

### A statement on the figure 3

Dear editor,

As for the exposure of WB picture strips and other information in the manuscript you mentioned, the explanation is as follows:

1. The problem of more information in the picture

Initially, we used WB technique to do AQP8 protein expression in each group of U251 cells, and the AQP8 band map with Marker (model: 266616, Thermo Fisher Scientific, New York, USA) was cut and preserved. Because the appearance of bands in the list of Marker in the original graph is not particularly clear, according to the Marker specification, it is enough for us to identify the bands that appear to be AQP8 and corresponding beta-actin. Therefore, in the subsequent experiments, we directly cut the gel at the position where AQP8 and beta-actin should appear, and transferred the film to carry out the subsequent western blot reaction. The WB results in this paper were all that the AQP8 and beta-actin maps of Marker were discarded, and there was no problem.

2. Regarding the exposure of WB pictures

When we use Bio-Rad gel imaging system (Model No. Universal Hood III, Serial No. 731BR02996) to expose PVDF membrane, we use Image Lab software (version: 5.2.1) to set the exposure parameter to automatic optimization mode, so that it can achieve good exposure effect. Therefore, the strips shown in the WB image in the article are not the result of high exposure, but the original image.

The Supplement File now contains an original image of Marker results showing AQP8 and beta-actin proteins respectively for review.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Regards,

Hao Zhang

$\beta$ -actin



42Kda

AQP8



28Kda