Retraction notice


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This article has been retracted: please see Elsevier Policy on Article Withdrawal (http://www.elsevier.com/locate/withdrawalpolicy).

This article has been retracted at the request of the Editor and the Publisher. After a thorough investigation, the Publisher has concluded that the peer-review process has been compromised and the scientific integrity of the paper cannot be guaranteed. Reviewer reports were submitted from email accounts which were provided to the journal as suggested reviewers by the corresponding author during the submission of the paper. However, no confirmation has been received from those accounts upon further request from the Publisher to endorse that they were indeed the persons who completed the reviews and that the non-institutional email addresses were of them.

This manipulation of the peer-review process represents a clear violation of the fundamentals of peer review, our publishing policies, and publishing ethics standards. Apologies are offered to the readers of the journal that this deception was not detected during the submission process.

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