

Re: In Vitro Evidence for a New Therapeutic Approach in Renal Cell Carcinoma

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To the Editor,

I hereby wish to make the following statement regarding the above-mentioned article. As the head of the laboratory at Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Italian National Institute of Health), in which the corresponding author, Dr. Carmine Pittoggi, has been working until November 2007, I declare that no data on renal carcinoma-derived cells have ever been produced under my supervision or with my knowledge during the time that Dr. Pittoggi has spent in my laboratory.

Whether Dr. Pittoggi has done the experiments in my own lab without my knowledge, or whether he has done the work elsewhere on other premises, I cannot be and do not want to be senior author of a work which I have not supervised or ap-

proved of, and for which I do not even know how, when or where the data was produced. I therefore request officially that my name be dissociated from the publication.

The signature besides my name in the submission letter written by Dr. Carmine Pittoggi and accompanying the original manuscript is not my own. I am taking legal steps to inform officially the legal Office Istituto Superiore di Sanità, to which a copy of this letter is being forwarded, as well as the Director of Personnel and the President of the National Institute of Health, that my signature has been falsified in an official document.

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