

**RETRACTION**

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**Effect of Etiasa on the expression of matrix metalloproteinase-2 and tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  in a rat model of ulcerative colitis**JING-WEI MAO, HAI-YING TANG, XIAO-YAN TAN and  
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Following the publication of this paper, it was drawn to the Editors' attention by a concerned reader that, in comparing the agarose gels featured in Figs. 1 and 2 on p. 998, two pairs of lanes for the TNF- $\alpha$  data featured for the 'on day 14/on day 35' and 'on day 21/on day 56' experiments were strikingly similar, although the lanes were featured in reverse orientations relative to each other. Furthermore, MMP-2 protein bands featured in Fig. 2 in the 'E' and 'C' lanes of the 'on day 56' experiments were also strikingly similar in appearance. Finally, concerning the immunofluorescence experiments shown in Figs. 3 and 4, one pair of data panels in each of the figures was found to be overlapping, and moreover, some of the same data panels also appeared in a figure in another paper written by the same research group that was published in the journal *Gastroenterology Research and Practice* at around the same time.

In view of the apparent anomalies associated with the data in Figs. 1 and 2, and the re-use of certain of the data in Figs. 3 and 4, the Editor of *Molecular Medicine Reports* has decided that this paper should be retracted from the Journal on the grounds of a lack of confidence in the presented data. The authors were asked for an explanation to account for these concerns, but the Editorial Office did not receive a reply. The Editor apologizes to the readership for any inconvenience caused.



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