Differential effects of viral silencing suppressors on siRNA and miRNA loading support the existence of two distinct cellular pools of ARGONAUTE1

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Authors’ statement

Following an investigation conducted by the The EMBO Journal, the corresponding authors were alerted of several image irregularities found in this paper. These are detailed below.

- Figures 3, S1 and S2A: The rRNA loading control depicted for these three figures [originating from the same membrane probed and stripped multiple times] is not the cognate one: it corresponds to a loading control mistakenly reused from a previous publication of our group (Nat Genet 39: 848–856, 2007). Source data for these figure panels are displayed below.
- Figure S2B: A divider should have been added to clearly indicate splicing of the original blot made to remove one of the two HC samples present on this blot. Source data relevant to this figure are displayed below. Note that source data for the @822 probe were not available, but a source data image of the same membrane hybridized to the @171 probe is displayed alongside a replicate experiment with the @822 probe.
- Figure S3: Dividers should have been added to clearly indicate splicing of the original blots. In addition, incorrect splicing of the total RNA blots for @255 and @TAS3 led to a duplicated band mistakenly used for the final figure. Source data for this figure are displayed below.
- Figure 5A (@AGO1 blot): Background duplication was inserted during image editing to cover handwriting present on the original blot. Source data for this figure are displayed below.
- Figure 5B (@CHS blot): Background duplication was inserted during image editing to cover handwriting present on the original blot. In addition, the rRNA loading control is not the cognate one and includes two sets of duplicated bands. Source data for this figure are displayed below.

The conclusions drawn from these figures and from the paper remain unchanged. Patrice Dunoyer, who assembled the figures, takes the responsibility for these errors. All authors agree with this statement and wish to apologize for any inconvenience caused.

Editors’ statement

The authors provided to the journal facsimile images of relevant labbook pages and source data to explain the apparent manipulations;
these data support the conclusions made, as described by the authors. For Figure S2B, source data of the same experiment (hybridized to the @822 probe) were not available, but a source data image of the identical membrane hybridized to the @171 probe and a replicate of the experiment as well as total RNA controls were made available.

We alert readers to the fact that a number of related papers are also subject to a corrigendum or to a retraction. At The EMBO Journal, these encompass:

- Brigneti G, Voinnet O, Li WX, Ji LH, Ding SW, Baulcombe DC (1998) Viral pathogenicity determinants are suppressors of transgene silencing in *Nicotiana benthamiana*. *EMBO J* 17: 6739–6746