CORRECTION

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Correction: ZO-1 boosts the in vitro selfrenewal of pre-haematopoietic stem cells from OCT4-reprogrammed human hair follicle mesenchymal stem cells through cytoskeleton remodeling

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The authors of the original article wish to issue a clarification around re-use of two cell images from an earlier paper.

Despite appropriate citation and notification of the same experimental process, in order to uphold academic integrity, the authors wish to clarify that human hair follicle mesenchymal stem cells (hHFMSCs) were transduced with OCT4 after four days, as illustrated in Fig. 1b (red box) of [1]. These cells correspond to the images presented in Fig. 2d (red box) of [2], which were captured on the fifth day following OCT4 induction.

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The duplicate images in these two articles illustrate cell morphology following the introduction of OCT4 into hHFMSCs. The authors' research demonstrated that preinduction with FLT3-LG/SCF enhanced the production of floating cell subsets, using the cells from the previous experiment as a control.



Fig. 1 FLT3LG and SCF caused floating cells to appear from hHFMSCs^{OCT4}. (a) Schema showing the transformation of floating cells derived from hHFMSCs^{OCT4} into erythroblasts. (b) Cell morphology changes and floating cells observed under immunofluorescence microscope, with a floating cell indicated by a yellow arrow and a floating cell colony outlined by a dashed circle. (c) Phase contrast microscope used to observe floating cells morphology. Floating cell indicated by yellow arrow. (d) Collecting and re-cultivating suspended cells. (e) and f). Floating cell colonies were selected to identify CD45 expression, with green indicating EGFR, red indicating PE-CD45, and blue indicating Hoechst. Peripheral blood cells served as a positive control



FIGURE 2: hHFMSCs were transduced with lentivirus encoding OCT4. (a) Flow cytometric plot of GFP expression in hHFMSCs after 12 days of transduction (hHFMSCs^{OCT4}). (b) Semiquantitative RT-PCR results for expression of total RNA OCT4 in hHFMSCs^{OCT4}. (c) Western blot results for expression of total proteins of OCT4 in hHFMSCs^{OCT4}. (d) Cell morphologies were changed between 0 and 14 days after OCT4 transduction.

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- Ruan, et al. ZO-1 boosts the in vitro self-renewal of pre-haematopoietic stem cells from OCT4-reprogrammed human hair follicle mesenchymal stem cells through cytoskeleton remodeling. Stem Cell Res Ther. 2024;15:480.
- 2. Transdifferentiation of Human Hair Follicle Mesenchymal Stem Cells into Red Blood Cells by OCT4, Stem Cells International, 2015.