

#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

## 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Wei 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	nation		
1. Given Name (Fi Yuqing	rst Name)	2. Surname (Last Name) Wei		3. Date 22-March-2020
4. Are you the corresponding author?		☐ Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Nam Zhiwei Lu	ne
•			scopy for the diagnosis of un	diagnosed exudative pleural
6. Manuscript Ider TLCR-19-537	ntifying Number (if you kr	now it)	_	
	I			
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Public	cation	
any aspect of the s statistical analysis,	ubmitted work (including	but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, com ta monitoring board, study des	nmercial, private foundation, etc.) for ign, manuscript preparation,
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the s	submitted work.	
Place a check in the appropriate boxes in the table to indicate whether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities as described in the instructions. Use one line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by clicking the "Add +" box. You should report relationships that were <b>present during the 36 months prior to publication</b> .  Are there any relevant conflicts of interest? Yes You				
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	rty Patents & Copyrig	ghts	
Do you have any			oadly relevant to the work?	☐ Yes ✓ No

Wei 2



Section 5. Relationships not severed above
Relationships not covered above
Are there other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work?
Yes, the following relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):
✓ No other relationships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest
At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.
Section 6. Disclosure Statement
Based on the above disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box below.
Dr. Wei has nothing to disclose.

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Wei 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

# 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Shen 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	nation		
1. Given Name (Fi KaiKai	rst Name)	2. Surname (Last Name) Shen	3. Date 22-March-2020	
4. Are you the corresponding author?		Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Name Zhiwei Lu	
•			copy for the diagnosis of undiagnosed exudative pleural	
6. Manuscript Ide TLCR-19-537	ntifying Number (if you kr	now it)		
	ı			
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Public	ation	
any aspect of the s statistical analysis,	submitted work (including	but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, commercial, private foundation, etc.) for ta monitoring board, study design, manuscript preparation,	
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the s	ubmitted work.	
Place a check in the appropriate boxes in the table to indicate whether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities as described in the instructions. Use one line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by clicking the "Add +" box. You should report relationships that were <b>present during the 36 months prior to publication</b> .  Are there any relevant conflicts of interest? Yes Vo				
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	rty Patents & Copyric	ıhts	
Do you have any			oadly relevant to the work? Yes V No	

Shen 2



Section 5.	
Section 5.	Relationships not covered above
	elationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of named in the submitted work?
Yes, the follow	ving relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):
✓ No other relat	ionships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest
	nuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements nals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement
Based on the aborbelow.	ve disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box
Dr. Shen has noth	ning to disclose.

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Shen 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

# 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Lv 1



Section 1. Identifying Inform	nation				
1. Given Name (First Name) Tangfeng	2. Surname (Last Name) Lv	3. Date 22-March-2020			
4. Are you the corresponding author?	☐ Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Name Zhiwei Lu			
5. Manuscript Title Comparison between closed pleural biopsy and medical thoracoscopy for the diagnosis of undiagnosed exudative pleural effusions: a systematic review and meta-analysis.  6. Manuscript Identifying Number (if you know it) TLCR-19-537					
Section 2. The Work Under C	onsideration for Public	cation			
Did you or your institution <b>at any time</b> rece	eive payment or services from g but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, commercial, private foundation, etc.) for ata monitoring board, study design, manuscript preparation,			
Section 3. Relevant financial	activities outside the	submitted work.			
Place a check in the appropriate boxes in the table to indicate whether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities as described in the instructions. Use one line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by clicking the "Add +" box. You should report relationships that were <b>present during the 36 months prior to publication</b> .  Are there any relevant conflicts of interest? Yes Vo					
Section 4. Intellectual Prope	rty Patents & Copyri	ghts			
Do you have any patents, whether plan	nned, pending or issued, br	roadly relevant to the work? Yes V No			

Lv 2



Section 5.	
	Relationships not covered above
	elationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of encing, what you wrote in the submitted work?
Yes, the follow	wing relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):
✓ No other rela	tionships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest
	anuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements rnals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement
Based on the abo	ove disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box
Dr. Lv has nothin	ng to disclose.

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Lv 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

## 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Liu 1



Section 1. Identifying In	formation		
1. Given Name (First Name) Hongbing	2. Surname (Last Name) Liu	3. Date 22-March-2020	
4. Are you the corresponding author:	Yes 🗸 No	Corresponding Author's Name Zhiwei Lu	
5. Manuscript Title Comparison between closed pleu effusions: a systematic review and		copy for the diagnosis of undiagnosed exudative pleural	
6. Manuscript Identifying Number (if TLCR-19-537	you know it)		
Section 2. The Work Upo			
Did you or your institution <b>at any tim</b> any aspect of the submitted work (inc statistical analysis, etc.)?  Are there any relevant conflicts of	luding but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, commercial, private foundation, etc.) for ta monitoring board, study design, manuscript preparation,	
Section 3. Relevant final	ncial activities outside the s	ubmitted work.	
Place a check in the appropriate boxes in the table to indicate whether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities as described in the instructions. Use one line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by clicking the "Add +" box. You should report relationships that were <b>present during the 36 months prior to publication</b> .  Are there any relevant conflicts of interest? Yes Vo			
Section 4. Intellectual Pr			
Intellectual Pr	operty Patents & Copyrig	hts	
Do you have any patents, whether	planned, pending or issued, br	oadly relevant to the work? Yes V No	

Liu 2



Section 5.	
Section 5.	Relationships not covered above
	relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of encing, what you wrote in the submitted work?
Yes, the follo	wing relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):
✓ No other rela	ationships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest
	anuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements Irnals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement
Based on the abo	ove disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box
Dr. Liu has nothi	ing to disclose.

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Liu 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

## 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Wang 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	ation		
1. Given Name (Fii Zimu	rst Name)	2. Surname (Last Name) Wang		3. Date 22-March-2020
4. Are you the corresponding author?		Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Nam Zhiwei Lu	e
•		• •	scopy for the diagnosis of un	diagnosed exudative pleural
6. Manuscript Ider TLCR-19-537	ntifying Number (if you kn	now it)		
	l I			
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Publi	cation	
any aspect of the s statistical analysis,	ubmitted work (including	but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, com ata monitoring board, study desi	mercial, private foundation, etc.) for ign, manuscript preparation,
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the	submitted work.	
of compensation clicking the "Add	) with entities as descri	bed in the instructions. U port relationships that we		tionships (regardless of amount ld as many lines as you need by onths prior to publication.
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	rty Patents & Copyri	ghts	
Do you have any	•		roadly relevant to the work?	Yes ✓ No

Wang 2



Section 5. Relationships not covered above		
Are there other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work?		
Yes, the following relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):  No other relationships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest		
At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.		
Section 6. Disclosure Statement		
Based on the above disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box below.		
Dr. Wang has nothing to disclose.		

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Wang 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

# 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	aation		
1. Given Name (Fi Juan		2. Surname (Last Name) Wu	3. Date 22-March-2020	
4. Are you the corresponding author?		Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Name Zhiwei Lu	
			copy for the diagnosis of undiagnosed exudative pleural	
6. Manuscript Ide TLCR-19-537	ntifying Number (if you kr	now it)		
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Public	ation	
Did you or your institution <b>at any time</b> 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 Vo				
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the s	ubmitted work.	
Place a check in the appropriate boxes in the table to indicate whether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities as described in the instructions. Use one line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by clicking the "Add +" box. You should report relationships that were <b>present during the 36 months prior to publication</b> .  Are there any relevant conflicts of interest? Yes Vo				
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	rty Patents & Copyrig	ıhts	
Do you have any			oadly relevant to the work? Yes Vo	



Section 5.	
Section 5.	Relationships not covered above
	elationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of encing, what you wrote in the submitted work?
Yes, the follo	wing relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):
✓ No other rela	tionships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest
	anuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements rnals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement
Based on the abo below.	ove disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box
Dr. Wu has noth	ing to disclose.

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

## 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Zhang 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	nation		
1. Given Name (First Name) He		2. Surname (Last Name) Zhang	3. Date 22-March-2020	
4. Are you the corresponding author?		☐ Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Name Zhiwei Lu	
5. Manuscript Title Comparison between closed pleural biopsy and medical thoracoscopy for the diagnosis of undiagnosed exudative pleural effusions: a systematic review and meta-analysis.  6. Manuscript Identifying Number (if you know it) TLCR-19-537				
Section 2.	The Work Under C	onsideration for Public	cation	
any aspect of the s statistical analysis,	ubmitted work (including	but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, commercial, private foundation, etc.) for ta monitoring board, study design, manuscript preparation,	
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the s	submitted work.	
of compensation clicking the "Add Are there any rel	n) with entities as descri	bed in the instructions. Use port relationships that wer	ether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount se one line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by se present during the 36 months prior to publication.	
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	ty Patents & Copyrig	yhts	
Do you have any	patents, whether plan	ned, pending or issued, br	oadly relevant to the work? Yes V No	

Zhang 2



Section 5.		
	Relationships not covered above	
	elationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of encing, what you wrote in the submitted work?	
Yes, the follo	wing relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):	
✓ No other rela	tionships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest	
At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.		
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement	
Based on the abo below.	ove disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box	
Dr. Zhang has no	othing to disclose.	

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Zhang 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

## 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Colella 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	ation		
1. Given Name (Fi Sara	rst Name)	2. Surname (Last Name) Colella		3. Date 22-March-2020
4. Are you the cor	responding author?	☐ Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Nan Zhiwei Lu	ne
•			scopy for the diagnosis of ur	ndiagnosed exudative pleural
6. Manuscript Idea TLCR-19-537	ntifying Number (if you kn	ow it)	_	
C 11 2				
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Public	cation	
any aspect of the s statistical analysis,	ubmitted work (including	but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, con ta monitoring board, study des	nmercial, private foundation, etc.) for sign, manuscript preparation,
Section 3.				
	Relevant financial	activities outside the s	submitted work.	
of compensation clicking the "Add	n) with entities as descri	bed in the instructions. Us port relationships that wer	se one line for each entity; ac	ationships (regardless of amount dd as many lines as you need by onths prior to publication.
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	ty Patents & Copyric	ghts	
Do you have any	patents, whether plan	ned, pending or issued, br	oadly relevant to the work?	☐ Yes 🗸 No

Colella 2



Section 5. Polationships not sovered above		
Relationships not covered above		
Are there other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work?		
Yes, the following relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):		
✓ No other relationships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest		
At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.		
Section 6. Disclosure Statement		
Based on the above disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box below.		
Dr. Colella has nothing to disclose.		

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Colella 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

# 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	ation		
1. Given Name (Fir Fu-Zong	st Name)	2. Surname (Last Name) Wu	3. Da 22-M	ate March-2020
4. Are you the corresponding author?		☐ Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Name Zhiwei Lu	
•		• •	copy for the diagnosis of undiag	nosed exudative pleural
6. Manuscript Iden TLCR-19-537	tifying Number (if you kr	ow it)	-	
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Public	ation	
any aspect of the su statistical analysis, o	ubmitted work (including	but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, commerc ta monitoring board, study design, r	
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the s	ubmitted work.	
of compensation clicking the "Add	) with entities as descri	bed in the instructions. Us port relationships that wer	ether you have financial relations e one line for each entity; add as e <b>present during the 36 month</b>	s many lines as you need by
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	ty Patents & Copyrig	ıhts	
Do you have any				Yes 🗸 No



Section 5.			
Section 5.	Relationships not covered above		
	elationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of encing, what you wrote in the submitted work?		
Yes, the follo	wing relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):		
✓ No other rela	tionships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest		
	At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.		
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement		
Based on the abo below.	ove disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box		
Dr. Wu has noth	ing to disclose.		

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

# 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Milano 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	ation		
1. Given Name (Fi Michael T	rst Name)	2. Surname (Last Name) Milano	_	3. Date 22-March-2020
4. Are you the corresponding author?		☐ Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Name	e
•			copy for the diagnosis of und	diagnosed exudative pleural
6. Manuscript Idea	ntifying Number (if you kn	ow it)	_	
	I			
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Public	ation	
any aspect of the s statistical analysis,	ubmitted work (including	but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, com ta monitoring board, study desi	mercial, private foundation, etc.) for gn, manuscript preparation,
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the s	ubmitted work.	
of compensation clicking the "Add	n) with entities as descri	bed in the instructions. Us port relationships that wer		cionships (regardless of amount d as many lines as you need by onths prior to publication.
Section 4.	lotalla tual Duama	to Detecte 0 Commis	dista	
	intellectual Proper	ty Patents & Copyric	ints	
Do you have any	patents, whether plan	ned, pending or issued, br	oadly relevant to the work?	☐ Yes ✓ No

Milano 2



Section 5.			
	Relationships not covered above		
	elationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of encing, what you wrote in the submitted work?		
Yes, the follo	wing relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):		
✓ No other rela	tionships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest		
	At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.		
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement		
Based on the abo below.	ove disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box		
Dr. Milano has n	othing to disclose.		

## **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Milano 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

# 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Zhan 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	nation	
1. Given Name (Fi Ping	rst Name)	2. Surname (Last Name) Zhan	3. Date 22-March-2020
4. Are you the corresponding author?		Yes ✓ No	Corresponding Author's Name Zhiwei Lu
•			copy for the diagnosis of undiagnosed exudative pleural
6. Manuscript Ide	ntifying Number (if you kr	now it)	_
	ı		
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Public	ation
any aspect of the s statistical analysis,	submitted work (including	but not limited to grants, da	a third party (government, commercial, private foundation, etc.) for ta monitoring board, study design, manuscript preparation,
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the s	ubmitted work.
of compensation clicking the "Add	n) with entities as descri	bed in the instructions. Us port relationships that wer	ether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount ee one line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by e <b>present during the 36 months prior to publication</b> .
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	rty Patents & Copyrig	ıhts
Do you have any			oadly relevant to the work? Yes V No

Zhan 2



Section 5.		
Section 5.	Relationships not covered above	
	ationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of cing, what you wrote in the submitted work?	
Yes, the followi	ng relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):	
✓ No other relation	onships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest	
At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.		
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement	
Based on the above below.	e disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box	
Dr. Zhan has nothi	ng to disclose.	

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Zhan 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### 3. Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

# 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued

**Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your patent

Song 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	nation		
1. Given Name (Fi	rst Name)	2. Surname (Last Name) Song		3. Date 22-March-2020
4. Are you the corresponding author?		Yes 🗸 No	Corresponding Author's Name Zhiwei Lu	
•			scopy for the diagnosis of ur	ndiagnosed exudative pleural
6. Manuscript Ider TLCR-19-537	ntifying Number (if you kr	now it)	_	
	I			
Section 2.	The Work Under Co	onsideration for Publi	cation	
any aspect of the s statistical analysis,	ubmitted work (including	but not limited to grants, do	a third party (government, cor ata monitoring board, study des	nmercial, private foundation, etc.) for sign, manuscript preparation,
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the	submitted work.	
of compensation clicking the "Add	) with entities as descri	bed in the instructions. Uport relations hips that we	se one line for each entity; a	ationships (regardless of amount dd as many lines as you need by onths prior to publication.
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	rty Patents & Copyri	ghts	
Do you have any			roadly relevant to the work?	☐ Yes 🗸 No

Song 2



Section 5.			
Section 5.	Relationships not covered above		
	elationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of ncing, what you wrote in the submitted work?		
Yes, the follow	ving relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):		
✓ No other relat	tionships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest		
	At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.		
Section 6.	Disclosure Statement		
Based on the abo below.	ve disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box		
Dr. Song has noth	hing to disclose.		

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Song 3



#### **Instructions**

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.

## Identifying information.

## 2. The work under consideration for publication.

This section asks for information about the work that you have submitted for publication. The time frame for this reporting is that of the work itself, from the initial conception and planning to the present. The requested information is about resources that you received, either directly or indirectly (via your institution), to enable you to complete the work. Checking "No" means that you did the work without receiving any financial support from any third party -- that is, the work was supported by funds from the same institution that pays your salary and that institution did not receive third-party funds with which to pay you. If you or your institution received funds from a third party to support the work, such as a government granting agency, charitable foundation or commercial sponsor, check "Yes".

### Relevant financial activities outside the submitted work.

This section asks about your financial relationships with entities in the bio-medical arena that could be perceived to influence, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work. You should disclose interactions with ANY entity that could be considered broadly relevant to the work. For example, if your article is about testing an epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) antagonist in lung cancer, you should report all associations with entities pursuing diagnostic or therapeutic strategies in cancer in general, not just in the area of EGFR or lung cancer.

Report all sources of revenue paid (or promised to be paid) directly to you or your institution on your behalf over the 36 months prior to submission of the work. This should include all monies from sources with relevance to the submitted work, not just monies from the entity that sponsored the research. Please note that your interactions with the work's sponsor that are outside the submitted work should also be listed here. If there is any question, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not to do so.

For grants you have received for work outside the submitted work, you should disclose support ONLY from entities that could be perceived to be affected financially by the published work, such as drug companies, or foundations supported by entities that could be perceived to have a financial stake in the outcome. Public funding sources, such as government agencies, charitable foundations or academic institutions, need not be disclosed. For example, if a government agency sponsored a study in which you have been involved and drugs were provided by a pharmaceutical company, you need only list the pharmaceutical company.

## 4. Intellectual Property.

This section asks about patents and copyrights, whether pending, issued, licensed and/or receiving royalties.

# Relationships not covered above.

Use this section to report other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

#### Definitions.

Lu

**Entity:** government agency, foundation, commercial sponsor, academic institution, etc.

**Grant:** A grant from an entity, generally [but not always] paid to your organization

**Personal Fees:** Monies paid to you for services rendered, generally honoraria, royalties, or fees for consulting, lectures, speakers bureaus, expert testimony, employment, or other affiliations

**Non-Financial Support:** Examples include drugs/equipment supplied by the entity, travel paid by the entity, writing assistance, administrative support, etc.

Other: Anything not covered under the previous three boxes

**Pending:** The patent has been filed but not issued **Issued:** The patent has been issued by the agency

**Licensed:** The patent has been licensed to an entity, whether earning royalties or not

**Royalties:** Funds are coming in to you or your institution due to your

... 1



Section 1.	Identifying Inform	ation	
1. Given Name (First Name) Zhiwei		2. Surname (Last Name) Lu	3. Date 22-March-2020
4. Are you the corresponding author?		✓ Yes No	
5. Manuscript Title Comparison between closed pleural biopsy and medical thoracoscopy for the diagnosis of undiagnosed exudative pleural effusions: a systematic review and meta-analysis.			
6. Manuscript Identifying Number (if you know it) TLCR-19-537			
Section 2.	T. W		
Did you or your institution <b>at any time</b> 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 Vo			
Section 3.	Relevant financial	activities outside the submitted work.	
Place a check in the appropriate boxes in the table to indicate whether you have financial relationships (regardless of amount of compensation) with entities as described in the instructions. Use one line for each entity; add as many lines as you need by clicking the "Add +" box. You should report relationships that were <b>present during the 36 months prior to publication</b> .  Are there any relevant conflicts of interest? Yes Vo			
Section 4.	Intellectual Proper	ty Patents & Copyrights	
Do you have any patents, whether planned, pending or issued, broadly relevant to the work? Yes Vo			

Lu 2



Section 5. Relationships not covered above			
Relationships not covered above			
Are there other relationships or activities that readers could perceive to have influenced, or that give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work?			
Yes, the following relationships/conditions/circumstances are present (explain below):			
✓ No other relationships/conditions/circumstances that present a potential conflict of interest			
At the time of manuscript acceptance, journals will ask authors to confirm and, if necessary, update their disclosure statements On occasion, journals may ask authors to disclose further information about reported relationships.			
Section 6. Disclosure Statement			
Based on the above disclosures, this form will automatically generate a disclosure statement, which will appear in the box below.			
Dr. Lu has nothing to disclose.			

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Please visit <a href="http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback">http://www.icmje.org/cgi-bin/feedback</a> to provide feedback on your experience with completing this form.

Lu 3