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Retraction: Long noncoding RNA ANRIL knockdown increases sensitivity of non-small cell lung cancer to cisplatin by regulating the miR-656-3p/SOX4 axis

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Retraction of 'Long noncoding RNA ANRIL knockdown increases sensitivity of non-small cell lung cancer to cisplatin by regulating the miR-656-3p/SOX4 axis' by Xianfang Wang *et al.*, *RSC Adv.*, 2019, 9, 38735–38744, DOI: 10.1039/C9RA06993C.

The Royal Society of Chemistry hereby wholly retracts this *RSC Advances* article due to concerns with the reliability of the data. The images in the article, and the raw data provided by the authors, were screened by an image integrity specialist.

The blots and many other features of the article were found to closely resemble the blots and features of a number of other articles, which is highly unexpected given that there are completely different author lists for these articles. The western blots in these papers have very similar-looking blots with non-distinctive shaped bands at the same, regular distance throughout the articles. They do not look genuine.

In addition, analysis of the raw data provided by the authors showed that for a number of figures the blots matched the raw data, but the backgrounds did not. In addition, the raw data was digitally cropped without molecular weight markers or any labelling on it. The raw data also shared striking similarities to the raw data provided for a number of other articles with no overlapping authors. The raw data, therefore, cannot be used to validate the published data.

Given the significance of the concerns about the validity of both the data in the article and the raw data provided by the authors, the findings presented in this article are not reliable.

Xuefang Xie does not agree with the retraction. The others authors were informed but have not responded to any correspondence regarding the retraction.

Signed: Laura Fisher, Executive Editor, *RSC Advances*

Date: 19th January 2021

