

# Review of: "[Research Note] The Random Somatic Mutation is not Quite Random"

George Mikhailovsky

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

I would agree with the author that random somatic mutations are not entirely random, but he doesn't give a valuable argument in favor of this statement. This seems rather odd considering that this is what, according to the title, is the main topic of the text.

Besides, the author made a couple of mistakes. In the section "Cosmos Example," he wrote: "The astronauts, in space, for extended periods of time, get accustomed to low or no gravity (evolution), but they lose bone density (involution). Yet other body parts do not change, or it has not been found out so far (neutrality/indeterminacy)." This example describes the adaptation of a few specific organisms during their lifetime and has nothing to do with either evolution or involution, which do not work within a single generation. The author goes on to write that "adaptation to new environmental conditions means de-adaptation from the old environmental conditions." This is not always true because if the environment continues to change in the same direction, adaptation does not disappear but rather increases.

In general, the presented text looks superficial and does not correspond to its title.