

## RETRACTION NOTE



# Retraction Note: PTBP3 splicing factor promotes hepatocellular carcinoma by destroying the splicing balance of NEAT1 and pre-miR-612

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The editors-in-chief have retracted this article. After publication, concerns were raised regarding high similarity among Transwell assay images representing different treatments. Specifically:

- In Fig. 3a, the SMMC-7721 and HUH7 siRNA-PTBP3 images appear to partially overlap with the SMMC-7721 and HUH7 pcDNA3.1 images, respectively.
- In Fig. S6c, the SMMC-7721 LV-NC image appears to partially overlap with the LC-PTBP3-miR-612 image.

The authors have provided the full raw Transwell assay data to address these concerns. However, these data contained further cases of image overlap. Additionally, the SMMC-7721 cell line used by the authors has been reported to be contaminated with HeLa cells, making it an unsuitable model for liver cancer.

The editors-in-chief therefore no longer have confidence in the presented data.

Wei Liu agrees to this retraction. Xisheng Yang, Shibin Qu and Haimin Li have not explicitly stated whether they agree to this retraction. None of the other authors have responded to any correspondence from the editor or publisher about this retraction.