Two classes of short interfering RNA in RNA silencing

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Authors' statement

The corresponding author was alerted through the PubPeer website to background pixel pattern duplications in Figure 4B of this paper. The Figure shows that a viral suppressor of silencing (P25) blocks 25-nt siRNA and systemic silencing.

The background pixel pattern duplications originate from the incorrect use of image editing software to cover background marks. The image editing was done by O. Voinnet without the involvement or knowledge of other co-authors. It did not include any regions of siRNA signal, nor did it obscure any other genuine RNA signal.

The original data are no longer available. The results in Figure 4B have been replicated and posted on bioRxiv (Garcia S, Himber C, Voinnet O (2015) The P25 protein of Potato virus X suppresses accumulation of 24nt siRNAs in the *N. benthamiana* transgenic line 16c. *bioRxiv* doi:10.1101/023895). Even without the data from Figure 4B the conclusion in the paper about the correlation between a block on 25-nt siRNA and systemic silencing is supported by data with five other viral suppressors of silencing in Figures 2 and 3. The main finding in the paper of two size classes of siRNA is independent of Figure 4 and has been confirmed by other laboratories.

All authors concur with this statement and wish to apologize for publishing this incorrect image.

Editors' statement

Our analysis revealed that Figure 4B contains two areas of selective background duplication, as shown in the enclosed image.

We note that Source Data for Figure 4B were not available from the authors. Since the main conclusions of this paper stand without this data, this specific panel is herewith retracted.

We alert readers to the fact that a number of related papers are also subject to a corrigendum or to a retraction. At *The EMBO Journal*, these encompass:

Figure 4B.

Haas G, Azevedo J, Moissiard G, Geldreich A, Himber C, Bureau M, Fukuhara T, Keller M, Voinnet O (2008) Nuclear import of CaMV P6 is required for infection and suppression of the RNA silencing factor DRB4. *EMBO J* 27: 2102–2112

Brigneti G, Voinnet O, Li WX, Ji LH, Ding SW, Baulcombe DC (1998) Viral pathogenicity determinants are suppressors of transgene silencing in *Nicotiana benthamiana*. *EMBO J* 17: 6739–6746

Schott G, Mari-Ordonez A, Himber C, Alioua A, Voinnet O, Dunoyer P (2012) Differential effects of viral silencing suppressors on siRNA and miRNA loading support the existence of two distinct cellular pools of ARGONAUTE1. *EMBO J* 31: 2553–2565

Dunoyer P, Brosnan CA, Schott G, Wang Y, Jay F, Alioua A, Himber C, Voinnet O (2010) An endogenous, systemic RNAi pathway in plants. *EMBO J* 29: 1699–1712