01494d8ede1508d90a2bbe0c%7C69e7eb606e904a0590b15b8d6d697087%7C0%7C0%7C637552005543144066%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=QBfoT6JcFIpswsIllt2YnvL4fkIMHENDcVTlHkfgnPI%3D&reserved=0) should be credited in the Acknowledgement section.

**Data Availability Statement**

Authors are required to provide a Data Availability Statement in their article that details whether data are available and where they can be found. The journal’s data sharing policy strongly encourages authors to make all datasets on which the conclusions of the paper rely available to editors, reviewers and readers without unnecessary restriction wherever possible. In cases where research data are not publicly available on legal or ethical grounds, this should be clearly stated in the Data Availability Statement along with any conditions for accessing the data. Examples of Data Availability Statements and additional information on the data sharing policy can be found at [Publication Ethics and Editorial Policies | Karger Publishers](https://karger.com/pages/publication-ethics#data).

**References [Numerical]**

References in the text should be identified sequentially using Arabic numerals [in square brackets].

The reference list should include only those publications which are cited in the text, arranged numerically in the order in which they are cited. More information and examples can be found on the Author Guidelines of the respective journal.

**Figure Legends**

Fig. 1. Legend text.

Fig. 2. Legend text.

Figures should be mentioned in the manuscript text as follows:   
Without round brackets:

“…shown in Figure 1…” or “…shown in Figures 1 and 4…” or “…shown in Figures 2–6…” always with capital letters and written out.

With round brackets:

“(shown in Fig. 1)” or “(shown in Fig. 1, 4)” or “(shown in Fig. 2–6)”, always abbreviated as “Fig.” followed by the number or numbers after a full stop and a space.

In the Legend:

“Fig. 1.” or “Fig. 1. a”, always abbreviated as “Fig.” followed by the number after a full stop and a space

Please note that the actual figures and all tables should be uploaded as separate items in their original file format.