Notice of retraction

The NZMJ retracts the following article

Are over-the-counter fish oil supplements safe, effective and accurate with labelling? Analysis of 10 New Zealand fish oil supplements Julia J Rucklidge, Shelby Hantz, Ian C Shaw NZMJ 20 September 2019, Vol 132 No 1502 ISSN 1175-8716

Errors are a part of science and publishing and require publication of a correction when they are detected. The ICMJE guidelines states that errors serious enough to invalidate a paper’s results and conclusions may require retraction. The editor has received the notice below from the authors of the above manuscript.

We request retraction of our paper Are Over the Counter Fish Oil Supplements Safe, Effective and Accurate with Labelling – Analysis of 10 New Zealand Fish Oil Supplements because we made errors in the calculation of the amounts of EPA and DHA in five of the fish oil supplement capsules which means that we have underestimated the doses. All are now within 15% of label value. This, in turn, affects our assessment of compliance with health claims; however, they remain variable. Our assessment of mercury risk is unchanged.

We apologise for this error.

Julia Rucklidge, Shelby Hantz and Ian Shaw

The editor has reviewed the information available and this appears to be an honest error that has led to a major change in the direction and significance of the results, interpretations and conclusions.

The manuscript has therefore been retracted and appropriate notifications made.