Replicative Senescence and Cell Death

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We read with great interest the excellent Research News article "Chromosome ends catch fire" by Jean Marx (16 Sept., p. 1656), which chronicles the major discoveries that have been made leading to our present understanding of the role of telomeres in replicative senescence and immortality. However, we would like to point out that replicative senescence is not synonymous with cell death and that a mechanism for senescence is not necessarily the activation of genes that trigger cell death.

Cultured senescent cells do not die immediately. After cessation of division, a majority of them remain viable and metabolically active for long periods in cell culture, and probably in vivo as well. To our knowledge, no one has observed programmed cell death during senescence.

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Software Availability

Box 2, the "mouse genome resources and informatics" section (17 June, p. 1730) in the article "Forward and reverse genetic approaches to behavior in the mouse" by J. S. Takahashi *et al.* (17 June, p. 1724), describes how to obtain the MAPMAKER/EXP and MAPMAKER/QTL software developed at the Whitehead Institute. It is not mentioned that both programs are available from the Whitehead Institute for the Digital Equipment Corporation's Alpha systems in DEC OSF/1. For MAPMAKER/EXP and MAPMAKER/QTL distribution for Alpha AXP in DEC OSF/1, contact MAPMAKER, c/o Eric Lander at the address below (Fax: 617-258-6505; Internet: mapmaker@genome.wi.mit.edu). For information on genetics software applications available for Alpha, contact Rachel Oberai-Soltz at Digital Equipment Corporation at the address below (Phone: 508-264-7844; Internet: roberai@akocoa.enet.dec.com).

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Corrections and Clarifications

The list of authors of the report "The Clementine mission to the Moon" by S. Nozette *et al.* (16 Dec., p. 1835) should not have included R. A. Simpson.

In the authors' note for the report "Suppression of hyphal formation in *Candida albicans* by mutation of a *STE12* homolog" by Haoping Liu *et al.* (9 Dec., p. 1723), the affiliation for G. R. Fink should have been the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA.