Erratum

Differential Somatostatin Receptor Subtype Expression in Human Normal Pineal Gland and Pineal Parenchymal Tumors

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The above article originally appeared in *Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology*, Vol. 23, No. 1, Feb. 2003, pp. 101–113. The article was printed with errors introduced by the publisher. Below are the corrections to the article.

Page 101—Summary should read as follows:

Somatostatin is a potent antiproliferative signal in both tumoral and normal mammalian cells, and altered somatostatin receptor (sst) expression is associated with carcinogenesis in human tissues. In this study, two normal and three tumoral human pineal glands were analyzed using the reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) for the presence of mRNA coding for the five different somatostatin receptors (sst1–sst5). Pineal parenchymal tumor (PPT) differentiation was confirmed by immunohistochemical detection of neuroendocrine markers (synaptophysin, neurofilaments, and chromogranin A). The presence of mRNA coding for *c-myc*, a proto-oncogene, and for tryptophan hydroxylase (TPOH), serotonin *N*-acetyltransferase (NAT), and hydroxyindole-*O*-methyltransferase (HIOMT), enzymes of the melatonin pathway, was also analyzed by RT-PCR. Only the tumoral tissues contained *c-myc* mRNA. All five tissues contained TPOH, NAT, and HIOMT mRNA, the levels of HIOMT mRNA being lower in PPT than in normal pineal gland, suggesting that PPT retain the ability to synthesize melatonin. All tissues contained sst1, sst2, and sst3 transcripts, but not sst4, while small amounts of sst5 mRNA were only found in normal pineal glands. Real-time PCR, performed only with the most abundant subtype sst2, evidenced an about sixfold higher level in normal pineal glands. These results demonstrate the presence of somatostatin receptors in the human pineal gland, as described in other species, and point to a differential expression of sst2 and sst5 subtypes associated with carcinogenesis.

Page 103, line 4 of section “RNA Extraction and Reverse Transcription” “ration” should read “ratio.”

Page 106, line 7
“panesl” should read “panels.”

Page 109, last line
“kees *et al.*, 1998” should read “Kees *et al.*, 1998.”