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1 March, 2016

Prof. Ronald Myers

Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Visualized experiments*

Dear Dr. Myers,

On behalf of all the authors, I would like to thank you and the reviewers for your comments regarding manuscript 55696. We have done our best to respond to the concerns raised and hope you will find the revised manuscript suitable for publication in *Journal of Visualized Experiments*.

All of the references have been corrected to comply with the JoVE instructions for authors. Regarding the textual overlap with previously published work, of the 56 primary sources listed, only 32 were based on similarities in the text. The other 24 were highlighted in our references. Since our references were not derived from the aforementioned 24 primary sources, they remain unchanged. The other 32 sources (primary sources #s 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 16, 17, 20, 21, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 53, 54, 55, 56) were carefully examined. Observed similarities between our manuscript and any of the 32 primary sources were changed according to the previous editorial recommendations. The reasoning for leaving any of the highlighted text unchanged is explained in the following comments:

1. Primary source #1 is not actually an individual source, but the NCBI website. Not only are that, but the majority of the words that are similar to this source actually just the references we’ve listed. Therefore, they are not a part of the manuscript we wrote, and they do not borrow any ideas from another reference. Of the highlighted words that are not references, they are in the first paragraph in the discussion section. The highlighted words in that paragraph are common phrases describing the Golgi-Cox method. For these reasons, they have not been changed.

2. The majority of the highlighted sentences for primary source #3 have been altered to make them less similar. However, a few of them are unchanged. The first highlighted sentences underneath “AUTHORS” simply state the departments we work in. Also, step 1.1) describes a very common method of maintaining animals and does not borrow any ideas from primary source #3.

3. The portion of text similar to primary source #4 was altered to make it less similar except for two statistical phrases that are commonly used; “Mixed factors analysis of variance” and “Fisher LSD post hoc tests.”

4. Most of the highlighted sentences for primary source #10 have been altered to make them less similar. However, there are a few highlighted portions that are common phrases that do not borrow at all from this article. These include “in a,” “30 min at room temperature, and then,” and “them in.” These specific phrases are unchanged.

5. The highlighted portions in relation to primary sources 17, 20, 21, 25, 32, 38, 46, 54, and 56 were unchanged because they used either basic statistical terms or common neurobiology phrases that are in no way related to or borrow ideas from the listed sources.

6. The highlighted portions in relation to primary source #28 are unchanged because they are simple descriptions of how we maintain our solutions. They are in no way related to or borrow ideas from this source.

7. The highlighted portion in relation to primary source #37 is unchanged because it is a standard phrase regarding the ethical standards of the IACUC. It does not borrow any ideas from another source.

8. The highlighted portions in relation to primary source #39 are unchanged because they are general phrases regarding the Golgi staining methods. Not only that, but the information has been adequately paraphrased from the two sources that are referenced at the end of the sentence.

9. The highlighted portion in relation to primary source #40 is unchanged because it is a standard phrase regarding author disclosures. It does not borrow any ideas from another source.

10. The highlighted portions in relation to primary source #41 are unchanged because they are either a general phrase, i.e., “an extended period of time,” or random words, i.e., “of,” “is,” etc. Furthermore, the aforementioned phrase is in reference to Golgi staining in our text, while it is referring to PET imaging in the primary source.

11. The highlighted portions in relation to primary source #43 are unchanged because they use general neurobiology terms regarding the hippocampal trisynaptic circuit. Also, in the primary source, CA1 is only mentioned in the main text twice. In both instances, it is referring to alterations in that region due to aging, while our text is referencing the Golgi staining process following 5-Fu therapy. Furthermore, the language used when talking about CA1 in the primary source is drastically different compared to ours.

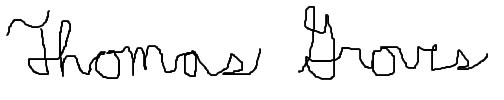
12. The highlighted portions in relation to primary source #45 are unchanged because they refer to our acknowledgments. They are standard phrases that in no way relate to or borrow ideas from this source.

13. The highlighted portions in relation to primary source #53 are unchanged because they are standard phrases that in no way relate to or borrow ideas from this source. Specifically, the linked source is a university webpage that does not seem to contain any part of this phrase.

14. Even though primary source #55 lists the same reagents, they are integral to this form of Golgi staining; meaning that this is standard practice. Furthermore, primary source #55 uses a different Golgi staining kit than the one we used for this experiment. Also, the solutions in the kit listed in the source have a different lettering system for the kit (potassium dichromate, mercuric chloride, and potassium chromate are split into solution A and B in the source kit, while they are all in solution A in the kit we use). Therefore, the highlighted portions for this source remain unchanged.

We hope you and the reviewers will find this paper of interest and we look forward to your comments. Thank you for considering this manuscript for publication in *Journal of Visualized Experiments.*

Sincerely,



Thomas Groves, B.S

Graduate Assistant