To the editor:

Clarification of data used in three studies on MCA-induction of sarcoma in mice

This letter is to clarify the relationship between the primary data reported in Figure 4A of Street et al.1 and that previously published in Figure 3 of Smyth et al.2 and Figure 3A of Smyth et al.3 The data in these figures were all derived from the same series of 9 large experiments performed over a 2-year period (1998-2000; Table S1, available on the Blood website; see the Supplemental Materials link at the top of the online article). Practically, and for ethical reasons, it was not possible to compare all the groups within any individual experiment and thus, to compare various strains of mice, data were pooled from separate experiments and some cohorts of mice were used in more than one Figure. Importantly, the preparation of carcinogen used in these experiments was the same, prepared several weeks before any of the experiments began, and the reproducibility between experiments was high.

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Conflict-of-interest disclosure: The author declares no competing financial interests.

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References

To the editor:

Human cytomegalovirus DNAemia and preemptive treatment of CMV infection in children after hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation: Is any question settled?

In a recent issue of Blood, Lilleri et al1 reported a randomized trial in hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation patients (HSCT) comparing cytomegalovirus (CMV) DNAemia and pp65 antigenemia (Agpp65) as guidance for preemptive treatment. The authors concluded that DNAemia levels of 10 000 CMV genomic copies per milliliter of blood represents an amelioration compared with viral culture. Transplantation. 1997;64:108-113. However, the number of patients analyzed was too limited to be considered safe as no case of CMV disease was observed.

Apart from the above considerations, this study provided a significant contribution to optimize the use of quantitative assay for preemptive therapy for CMV.

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Conflict-of-interest disclosure: The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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