

RETRACTION

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Chronic alcohol exposure exacerbates inflammation and triggers pancreatic acinar-to-ductal metaplasia through PI3K/Akt/IKK

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Following the publication of the above article, a concerned reader drew to the Editor's attention that there were a number of apparent anomalies associated with the western blots featured in Figs. 1C and E, 3A, C and E, 4A, C and E, 5B, 8A and C; moreover, the images shown for the immunohistochemical experiments in Fig. 8E contained groupings of cells that were markedly similar in appearance, comparing across the eight separate figure parts.

After having conducted an internal investigation of the data in this paper, the Editor of *International Journal of Molecular Medicine* has judged that the potentially anomalous presentation of the western blotting data and the strikingly similar groupings of cells in Fig. 8E were too extensive that these features could have been attributed to pure coincidence. Therefore, the Editor has decided that this article should be retracted from the publication on the grounds of an overall lack of confidence in the data. The authors were asked for an explanation to account for these concerns, but the Editorial Office did not receive a reply. The Editor sincerely apologizes to the readership for any inconvenience caused, and we thank the reader for bringing this matter to our attention.



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