## **COVER LETTER**

Dear Editor,

This is to confirm that the article entitled "The research for a COVID-19 vaccine: reopening of the dilemma on unethical offshore clinical trials." submitted to the Indian Journal of Medical Ethics is original and has been co-authored by the undersigned. All authors have participated in the work sufficiently to meet the ICMJE guidelines for authorship. All have read and approved the manuscript.

The submission is not under consideration for publication in any other journal.

We give consent to Juan Pablo Scarano Pereira to act as the author for correspondence.

We do not have a sponsor for this research article.

We have read the terms and conditions of authorship of IJME and accept them.

Contact details (mailing address, email id) and affiliation of all authors:

- Juan Pablo Scarano Pereira.
- Institution: Facultad de Medicina, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.
- Email: jscarano@ucm.es
- Phone number: (+34) 691 98 13 85
- Address: Plaza de Ramón y Cajal, s/n, 28040 Madrid (Spain)

- Francesca Manicone.
- Institution: Facoltà di Medicina e Odontoiatria, Sapienza Università di Roma, Rome, Italy
- Email: francesca.manicone97@gmail.com
- Phone number: (+39) 351 707 97 93
- Address: Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza" Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Roma
- María Gabriela Scarano Pereira.
- Institution: Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Sociología, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.
- Email: scaranogabriela@hotmail.com
- Phone number: (+34) 693 20 59 46
- Address: Campus de somosaguas, 28223 Pozuelo de Alarcón, Madrid (Spain)
- Maria Ahmad.
- Institution: Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, London, UK
- Email: maria.ahmad0198@gmail.com
- Phone number: (+44) 7423 060811
- Address: Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentristy, Garrod Building. Turner street, Whitechapel, London, El 2AD.
- Alessandro Martinino.
- Institution: Facoltà di Medicina e Odontoiatria, Sapienza Università di Roma, Rome, Italy
- Email: martinino.1735414@studenti.uniroma1.it
- Phone number: (+39) 388 452 7366
- Address: Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza" Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Roma

## Signatures of all authors:

Juan Pallo Scorara

Francesca Manicone

María Gabriela Scarano

Maria Ahmad

Alessandro Martinino