

ERRATUM

Mark A. Carlson, MD and co-authors hereby retract Fig. 3 of the article “Modulation of FAK, Akt, and p53 by Stress Release of the Fibroblast-Populated Collagen Matrix” (*J Surg Res* 2004; 120:171-177). In Fig. 3C of this manuscript it was reported that p53 activity (as measured by immunoblotting) increased after release of attached fibroblast-populated collagen matrices. This conclusion was based on studies using human neonatal foreskin fibroblasts cultured from 6 individuals. At the time the manuscript was submitted the data in Fig. 3C reflected results from 6 different patients. Subsequent experiments using primary fibroblasts from an increased sample number (now at 20 patients) have shown variable results in similar experiments as to what were reported in Fig. 3C.

Variability in results using primary cells explanted from different patients is not inherently surprising. However, the data presented in Fig. 3C give a biased view based on a sample of 6 patients. Our subsequent data on a larger sample size shows variability in the response of p53 after release of attached fibroblast-populated collagen matrices. With the retraction of the p53 data, a more accurate title of the manuscript would now be: “Modulation of FAK and Akt by Stress Release of the Fibroblast-Populated Collagen Matrix”. The modified title removes only the “and p53” from the original title.

Our subsequent findings on variability with p53 (Fig. 3) do not apply to the important apoptosis, FAK and Akt data presented in Figs. 1 and 2 of the manuscript. We submit a revised Fig. 4 (see below) because the original schematic figure presented a proposed mechanism for ECM-regulated cell survival following fibroblast populated collagen matrix release that included p53. Given our subsequent results from a larger patient sample, it is not clear if detachment-induced apoptosis in the collagen matrix is associated with p53 induction. We will continue to investigate the heterogeneity of p53 response in this system, and hope to submit a manuscript describing the variability in results in the future.

Finally, and most importantly, our subsequent data demonstrating variability highlight the importance of continuing to check for sample biases, particularly when using relatively small sample sizes, when reporting data from individual patients and/or primary cells derived from patients.

This erratum is doi:10.1016/j.jss.2004.07.002.

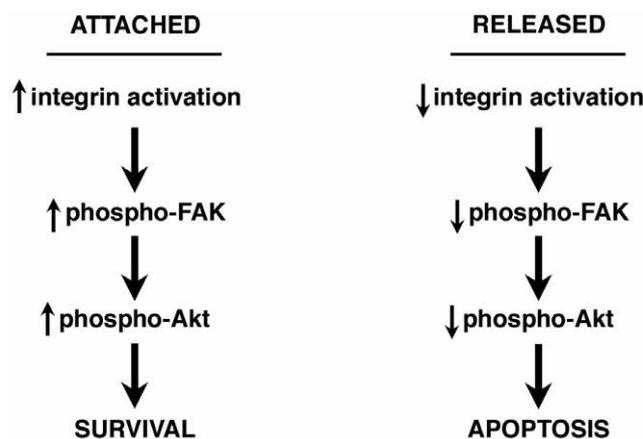


FIG. 4 (revised). Proposed mechanism for ECM-regulated survival in the fibroblast-populated collagen matrix.