

Retraction Note: Abstracts of the 50th Annual Meeting of the EASD, Vienna 2014. ‘Evaluation of DiaPep277[®] treatment in type 1 diabetes by integrated analysis’

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On behalf of the authors identified below, Itamar Raz, the corresponding author, has formally requested to retract Abstract 453, cited above, which was published in Diabetologia Supplement 1, September 2014—the Abstract Volume of 2014 EASD Annual meeting.

The abstract reports on the DIA-AID 1 trial, which examined the safety and efficacy of DiaPep277 to treat type 1 diabetes. The DIA-AID 1 trial was funded by Andromeda Biotech, Ltd.

On 8 September 2014, Hyperion Therapeutics, Inc., which acquired Andromeda Biotech in June 2014, announced that it

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had chosen to terminate the DiaPep277 programme. As stated in the press release issued by Hyperion Therapeutics, ‘The company has uncovered evidence that certain employees of Andromeda Biotech, Ltd ... engaged in serious misconduct, including collusion with a third-party biostatistics firm in Israel to improperly receive un-blinded DIA-AID 1 trial data and to use such data in order to manipulate the analyses to obtain a favorable result’ [1].

The corresponding author writes:

‘In view of the public statements by Hyperion Therapeutics [1] regarding alleged scientific misconduct, we, the authors of this statement, are retracting the above-cited abstract. We wish to emphasize that we were not involved in the assembly of the raw data or the alleged misconduct.

‘The following authors support the decision to retract the article: Itamar Raz, Paolo Pozzilli, Thomas Linn and Francois Bonnici.’

Diabetologia was only able to contact four of the six co-authors who are/were Andromeda Biotech employees—Dana Elias, Merana Tamir, Rachel Eren and Shlomo Dagan. None of these co-authors responded to emails and therefore none of the Andromeda Biotech employees were part of this retraction process.

References

1. Hyperion Therapeutics, Inc. (2014) Hyperion Therapeutics terminates DiaPep277(R) program. 8 September 2014 (press release). Available from <http://investors.hyperiontx.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=869508>, accessed 16 Oct 2014