
**Reason for retraction**

Dr Muy-Teck Teh, Senior Lecturer at the Head & Neck Cancer Centre for Clinical & Diagnostic Oral Sciences, Barts & the London School of Medicine & Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, wrote to our journal informing us that he had been the supervisor of Ayesha Umair (Ayesha Nadir), and the study named above was based on Dr Umair’s MSc project (2010–2011) and that all experimental designs (primer sequences etc.), materials, patients samples, and methods had been designed and provided by himself and the work done at his research lab in London. Dr Teh also stated that these research data were published without his knowledge or permission. Therefore, he requested the retraction of the paper. Dr Umair accepted that Dr Teh was her supervisor during her MSc at Queen Mary University of London in 2010–2011 and that the article was based on her thesis. However, she stated that the work that she published in our journal is her own work that she had performed at the Centre of Clinical & Oral Diagnosis, Barts & the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, and that her study was fully self-funded without any financial support from the university or Dr Teh. However, Dr Teh found her explanations unacceptable, because he had helped Dr Umair to write the paper and that all the experimental details (e.g., primer sequences and protocols) and all ideas were his work.

Under these circumstances, we decided to retract the paper.