DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Office of the Secretary

Findings of Research Misconduct

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) has taken final action in the following case:

Girija Dasmahapatra, Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University: Based on the report of an inquiry conducted by Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), the willingness of the Respondent to settle this matter, and analysis conducted by ORI in its oversight review, ORI found that Dr. Girija Dasmahapatra, former Instructor, Department of Internal Medicine, VCU, engaged in research misconduct in research supported by National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health (NIH), grants R01 CA063753, R01 CA093738, and R01 CA100866.

ORI found that false data were included in the following eleven (11) publications:

- British Journal of Haematology 161:43-56, 2013 Apr (hereafter referred to as “BJH 2013”)
ORI found that Respondent falsified and/or fabricated data by reporting the results of Western blot experiments and mouse imaging experiments that examined interactions between multiple histone deacetylase and/or proteasome inhibitors in several cancer models. Specifically, Respondent duplicated, reused, and/or relabeled Western blot panels and mouse images and claimed they represented different controls and/or experimental results in:

- **Blood** 2006, Figures 2A and 2B (Tubulin), 2C (c-Jun & Tubulin), and 3E and 3F (Tubulin)
- **Blood** 2010, Figures 4A and 4C (JNK & Tubulin)
- **BJH** 2013, Figures 2A and 6B (Tubulin)
- **CBT** 2009, Figure 4B (Actin)
- **CCR** 2007, Figures 3B (PARP) and 6A (Tubulin)
- **Leuk** 2005, Figures 3B (PARP CF) and 4A, 4B, and 4C (Tubulin)
- **LR** 2006, Figure 3D (Actin – BaF/3-WT)
Dr. Dasmahapatra has entered into a Voluntary Exclusion Agreement (Agreement) and has voluntarily agreed:

(1) to exclude himself for a period of three (3) years from the effective date of the Agreement from any contracting or subcontracting with any agency of the United States Government and from eligibility or involvement in nonprocurement programs of the United States Government referred to as “covered transactions” pursuant to HHS’ Implementation (2 C.F.R. Part 376 et seq) of OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension, 2 C.F.R. Part 180 (collectively the “Debarment Regulations”);

(2) to exclude himself from serving in any advisory capacity to PHS including, but not limited to, service on any PHS advisory committee, board, and/or peer review committee, or as a consultant for period of three (3) years, beginning on November 5, 2015; and

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Acting Director
Division of Investigative Oversight
Office of Research Integrity
1101 Wootton Parkway, Suite 750
Rockville, MD 20852
(240) 453-8200

Donald Wright, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Director
Office of Research Integrity

[FR Doc. 2015-31057 Filed: 12/9/2015 8:45 am; Publication Date: 12/10/2015]