



## Correction to: Efficacy and Safety of Supportive Care Biosimilars Among Cancer Patients: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Jichun Yang<sup>1</sup> · Shuqing Yu<sup>1</sup> · Zhirong Yang<sup>2</sup> · Yusong Yan<sup>1</sup> · Yao Chen<sup>1</sup> · Hongmei Zeng<sup>3</sup> · Fei Ma<sup>4</sup> · Yanxia Shi<sup>5</sup> · Yehui Shi<sup>6</sup> · Zilu Zhang<sup>7</sup> · Feng Sun<sup>1</sup>

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**Correction to: BioDrugs (2019) 33:373–389**  
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The authors unintentionally included in the meta-analysis both the initial abstract and the final paper of the study by Puertolas et al. [45, 48]. In order to remove this duplication, the following corrections are required.

**Page 373, abstract, results, line 1:** The following sentence, which previously read:

“We identified 29 studies that compared biosimilars of G-CSF or epoetin alfa: one RCT and five cohort studies (total N = 2816) of epoetin alfa biosimilars, and 13 RCTs and 10 cohort studies (total N = 23,561) of G-CSF biosimilars.”

should read:

“We identified 28 studies that compared biosimilars of G-CSF or epoetin alfa: one RCT and five cohort studies (total N = 2816) of epoetin alfa biosimilars, and 13 RCTs and 9 cohort studies (total N = 23,043) of G-CSF biosimilars.”

The original article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40259-019-00356-3>.

✉ Feng Sun  
sunfeng@bjmu.edu.cn  
Jichun Yang  
yangjichunya@163.com  
Shuqing Yu  
yushuqing@hsc.pku.edu.cn  
Zhirong Yang  
fsyz30147@163.com  
Yusong Yan  
yyan21@its.jnj.com  
Yao Chen  
1310306223@pku.edu.cn  
Hongmei Zeng  
hongmeizeng2011@163.com  
Fei Ma  
drmafei@126.com  
Yanxia Shi  
shiyx@sysucc.org.cn  
Yehui Shi  
shiyehui@tjmuch.com  
Zilu Zhang  
Zilu.zhang.us@gmail.com

- <sup>1</sup> Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Peking University, 38 Xueyuan Road, Haidian District, Beijing 100191, China
- <sup>2</sup> Primary Care Unit, School of Clinical Medicine, University of Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB1 8RN, UK
- <sup>3</sup> Department of Cancer Registry, National Cancer Center/National Clinical Research Center for Cancer/Cancer Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, Beijing 100021, China
- <sup>4</sup> Department of Medical Oncology, National Cancer Center/National Clinical Research Center for Cancer/Cancer Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, Beijing 100021, China
- <sup>5</sup> Department of Medical Oncology, Sun Yat-Sen University Cancer Center/State Key Laboratory of Oncology in South China/Collaborative Innovation Center for Cancer Medicine, Guangzhou 510060, China
- <sup>6</sup> Phase I Clinical Trial Department of Tianjin Medical University Cancer Institute and Hospital, Tianjin 300060, China
- <sup>7</sup> Harvard Medical School and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute, Boston, MA 02215, USA

**Page 377, fig. 1**, the following text, which previously read:

Box 8: “Full-text excluded (n=211)” should read “Full-text excluded (n=212)”

“Duplicates: 91” should read “Duplicates 92”

Box 9: “Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n=29)” should read “Full-text articles assessed for eligibility (n=28)”

Box 10: “Studies included in qualitative synthesis (n=29)” should read “Studies included in qualitative synthesis (n=28)”

Box 11: ‘Studies included in quantitative synthesis (n=29)’ should read ‘Studies included in quantitative synthesis (n=28)’

“G-CSF biosimilars:13 RCTs+ 10 Cohort studies” should read “G-CSF biosimilars:13 RCTs+9 Cohort studies”

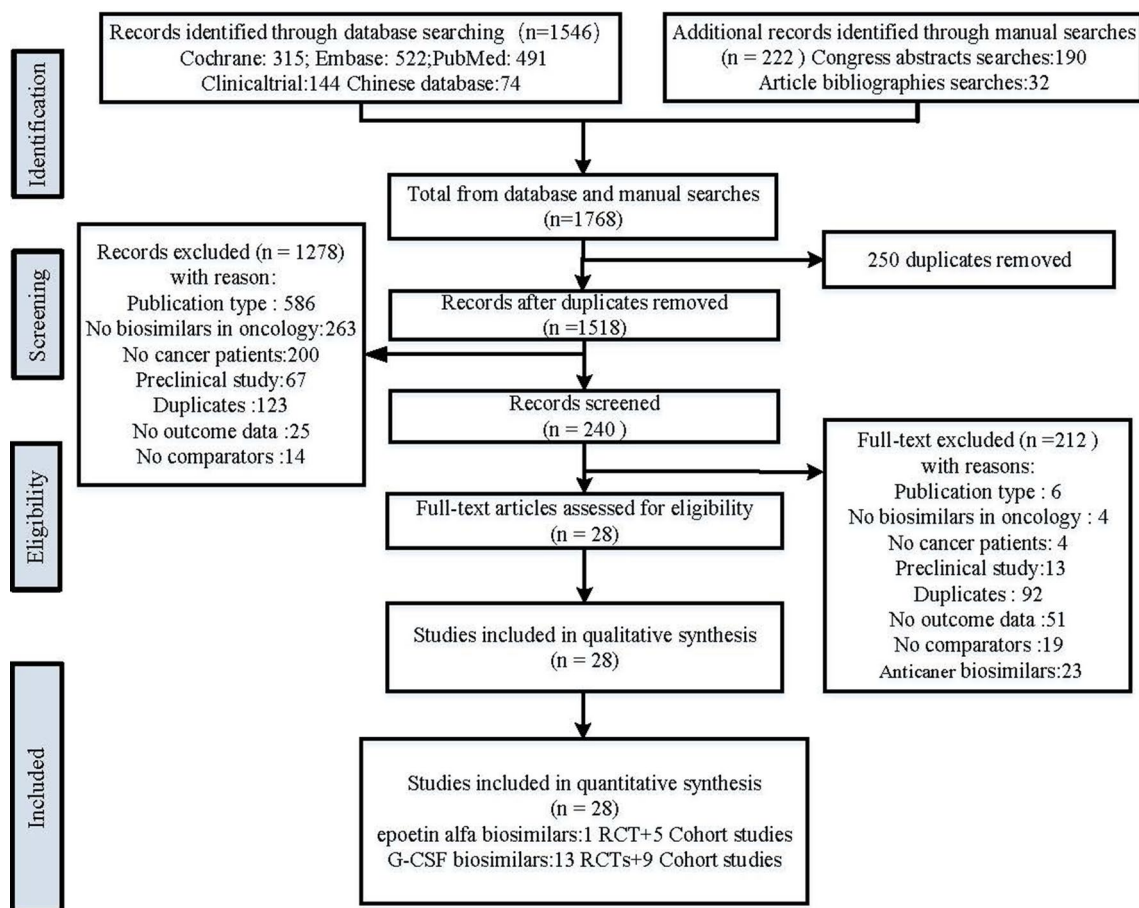
A corrected version of Fig. 1 is shown below:

**Page 379, Table 1, ‘G-CSF biosimilars vs. G-CSF’ section, ‘Puertolas et al. (2016) [45]’ row:** the entire row should be deleted.

**Page 379, Table 1, ‘G-CSF biosimilars vs. G-CSF’ section, ‘Puertolas et al. (2018) [48]’ row:** The cell entry in column 4 ‘Sample size (B/R)’, which previously read “303/215” should read “49/49”.

**Page 380, Table 1, ‘G-CSF biosimilars vs. G-CSF’ section, ‘Total patients of cohort studies’ row:** the cell entry in column 4 ‘Sample size (B/R)’, which previously read “2677/17,739” should read “2374/17,524”.

**Page 381, section 3.2.2, paragraph 1, line 1:** The sentence, which previously read: “Ten cohort studies (2677 patients vs 17,739 patients)...” should read “Nine cohort studies (2374 patients vs 17,524 patients)...”.



**Fig. 1** PRISMA flowchart of included studies. *G-CSF* granulocyte colony-stimulating factors, *RCT* randomized controlled trial

**Page 381, section 3.2.2, paragraph 3, line 10:** The sentence, which previously read

“In addition, five cohort studies [40, 41, 45, 48, 49] compared the incidence of FN in cycle 1 in cancer patients treated with filgrastim biosimilars (860 patients) and filgrastim (6970 patients).”

should read

“In addition, four cohort studies [40, 41, 48, 49] compared the incidence of FN in cycle 1 in cancer patients

treated with filgrastim biosimilars (557 patients) and filgrastim (6755 patients).”

**Page 382, Table 3, ‘FN incidence in cycle 1 (3 wk)’ section, ‘Cohort study’ study type:** the values in the ‘Cancer type/Breast cancer’ row and the ‘Total’ row have been corrected. A corrected version of the table is shown below with the corrected text shown in bold.

**Table 3** Results for G-CSF biosimilars

Outcomes (follow-up time)	Study type	Group factors	Subgroup	No. study	Sample size (B/R)	Heterogeneity test		Results of meta-analysis			<i>p</i> -Value between sub-groups	GRADE evidence
						<i>I</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>p</i> value	Summary effects	95% CI	<i>p</i> value		
FN incidence in cycle 1 (3 wk)	RCT	Drug type	Filgrastim biosimilars	4 [53, 56–58]	470/352	10.8%	0.339	RR = 1.09	0.72 to 1.65	0.19	0.22	Low
			Pegfilgrastim biosimilars	4 [28, 50, 51, 59]	582/515	0.0%	0.81	RR = 1.14	0.73 to 1.79	0.57		
		Cancer type	Breast cancer	5 [28, 50, 56, 57, 59]	738/713	0.0%	0.90	RR = 1.14	0.80 to 1.63	0.47	0.22	
			NSCLC	2 [51, 53]	251/125	0.0%	0.64	RR = 1.53	0.80 to 2.93	0.19		
			NHL	1 [58]	63/29			RR = 0.54	0.20 to 1.46	0.22		
	Total	G-CSF biosimilars	8 [28, 50, 51, 53, 55–59]	1052/867	0.0%	0.74	RR = 1.09	0.80 to 1.49	0.58			
	Cohort study	Cancer type	Breast cancer	2 [ <b>40, 48</b> ]	<b>196/183</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.28</b>	<b>RR = 1.60</b>	<b>0.85 to 3.01</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.43</b>	Moderate
			NHL	1 [41]	12/26			RR = 0.87	0.20 to 3.85	0.85		
			Non-myeloid cancer	1 [49]	349/6546			RR = 0.97	0.46 to 2.05	0.93		
		Total	Filgrastim biosimilars	4 [ <b>40, 41, 48, 49</b> ]	<b>557/6755</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>RR = 1.25</b>	<b>0.79 to 1.98</b>	<b>0.35</b>		

Outcomes (follow-up time)	Study type	Group factors	Subgroup	No. study	Sample size (B/R)	Heterogeneity test		Results of meta-analysis			<i>p</i> -Value between sub-groups	GRADE evidence
						$I^2$	<i>p</i> value	Summary effects	95% CI	<i>p</i> value		
DSN in cycle 1 (3 wk)	RCT	Cancer type	Breast cancer	7 [28, 50, 52, 54, 57, 59, 60]	1092/975	0.0%	0.70	WMD=0.03	-0.07 to 0.13	0.50	0.27	Moderate
			NHL	1 [58]	63/29			WMD=-0.40	-1.17 to 0.37	0.31		
		Drug type	Fil-grastim biosimilars	3 [54, 57, 58]	386/260	0.0%	0.37	WMD=0.06	-0.12 to 0.23	0.53	0.70	Moderate
			Pegfil-grastim biosimilars	5 [28, 50, 52, 59, 60]	769/744	0.0%	0.58	WMD=0.01	-0.11 to 0.13	0.83		
Total	G-CSF biosimilars	8 [28, 50, 52, 54, 57-60]	1155/1004	0.0%	0.66	WMD=0.03	-0.07 to 0.13	0.59				
Time to ANC recovery in cycle 1 (3 wk)	RCT	Cancer type	Breast cancer	4 [50, 52, 59, 60]	587/569	28.7%	0.24	WMD=0.07	-0.10 to 0.24	0.42	0.84	Moderate
			NSCLC	1 [51]	93/46			WMD=-0.07	-1.41 to 1.27	0.92		
		Total	Pegfil-grastim biosimilars	5 [49-52, 59, 60]	680/615	5.8%	0.37	WMD=0.07	-0.10 to 0.24	0.43		
	Cohort study	NHL	Fil-grastim biosimilars	1 [41]	12/26			WMD=-0.14	-0.42 to 0.70	0.63		Low
Bone pain rate (3-30 wk)	RCT	Cancer type	Breast cancer	2 [54, 59]	512/355	80.9%	0.02	RR=0.89	0.76 to 1.03	0.12	0.63	Moderate
			NSCLC	1 [53]	158/79			RR=1.20	0.44 to 3.29	0.72		
		Various tumors	1 [55]	54/54			RR=1.25	0.53 to 2.92	0.61			
	Total	Fil-grastim biosimilars	4 [53-55, 59]	724/488	51.3%	0.10	RR=0.90	0.78 to 1.05	0.18			
Cohort study	Various tumors	Fil-grastim biosimilars	4 [42-44, 46]	123/309	0.0%	0.61	RR=0.86	0.59 to 1.24	0.41		Moderate	

Outcomes (follow-up time)	Study type	Group factors	Subgroup	No. study	Sample size (B/R)	Heterogeneity test		Results of meta-analysis			<i>p</i> -Value between sub-groups	GRADE evidence	
						<i>I</i> <sup>2</sup>	<i>p</i> value	Summary effects	95% CI	<i>p</i> value			
ADE rate (3–30 wk)	RCT	Drug type	Fil-grastim biosimilars	4 [29, 54, 56, 60]	674/412	6.3%	0.36	RR = 1.03	0.97 to 1.09	0.35		Moderate	
			Pegfil-grastim biosimilars	3 [29, 51, 59]	579/463	61.8%	0.07	RR = 0.98	0.95 to 1.01	0.24	0.16		
			Cancer type	Breast cancer	6 [28, 29, 54, 56, 59, 60]	1158/825	32.8%	0.19	RR = 0.99	0.96 to 1.02	0.61		0.08
				NSCLC	1 [51]	95/50			RR = 0.92	0.50 to 1.71	0.40		
			Total	G-CSF biosimilars	7 [28, 29, 51, 54, 56, 59, 60]	1253/875	42.4%	0.10	RR = 0.98	0.95 to 1.02	0.39		
Cohort study	Various tumors	Fil-grastim biosimilars	1 [47]	1694/10,460			RR = 1.08	0.89 to 1.31	0.43		Moderate		

ADE adverse drug event, ANC absolute neutrophil count, B/R biosimilars/reference biologics, CI confidence interval, DSN duration of severe (grade 4) neutropenia, FN febrile neutropenia, G-CSF granulocyte colony-stimulating factors, GRADE Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation, NHL non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, No. study number of included studies, NSCLC nonsquamous non-small-cell lung cancer, RCT randomized controlled trial, RR risk ratio, WMD weighted mean difference

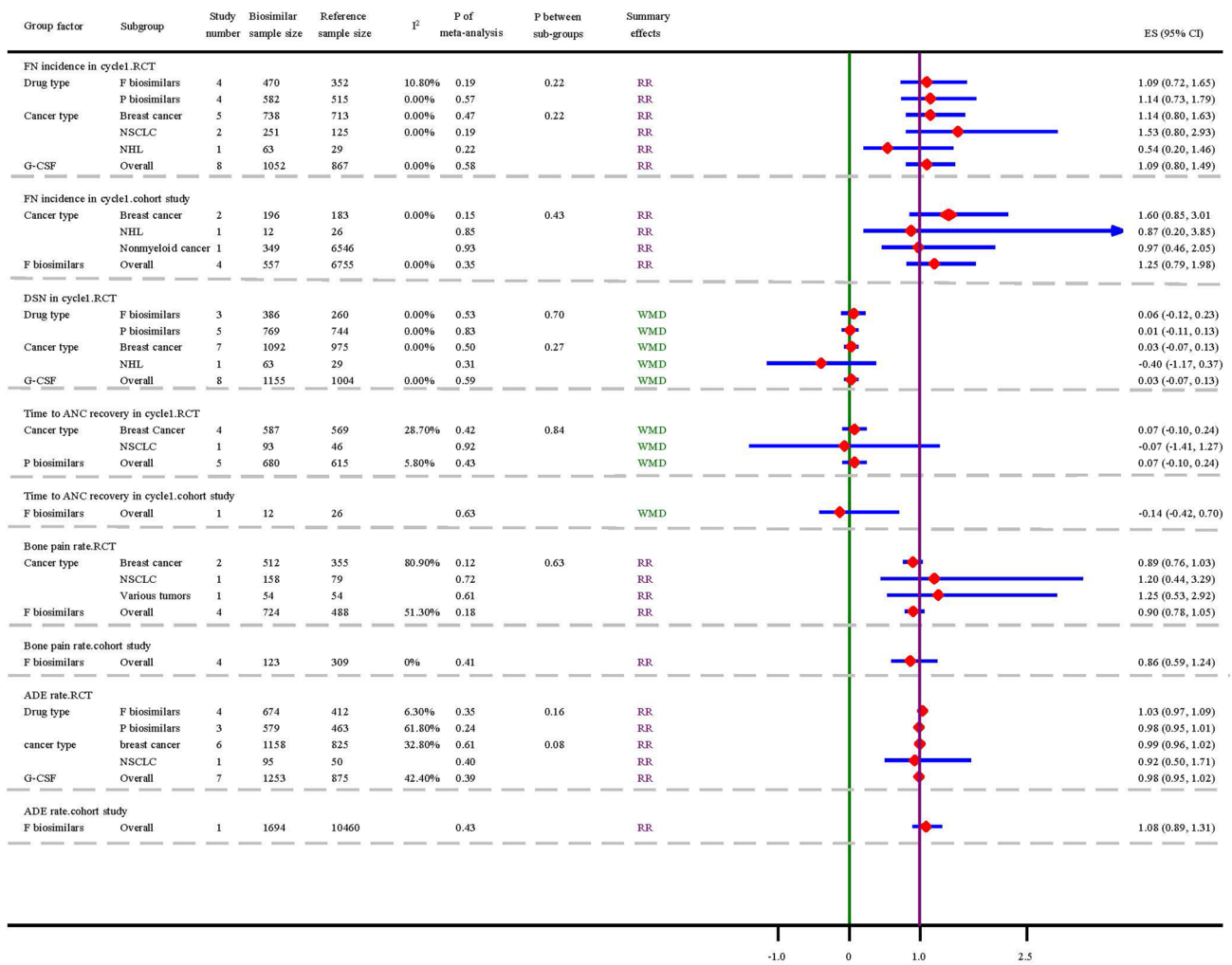
**Page 384, Fig. 3, 'FN incidence in cycle1.cohort study' section, 'Breast cancer' subgroup:**

- the text in the 'Study number' column that previously read "3" should read "2";
- the text in the 'Biosimilar sample size' column that previously read "499" should read "196";
- the text in 'Reference sample size' column that previously read "398" should read "183";
- the text in the 'P of meta-analysis' column that previously read "0.22" should read "0.15";
- the text in the 'P between sub-groups' column that previously read "0.68" should read "0.43";
- the text in the 'ES (95% CI)' column that previously read "1.36 (0.84, 2.23)" should read "1.60 (0.85, 30.1)".

**Page 384, Fig. 3, 'FN incidence in cycle1.cohort study' section, 'F biosimilars' row:**

- the text in the 'Study number' column that previously read "5" should read "4";
- the text in the 'Biosimilar sample size' column that previously read "860" should read "557";
- the text in 'Reference sample size' column that previously read "6970" should read "6755";
- the text in the 'P of meta-analysis' column that previously read "0.36" should read "0.35";
- the text in the 'ES (95% CI)' column that previously read "1.20 (0.81, 1.78)" should read "1.25 (0.79, 1.98)".

A corrected version of Fig. 3 is shown below.



**Fig. 3** Meta-analysis of G-CSF biosimilar drugs vs G-CSF drugs. *ADE* at least one adverse drug event, *ANC* absolute neutrophil count, *CI* confidence interval, *DSN* duration of severe (grade 4) neutropenia, *ES* effect size, *F* biosimilars filgrastim biosimilars, *FN* febrile

neutropenia, *G-CSF* granulocyte colony-stimulating factors, *NHL* non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, *NSCLC* nonsquamous non–small-cell lung cancer, *P* biosimilars pegfilgrastim biosimilars, *RCT* randomized controlled trial, *RR* risk ratio, *WMD* weighted mean differences

**Page 388, Reference # 45:** This reference should be deleted.

the text in column ‘patient’ that previously read “7830” should read “7312”

**Electronic Supplementary Material, Supplementary Table 3, ‘Puertolas et al. 2016 [25]’ row:** this row should be deleted.

**Electronic Supplementary Material, page 9, reference #25:** this reference should be deleted

**Electronic Supplementary Material, Supplementary Table 5, ‘FN incidence in cycle1’ row:**

the text in column ‘study’ that previously read “5 [20, 21, 25, 27, 28]” should read “4 [20, 21, 27, 28]”