RETRACTION

Enhancement of regeneration with glia cell line–derived neurotrophic factor–transduced human amniotic fluid mesenchymal stem cells after sciatic nerve crush injury

TO THE EDITOR: We regretfully retract the following paper in response to accusations that it contains materials that constitute plagiarism, duplicate publication, and copyright infringement:

Cheng FC, Tai MH, Sheu ML, Chen CJ, Yang DY, Su HL, Ho SP, Lai SZ, Pan HC: Enhancement of regeneration with glia cell line–derived neurotrophic factor–transduced human amniotic fluid mesenchymal stem cells after sciatic nerve crush injury. *J Neurosurg* 112:868–879, 2010.

Reasons for Retraction

1. A portion of the text in the *Discussion* section of the 2010 *Journal of Neurosurgery* (*J Neurosurg*) paper is nearly identical to text published in the *Discussion* section of the following article whose authors are not listed in the *J Neurosurg* paper, and sufficient attribution was not given to this earlier work:

Chen ZY, Chai YF, Cao L, Lu CL, He C: Glial cell line–derived neurotrophic factor enhances axonal regeneration following sciatic nerve transection in adult rats. *Brain Res* 902:272–276, 2001.

2. Some of the text in the *Introduction* section of the 2010 *J Neurosurg* paper is identical or nearly identical to text published in the *Introduction* section of the following article whose authors are not listed in the *J Neurosurg* paper, and sufficient attribution was not given to this earlier work:

May F, Matiassek K, Vroemen M, Caspers C, Mrva T, Arndt C, Schlenker B, Gais P, Brill T, Buchner A, Blesch A, Hartung R, Stief C, Gansbacher B, Weidner N: GDNF-transduced

Schwann cell grafts enhance regeneration of erectile nerves. *Eur Urol* 54:1179–1187, 2008.

3. Some text and figure panels in the 2010 *J Neurosurg* paper are very similar to what was published in the following paper, which shares some authors with the 2010 *J Neurosurg* paper:

Pan HC, Yang DY, Ho SP, Sheu ML, Chen CJ, Hwang SM, Chang MH, Cheng FC: Escalated regeneration in sciatic nerve crush injury by the combined therapy of human amniotic fluid mesenchymal stem cells and fermented soybean extracts, Natto. *J Biomed Sci* 16:75, 2009.

Specifically, portions of text in the *Introduction* of the 2010 *J Neurosurg* paper can also be found in the *Introduction* of the 2009 article in the *Journal of Biomedical Science*, without any attribution. In addition, there appears to be duplication of content within some figure panels displayed in Figs. 3 and 4 in the *J Neurosurg* paper and some panels shown in Figs. 3 and 4, respectively, in the 2009 article in *J Biomed Sci*.

With respect to the text, before we submitted our manuscript, we used the anti-plagiarism program iThenticate to ensure that our manuscript would have less than 30% overlap with previous papers. We believed that this was sufficient, but actions taken by complainants and the Journal of Neurosurgery Publishing Group show that is not the case.

As to the complaint that there was overlap in our figures, it has been some time since the publication of our 2010 paper. Our original data are no longer available, and we are unable to refer to them.

We apologize to the Editor and Readership of the *Journal of Neurosurgery*, and we hereby retract our 2010 *J Neurosurg* paper (*J Neurosurg* 112:868–879, 2010). As corresponding author, I retract this article on behalf of all authors.

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INCLUDE WHEN CITING

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