Retraction: Neutrophil Serine Proteinases Activate Human Nonepithelial Cells to Produce Inflammatory Cytokines Through Protease-Activated Receptor 2

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*J Immunol* 2010; 184:4043; doi: 10.4049/jimmunol.1090012
http://www.jimmunol.org/content/184/7/4043
**Letter of Retraction**


This retraction follows an investigation by Tohoku University into scientific misconduct. The investigation pointed out the following:

1. Figs. 1B and 2A: Total RNA was extracted from different cells, and cDNA was prepared and analyzed for the expression of SLPI and PARs and GAPDH by RT-PCR. However, the patterns of GAPDH in these figures and those in the figures of *The Journal of Immunology*, 2002, 169: 4594–4603 and in Fig. 2A of *Clinical and Diagnostic Laboratory Immunology*, 2003, 10: 286–292 are the same.

2. Fig. 2B: Two panels of the expression of PAR-2 with HLE and Cat G are the same.

The first author, who conducted these experiments, could not counter the argument by adducing raw data at the investigation, and the investigation recognized them as scientific misconduct. Therefore, we wish to retract the article.

We deeply regret these errors and apologize to the scientific community for the need to retract the article.

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