

Retraction notice: Hepatitis C virus activates interleukin-1 β via caspase-1-inflammasome complex

The Microbiology Society*

Journal of General Virology 2012;93:235–246, doi: 10.1099/vir.0.034033-0

The article ‘Hepatitis C virus activates interleukin-1 β via caspase-1-inflammasome complex’ which was published in the *Journal of General Virology* in February 2012 has been retracted. This follows formal findings of research misconduct from the Compliance Counsel at Rosalind Franklin University. The actin immunoblot shown in Fig. 3c was found to have been reused in the following publications to represent the loading control at different experimental conditions: Waris *et al.* (2005) *J. Virol.* **79**, 1569–1580 [1], Waris and Siddiqui (2005) *J. Virol.* **79**, 9725–9734 [2], Waris *et al.* (2007) *J. Virol.* **81**, 8122–8130 [3], Nasimuzzaman *et al.* (2007) *J. Virol.* **81**, 10249–10257 [4], Burdette *et al.* (2010) *J. Gen. Virol.* **91**, 681–690 [5], Burdette *et al.* (2012) *J. Gen. Virol.* **93**, 235–246 [6], and McRae *et al.* (2016) *J. Biol. Chem.* **291**, 3254–3267 [7].

Gulam Waris does not agree that the actin immunoblot was reused in other publications.

References

1. Waris G, Turkson J, Hassanein T, Siddiqui A *et al.* Hepatitis C virus (HCV) constitutively activates STAT-3 via oxidative stress: role of STAT-3 in HCV replication. *J Virol* 2005;79:1569–1580. <https://jvi.asm.org/content/79/3/1569>.
2. Waris G, Siddiqui A. Hepatitis C virus stimulates the expression of cyclooxygenase-2 via oxidative stress: role of prostaglandin E2 in RNA replication. *J Virol* 2005;79:9725–9734. <https://jvi.asm.org/content/79/15/9725>.
3. Waris G, Felmlee DJ, Negro F, Siddiqui A *et al.* Hepatitis C virus induces proteolytic cleavage of sterol regulatory element binding proteins and stimulates their phosphorylation via oxidative stress. *J Virol* 2007;81:8122–8130. <https://jvi.asm.org/content/81/15/8122>.
4. Nasimuzzaman M, Waris G, Mikolon D, Stupack DG, Siddiqui A *et al.* Hepatitis C virus stabilizes hypoxia-inducible factor 1 and stimulates the synthesis of vascular endothelial growth factor. *J Virol* 2007;81:10249–10257. <https://jvi.asm.org/content/81/19/10249>.
5. Burdette D, Olivarez M, Waris G. Activation of transcription factor Nrf2 by hepatitis C virus induces the cell-survival pathway. *J Gen Virol* 2010;91:681–690. <https://jgv.microbiologyresearch.org/content/jgv/10.1099/vir.0.014340-0>.
6. Burdette D, Haskett A, Presser L, McRae S, Iqbal J *et al.* Hepatitis C virus activates interleukin-1 β via caspase-1-inflammasome complex. *J Gen Virol* 2012;93:235–246. <https://jgv.microbiologyresearch.org/content/jgv/10.1099/vir.0.034033-0#tab2>.
7. McRae S, Iqbal J, Sarkar-Dutta M, Lane S, Nagaraj A *et al.* The hepatitis C virus-induced NLRP3 inflammasome activates the sterol regulatory element-binding protein (SREBP) and regulates lipid metabolism. *J Biol Chem* 2016;291:3254–3267. <http://www.jbc.org/content/291/7/3254>.

Received 18 September 2019; Published 24 October 2019

Author affiliations: ¹Microbiology Society, 14–16 Meredith Street, London, UK.

*Correspondence: jgv@microbiologysociety.org