molecular weight being as large as 61,000 Da (unpublished data) there is every likelihood that this toxin possesses some subunits, the epitopes of which may differ slightly from strain to strain. This difference, however, is minor and does not affect the neutralizing capability of the antitoxin against X-392.

In gel-diffusion test, 10 times concentrated CF of CT⁻ *V. cholerae* X-392 that produces NCT[4] and *V. cholerae* non-O1 strains gave a precipitation band against anti-NCT. Only one isolate showed reaction of identity (Figure 3) and the other four showed reaction of partial identity (Figure 4).

The results of this study suggest that the strains of *V. cholerae* non-O1 can produce NCT in the absence of *ctx*, *zot* and *ace* or when these genes are deleted. They, thus possess the potential to cause diarrhoea. These observations are of importance in understanding the pathogenesis of diarrhoea caused by *V. cholerae* non-O1 strains as this toxin seems to play an important role in the causation of diarrhoea[4]. However, further study with a large number of isolates is needed to strengthen this conclusion.

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Erratum

Effect of foetal exposure to low-dose X-rays on the postnatal growth of mouse

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The table appearing on page 497 contains some mistakes. The correct table is printed below.

Table 1. Observations on postnatal development of mice exposed to 0.05 Gy of X-rays at day 14.5 post-coitus

Observations	Treatment[†]	Age of offspring (week) 0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Number of offsprings	C	122	121	120	119	117	115	114
	E	98	96	95	94	92	88	87
Growth-retarded offsprings (%)	C	1.64 (2)	1.65 (2)	2.50 (3)	3.36 (4)	3.42 (4)	3.48 (4)	3.51 (4)
	E	4.08 (4)	4.17 (4)	7.37 (7)	10.64 (10)*	11.96 (11)*	11.36 (10)	8.04 (7)
Body weight (mean ± SE, g)	C	1.67 ± 0.014	4.76 ± 0.054	7.27 ± 0.081	11.59 ± 0.159	17.57 ± 0.367	24.43 ± 0.273	28.05 ± 0.303
	E	1.64 ± 0.018	4.62 ± 0.059	7.09 ± 0.125	10.71 ± 0.215[b]	15.68 ± 0.486[b]	22.23 ± 0.489[c]	27.15 ± 0.446
Body length (mean ± SE, mm)	C	32.11 ± 0.115	46.78 ± 0.235	54.91 ± 0.227	68.06 ± 0.366	79.65 ± 0.447	87.83 ± 0.366	91.64 ± 0.417
	E	31.88 ± 0.135	46.19 ± 0.317	54.79 ± 0.417	64.68 ± 0.670[c]	71.62 ± 0.789[c]	83.95 ± 0.949[b]	89.89 ± 0.814
Head length (mean ± SE, mm)	C	8.73 ± 0.056	13.83 ± 0.091	15.86 ± 0.103	20.85 ± 0.146	22.38 ± 0.160	24.12 ± 0 115	24.70 ± 0.125
	E	8.58 ± 0.061	13.60 ± 0.119	16.19 ± 0.146	20.59 ± 0.122	21.13 ± 0.185[c]	23.58 ± 0.176[a]	24 36 ± 0.134
Head width (mean ± SE, mm)	C	7.99 ± 0.075	12.31 ± 0.075	15.58 ± 0 133	18.03 ± 0.168	18 87 ± 0 214	19.98 ± 0 162	20.96 ± 0.167
	E	7.99 ± 0.096	12.11 ± 0.146	14.86 ± 0.239[b]	16.83 ± 0.204[c]	17.71 ± 0.257[c]	19.23 ± 0.243[a]	20.39 ± 0 223
Tail length (mean ± SE, mm)	C	13.25 ± 0.140	26.13 ± 0.137	42.37 ± 0.246	57.45 ± 0.371	70.26 ± 0.429	79 63 ± 0.417	84.21 ± 0 460
	E	13.06 ± 0.136	25.57 ± 0.195	40.72 ± 0 445[a]	54.93 ± 0.638[b]	68.26 ± 0.635[a]	74.08 ± 0 806[c]	80.19 ± 0.718[c]

Note: Figures in parentheses are the actual numbers.
[†]C: Sham-irradiated animals, number of mothers 15.
E: Exposed to 0.05 Gy X-rays, number of mothers 12.
Difference from respective control (C): [a]$p < 0.05$, [b]$p < 0.01$, [c]$p < 0.001$ (Mann–Whitney test). *$p < 0.05$ (Fisher's exact test).