

## EXPRESSION OF CONCERN

---

# Anticancer activity of safranal against colon carcinoma is due to induction of apoptosis and G2/M cell cycle arrest mediated by suppression of mTOR/PI3K/Akt pathway

Yibing Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Yong Zhao<sup>2</sup>, Jianyou Guo<sup>3</sup>, Haifeng Cui<sup>2</sup>, Sha Liu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chongqing Medical University, Chongqing, 401331, People's Republic of China;

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Chinese Materia Medica, China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Beijing, 100700, People's Republic of China; <sup>3</sup>Institute of Psychology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100101, People's Republic of China

### **Expression of concern to:**

**JBUON 2018;23(3):574-578; PMID: 30003721**

*Following the publication of this article [1], readers drew to our attention that part of the data was possibly unreliable. We sent emails to the authors with a request to provide the raw data to prove the originality, but received no reply. Therefore, as we continue to work through the issues raised, we advise readers to interpret the information presented in the article with due caution. We thank the readers for bringing this matter to our attention. We apologize for any inconvenience it may cause.*

### **References**

1. Zhang Y, Zhao Y, Guo J, Cui H, Liu S. Anticancer activity of safranal against colon carcinoma is due to induction of apoptosis and G2/M cell cycle arrest mediated by suppression of mTOR/PI3K/Akt pathway. JBUON 2018;23(3):574-8.

---

The original article can be found online at: <https://www.jbuon.com/archive/23-3-574.pdf>

---

Correspondence to: Sha Liu, PhD. School of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chongqing Medical University, Chongqing, 401331, People's Republic of China.  
Tel/Fax: +86 23 6848 5004, Email: LeroyThompsonfv@yahoo.com