EXPRESSION OF CONCERN

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Biological evaluation of linalool on the function of blood vessels

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Subsequently to the publication of the above article, a concerned reader has drawn the Editor's attention to the fact that a pair of inappropriately selected antibodies were reported to have been used to probe for phosphorylated ERK (or p-ERK) in the western blot experiments shown in Fig. 6A on p. 8: The catalogue numbers for the antibodies were reported in the Materials and methods section to have been ab229912 and ab192591 (purchased from Abcam), whereas these antibodies do not target p-ERK, but protein kinase RNA-like ER kinase (also known as EIF2AK3), having the acronym 'PERK'.

The authors have been contacted by the Editorial Office to offer an explanation for the apparently inappropriate selection of these two antibodies in this paper, and we are awaiting their response. Owing to the fact that the Editorial Office has been made aware of this potential issue surrounding the scientific integrity of this paper, we are issuing an Expression of Concern to notify readers of this potential problem while the Editorial Office continues to investigate this matter further.

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