# Fatty Acid Abnormality Is not Secondary to Malabsorption

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#### Dear Sir

I was more than surprised to read paper of Dr. Uomo in the March 2004 issue of JOP. J Pancreas (Online) [1] where the author referred to our paper published in 1986 in Proc Natl Acad Sci USA [2] as if that paper reported that fat malabsorption was the cause of the fat abnormalities in cystic fibrosis. Even the title of the paper should make one realize that the paper stated the opposite.

Our paper was the first one to really suggest and indicate proof that fatty acid abnormality was not secondary to malabsorption. The editorial the author referred [3] in his paper also suggests this.

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**Keywords** Cystic Fibrosis; Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator; Malabsorption Syndromes; Malnutrition; Pancreatic Insufficiency; Published Erratum

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#### References

- 1. Uomo G. Fat Balance in Cystic Fibrosis: Is It only a Simple Matter of Maldigestion and Malabsorption? JOP. J Pancreas (Online) 2004; 5:109-110. [PMID 15007195]
- 2. Carlstedt-Duke J, Bronnegard M, Strandvik B. Pathological regulation of arachidonic acid release in cystic fibrosis: the putative basic defect. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 1986; 83:9202-6. [PMID 3097647]
- 3. Strandvik B. Fatty acid metabolism in cystic fibrosis. N Engl J Med. 2004; 350:605-7. [PMID 14762189]

#### REPLY

## Dear Sir:

I would like to thank Dr. Standvik for her comment [1] which gives me the opportunity to rectify an error committed in citing the paper of Dr. Carlstedt *et al.* [2]. The scientific contribution of the Strandvik's group on this topic is without a doubt very important in the field and their paper was really the first report which suggests that fatty acid abnormality was not secondary to malabsorption in cystic fibrosis patients. I apologize for this serious mistake.

1. Strandvik B. Fatty acid abnormality is not secondary to malabsorption. JOP. J Pancreas (Online) 2004; 5:159.

2. Carlstedt-Duke J, Bronnegard M, Strandvik B. Pathological regulation of arachidonic acid release in cystic fibrosis: the putative basic defect. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 1986; 83:9202-6. [PMID 3097647]

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