

CORRECTION

Correction: Clinical Classification of Cancer Cachexia: Phenotypic Correlates in Human Skeletal Muscle

Neil Johns, Shinji Hatakeyama, Nathan A. Stephens, Martin Degen, Simone Degen, Wilfried Frieauff, Christian Lambert, James A. Ross, Ronenn Roubenoff, David J. Glass, Carsten Jacobi, Kenneth C. H. Fearon[†], the PLOS ONE Editors

[†] Deceased.

Concerns were raised about potential splice lines and about similarities in data shown across blot panels in Figs 3–5 of this article [1].

The authors noted that errors were made when assembling these figures. They provided images of the original blots ([S1 File](#)) for these figures and explained that lanes from the original blots were rearranged during figure preparation to cluster samples by experimental group.

[S1 File](#) shows aligned experimental and control data for each patient: each lane in [S1 File](#) represents data for the same patient across all blots. [S1 Table](#) with this notice shows how the original lane (patient) numbers in [S1 File](#) correspond to results shown in the published figures. As is indicated in [S1 Table](#) and [S1 File](#), corresponding lanes of the blots shown together in each figure panel do not show data for the same patients, and the α -tubulin blot in each figure panel includes data from multiple experimental groups.

[S2 File](#) includes the raw quantification data derived from the western blots and from which the graphs in Figs 3–5 were generated. The authors confirmed that in quantifying the results of the western blot analyses, each individual's experimental data was normalized to their corresponding control blot (α -tubulin) data, as is shown in [S2 File](#). For pSMAD analyses, the pSMAD and SMAD3 densitometry values were each normalized to α -tubulin and then the ratio was calculated. In Fig 5A and the corresponding densitometry analysis, phospho-NF- κ B values were normalized to α -tubulin. The authors also included total NF- κ B blots in the experiment ([S3 File](#)) but no major regulation was observed across samples and the total NF- κ B data were not included in the quantitative analysis.

In Table 2 of the published article [1], p values were erroneously reported as 0.000 in several cases. These should instead indicate “ $p < 0.001$ ” in each case.

In Fig 5D of the published article [1], the numbers on the x axis should be CRP < 10 n = 15, and CRP > 10 n = 6.

Additional raw data for this article [1] are provided in [S4–S10 Files](#).

The PLOS ONE Editors consider that the data in [S1 File](#) suffice to address the splicing and similarity concerns raised about the published figures. However, a member of PLOS ONE's Editorial Board advised that given the way this study's data are presented it is difficult to ascertain whether the original data support the results reported in the article.

The corresponding author, Kenneth C.H. Fearon, passed away in 2016. Any further questions about this work can be directed to Neil Johns.



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Supporting information

S1 Table. [S1 File](#) lane numbers for which western blot data are shown in the published Figs 3–5 [1]. Fig 5A shows the lower bands from the phospho-NF-κB blots (p-NFKB) in [S1 File](#). Figure labels do not correctly represent the results shown in α -tubulin panels; see [S1 File](#) for details. For Beclin, ATG5, SMAD3, and pSMAD3, symbols indicate differences in blot labels comparing Fig 3 and Fig 4 and [S1 File](#): labels in [S1 File](#) are * WL 5%; ** no weight loss; + healthy control; & WL 10%.

(DOCX)

S1 File. Original western blot panels for all samples.

(JPG)

S2 File. Densitometry analysis of western blot data used to generate tables in Figs 3–5.

(XLSX)

S3 File. Total NF-κB western blot data.

(DOCX)

S4 File. pSMAD western blot data.

(PDF)

S5 File. Total SMAD3 western blot data.

(PDF)

S6 File. pNF-κB western blot data.

(DOCX)

S7 File. Spreadsheet used to collect and analyze all raw data generated for article [1].

(CSV)

S8 File. Supporting data for Fig 5C

(PPTX)

S9 File. Supporting data for Fig 5C.

(PPTX)

S10 File. Supporting data for Fig 5C.

(PPTX)

Reference

1. Johns N, Hatakeyama S, Stephens NA, Degen M, Degen S, Friauff W, et al. (2014) Clinical Classification of Cancer Cachexia: Phenotypic Correlates in Human Skeletal Muscle. PLoS ONE 9(1): e83618. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0083618>