Investigation of the Proposed Interdomain Ribose Zipper in Hairpin Ribozyme Cleavage Using 2'-Modified Nucleosides, by David J. Earnshaw, Michelle L. Hamm, Joseph A. Piccirilli, Alexander Karpeisky, Leo Beigelman, Bruce S. Ross, Muthiah Manoharan, and Michael J. Gait*, Volume 39, Number 21, May 30, 2000, pages 6410—6421.

Page 6411. Figure 2b, showing the hydrogen-bonding pattern in the ribose zipper predicted from molecular modeling and cross-linking studies of the hairpin ribozyme described by Earnshaw et al. [(1997) J. Mol. Biol. 274, 197-212], contains an error. The correct hydrogen-bonding pattern is shown in the revised Figure 2b below, where bifurcated hydrogen bonds project from the 2'-hydroxyl groups at G₁₁ and C₂₅ rather than incorrectly from A₁₀ and A₂₄. There are three reasons for correcting this error. (1) Our data, for example, showing that 2'-fluoro substitution at C₂₅ or G₁₁ has a far greater effect than a similar substitution at either A₁₀ or A₂₄, are now more consistent with the correct hydrogen-bonding pattern predicted by the ribose zipper, and the Discussion should be reconsidered in light of this. (2) The error has been carried through to the Discussion in a publication from another laboratory [Wilson, T. J., et al. (2001) Biochemistry 40, 2291–2302], where in Figure 9 the ribose zipper models of Earnshaw et al. (1997) and Ryder, S. P. and Strobel, S. A. [(1999) J. Mol. Biol. 291, 295-311] were thought to differ, when in fact they are identical between residues C25 and A10 and now fit perfectly with the data of Wilson et al. (3) The very recently determined crystal structure of the hairpin ribozyme [Rupert, P. B. and Ferréd'Amaré, A. R. (2001) Nature 410, 780-786] confirms precisely the original hydrogen-bonding pattern of the ribose zipper predicted by Earnshaw et al. (1997).

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