



Abteilung für Laboratoriums-  
und Transfusionsmedizin

Prof. Dr. med. Axel Stachon

Leitender Arzt

## Westfalz-Klinikum GmbH

Akademisches Lehrkrankenhaus der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz  
und der Medizinischen Fakultät Mannheim der Universität Heidelberg

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Professor Peter Somogyi, FRS, FMedSci  
Director MRC Anatomical Neuropharmacology Unit  
Mansfield Rd, Oxford, OX1 3TH, United Kingdom

Doctor Peter Hantz  
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### NRBC Publication

Dear Professor Somogyi;  
dear Doctor Hantz:

Thank you for your telephone call and E-Mail regarding the publication of the article "The Presence of Nucleated Red Cells in the Blood of Critical Care Patients is Associated with an Increased Mortality Risk", in Acta Medica Marisiensis, Authors: Dutu Malina, Negoita S, Manolescu Rely, Calu V, Corneci D, Georgescu Anca, Toganel Cornelia, Azamfirei L.

The authors used several parts of our publication "Nucleated red blood cells in the blood of medical intensive care patients indicate increased mortality risk: a prospective cohort study" in Critical Care (2007).

Even though our paper is listed in the reference list (No. 1) in my eyes this does not justify the extensive use of parts of our publication. Therefore, our work is not properly cited. Furthermore, the authors simply copied results of our original research (i.e. 58.7% female patients, 41.3% male patients, mean age  $66.3 \pm 0.8$  years, first time of detection of NRBC  $3.1 \pm 0.4$  days). These identical results suggest that the published data are not a result of original studies of the authors. Furthermore, in this paper the results mentioned in *Results* and *Discussion* are not identical. Taken together, these indications suggest that the above mentioned publication is an unethical plagiarism and forgery of scientific work. Proper measures should stop this practice.

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