

acid–Schiff–diastase staining strongly supports the original diagnosis of secondary PAP due to e-cigarette aerosol exposure and not acute lung injury or infection alone. Future grouped analyses of rare case reports of EVALI and testing of previous biospecimens from affected patients with EVALI may provide a greater insight into the underlying pathophysiology of EVALI in subsets of susceptible individuals. ■

Author disclosures are available with the text of this letter at www.atsjournals.org.

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Expression of Concern: Disruption of Platelet-derived Chemokine Heteromers Prevents Neutrophil Extravasation in Acute Lung Injury



The editors of the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* and the *European Respiratory Journal* have been alerted to the duplication of scanning electron microscopy images in three articles published in three separate journals. Figure 1C, top right panel, in the *AJRCCM* article “Disruption of Platelet-derived Chemokine Heteromers Prevents Neutrophil Extravasation in Acute Lung Injury” (1), also appears as Figure 2b in the *ERJ* article “Pioglitazone attenuates endotoxin-induced acute lung injury by reducing neutrophil recruitment” (2), and as Figure 2A, top right panel, in the *PLoS One* article “Simvastatin Reduces Endotoxin-Induced Acute Lung Injury by Decreasing Neutrophil Recruitment and Radical Formation” (3). In addition, Figure 2d in the *ERJ* article (2) was also published as Figure 2A, right column, middle row, in the *PLoS One* article (3).

The lead authors, Dr. Grommes and Dr. Soehnlein, have assured the *AJRCCM* and *ERJ* editors that this was an inadvertent (although inappropriate) use of identical images in the same control conditions and that there was no fraudulent intention; the authors wish to apologize for their mistake. The editors have jointly discussed this matter and have agreed that, as the duplicate images represent negative and positive control conditions, the results and conclusions of the studies were not affected by this issue. The editors would like to thank the authors for their prompt cooperation in this matter; they would also like to thank the reader who brought the duplicated panels to the attention of the journals. ■

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