

Cross-linking the B7 family molecule B7-DC directly activates immune functions of dendritic cells

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The Editors of *JEM* have been asked to print the following retraction, which was approved by Dr. Larry Pease and by the Mayo Clinic research integrity officer who oversaw the investigation:

An investigation by the Mayo Clinic has determined that one of the researchers in Dr. Larry Pease's laboratory at the Mayo Clinic, Dr. Suresh Radhakrishnan, tampered with another investigator's experiment with the intent to mislead toward the conclusion that the B7-DCXAb reagent has cell-activating properties. Using blinded protocols, experiments were done to see if published results based on this reagent could be replicated. Specifically, the repeat experiments examined the activation of dendritic cells, activation of cytotoxic T cells, induction of tumor immunity, modulation of allergic responses, breaking tolerance in the RIP-OVA diabetes model, and the reprogramming of Th2 and T regulatory cells. In no case did these repeat studies reveal any evidence that the B7-DCXAb reagent had the previously reported activity. The authors of this paper therefore wish to retract this paper because they were unable to reproduce key aspects of the studies, and hence the published results cannot be considered reliable.