

EDITORIAL NOTE

Editorial Note: The multi-targeted kinase inhibitor sunitinib induces apoptosis in colon cancer cells via PUMA

The *PLOS One* Editors

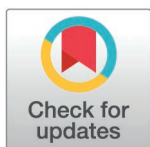
After publication of this article [1], concerns were raised regarding Figs 1, 2, 6 and S1, specifically, the following panels appear similar to each other:

- The β -actin panels in Fig 1D and Fig S1A
- The β -actin panels in Fig 2D and Fig S1B
- The Mcl-1 panels in Fig 6B

The corresponding author stated that the β -actin panels in Fig 1D and Fig S1A, and in Fig 2D and Fig S1B, were intentionally repeated as the data are from the same experiments, where the full set of blots for each experiment with the corresponding actin blot were split between the main article [1] and Supporting Information. The underlying blots for Figs 1D, 2D, S1A and S1B are provided here in [S6](#) and [S8 Files](#). The corresponding author also stated that the Mcl-1 panels in Fig 6B were duplicated in error but that they do not know if either of these panels are correct given that the underlying data for Fig 6B are no longer available. They provided repeat data for Fig 6B from later experiments in [S3–S4 Files](#), which were reviewed by a member of the *PLOS One* Editorial Board.

The corresponding author also stated that for Figure 1C, the $\Delta\Delta Ct$ (ddCt) method for fold calculation in qPCR was used, Relative *PUMA* refers to $-\Delta\Delta Ct$, and “2 de mi” refers to fold conversion as $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$.

The corresponding author provided the available underlying data supporting other published results ([S1–S3](#) and [S5–S8 Files](#)).



OPEN ACCESS

Citation: The *PLOS One* Editors (2026) Editorial Note: The multi-targeted kinase inhibitor sunitinib induces apoptosis in colon cancer cells via PUMA. *PLoS One* 21(1): e0339805. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0339805>

Published: January 6, 2026

Copyright: © 2026 The *PLOS One* Editors. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Supporting information

S1 File. The original individual-level underlying data in support of Figure 5A. (XLSX)

S2 File. The original individual-level underlying data in support of Figure 6D, including raw counts and conversion to percentages. (XLSX)

S3 File. Original underlying blots in support of Figs 1C, 3A and 4A, and underlying blots in support of the later repeat experiments for the updated PUMA, Mcl-1 and β -actin panels in the updated Fig 6B in [S4 File](#). (PPTX)

S4 File. Updated Figure 6B with updated panels for PUMA, Mcl-1 and β -actin from later repeat experiments.

(PPTX)

S5 File. The original individual-level underlying data in support of Figs 1C, 2A and D, 4C-D, and 5B-C, including raw counts and conversion to percentages for Fig 2A.

(XLSX)

S6 File. Original and representative underlying blots in support of Figs 1B (HCT 116 β -actin and p21 panels and HCT 116 p53 KO PUMA and β -actin panels), 1D, S1A, 2D, 5B, 5C (Cas-3 panel) and 6C (p-AKT panels).

(PDF)

S7 File. Original underlying blots in support of Fig 4A IP panel, Fig 3D FoxO3a panel and Fig S1B Bid panel.

(PPTX)

S8 File. Original underlying blots in support of Fig S1B.

(PDF)

Reference

1. Sun J, Sun Q, Brown MF, Dudgeon C, Chandler J, Xu X, et al. The multi-targeted kinase inhibitor sunitinib induces apoptosis in colon cancer cells via PUMA. PLoS One. 2012;7(8):e43158. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0043158> PMID: [22912816](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22912816/)