Regulation of Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor A by Activating Transcription Factor 4

To the Editor:

In a recent article published in Circulation Research, Malabanan et al demonstrated that expression of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF)-A in response to fibroblast growth factor-2 is regulated by activating transcription factor (ATF)4.1 Although these authors never explicitly stated that theirs was the first and only study demonstrating that VEGF-A is ATF4-responsive, they failed to acknowledge the contributions of 4 previous publications demonstrating regulation of VEGF-A by ATF4.1–5 Although the authors stated that the existence of an ATF4 binding site in the VEGF-A gene was previously demonstrated, they neglected to mention that any previous study had ever established a role of ATF4 in the control of VEGF-A transcription. Furthermore, an accompanying review by Chin accounted how Malabanan et al demonstrated this regulation, while similarly failing to acknowledge that this aspect of their work was simply confirmatory.6

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Sources of Funding
Supported by the American Health Assistance Foundation (SFA) and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (SFA).

Disclosures
None.

References
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Circ Res. 2008;103:e118
doi: 10.1161/CIRCRESAHA.108.186544
Circulation Research is published by the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231
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Print ISSN: 0009-7330. Online ISSN: 1524-4571

The online version of this article, along with updated information and services, is located on the World Wide Web at:
http://circres.ahajournals.org/content/103/9/e118

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