Suitability of Colchicine and Superoxide Dismutase for the Suppression of Renal Scarring following an Infection with Bacteria Showing Mannose-Sensitive Pili

N.	Nicholas	Topley
R.	Robert	Steadman
R.	Ruth	Mackenzie
J.M.	Janice M.	Knowlden
J.D.	John D.	Williams

Institute of Nephrology, Cardiff Royal Infirmary, University of Wales College of Medicine, Cardiff, UK

Dr. J.D. Williams, Institute of Nephrology, Cardiff Royal Infirmary, University of Wales College of Medicine, Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1SZ (UK)

Dear Sir,

In their recent paper published in the October 1990 issue of Nephron [1], Matsumoto et al. describe experimental studies examining the role of type 1 (mannose-sensitive) pili in an animal model of renal scarring. Whilst these studies extend our knowledge of the mechanisms by which renal scars occur, by demonstrating unequivocally in genetically engineered *Escherichia coli* strains that type 1 pili may be the causative agents involved in this process, they have however failed to quote several prior publications by this group on exactly the same subject. As early as 1986 [2] we had recognized that type 1 pili could be the causative agents responsible for initiating renal scarring (in animals at least); these studies were logical extensions of those published earlier by this group [3] and of those data published by Glauser's group [4]. These studies were extended and resulted in the publication of both in vitro and in vivo evidence of the importance of type 1 pili in the initiation of the scarring process [5, 6]. We would therefore like to bring to your readers' attention the prior existence of these data which the data presented by Matsumoto et al. [1] fully support.

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References

1 Matsumoto T, Mizunoe Y, Sakamoto N, Kumazawa J: Suitability of colchicine and superoxide dismutase for the suppression of renal scarring following an infection with bacteria showing mannose-sensitive pili. *Nephron* 1990;56:130–135.