

From: David Vaux vaux@wehi.edu.au
Subject: Concern of possible case of misconduct at UNSW
Date: 14 February 2013 9:33 pm
To: l.field@unsw.edu.au, iain.martin@unsw.edu.au
Cc: b.greene@unsw.edu.au



Dear Professors Field and Martin,

I wish to alert you to concerns I have over a possible case of research misconduct at the UNSW.

In the paper attached I have annotated the images that I am concerned about (Figures 1C, 5D, 5F, 6B,C, 6G). They appear to contain duplications and/or alterations of images in such a way that the same data is used to represent two different conditions. (I have also attached an unaltered copy of the final version of the paper).

As the paper has three authors, it is not possible for me to know which of them were responsible for producing the figures. To do this it would be necessary to carry out an investigation that has access to the primary data, and in which all of the authors can be interviewed.

I would therefore be most grateful if you could investigate this matter according to the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, and the UNSW Procedure for Handling Allegations of Research Misconduct.

In this case I believe it would be important to act quickly, as patients may currently be receiving the agent described in the publication, Dz13, as part of a clinical trial. If the results in this paper are not genuine, the HREC that approved the trial might have been misled, and the patients receiving the drug might not have been able to give properly informed consent.

Could you please acknowledge receipt of this message?

Yours sincerely,

David

Professor David L. Vaux MBBS PhD FAA
Assistant Director,
Head, Cell Signalling and Cell Death Division
The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute



J. Biol. Chem.-2010-Ni-4038-48.pdf



J. Biol. Chem.-2009-Ni-jbc.M109.078345-1.pdf