## 6 April 2011

## Dr. Pigott:

Thank you for your careful attention to this matter and for your detailed letter.

Dr. Shader and I, along with Ms. Kern, had a meeting to discuss your concerns.

As far as the Journal goes, we do not have access to the protocol, or other documents that are not in the public domain. The points that you raise fall in the realm of commentary on scientific content. We would ask that you construct a Letter to be considered for publication in the Journal. We expect that this would be forwarded (by us) to the authors for a reply, and that both would be published in the same issue.

Beyond that, the Journal is not in the business of investigation. Your concerns are best addressed, for example, to the NIH project or contract officer who oversees the study, and/or to the department chairperson at the senior author's institution.

We appreciate your interest in the Journal.

Sincerely,

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