Corrigendum

Abnormal germinal center reactions in systemic lupus erythematosus demonstrated by blockade of CD154-CD40 interactions

Amrie C. Grammer, Rebecca Slota, Randy Fischer, Hanan Gur, Hermann Girschick, Cheryl Yarboro, Gabor G. Illei, and Peter E. Lipsky


During the preparation of the manuscript, errors were introduced into Figure 3 that affected paragraph 6 in Results. The corrected paragraph and figure appear below.

The authors regret this error.

Expression of differentiation and activation antigens during and after treatment of active-SLE patients with humanized anti-CD154 mAb (BG9588, 5c8). CD38^{positive} B cells in the circulation of the active-SLE patients disappeared from the peripheral blood during the treatment regimen with humanized anti-CD154 mAb (Figures 2b, 2c, and 3a). Specifically, before the treatment regimen, 63.8% ± 4.1% of the B cells were CD38^{positive}. At 4-8 weeks after initiation of treatment, the percentage of CD38^{positive} B cells in the circulation had dropped to 22.7% ± 15.0% (P = 0.024 compared with before treatment). Withdrawal of treatment led to a reappearance of CD38^{positive} B cells in the circulation (79.3% ± 8.6%) at the earliest time point tested, 2 months after treatment, at a percentage that was not different from the pretreatment percentage (P > 0.05). Of note, this trend was significant for both the pre-switch IgD^{+} (P = 0.018) and the post-switch IgD^{-} (P = 0.022) B cell subsets.