Images should clearly and correctly represent research results. Minor image processing may be acceptable but, as depicted below, there’s a fine line between enhancing an image and distorting it.

**BE AWARE:**
Undocumented image manipulations can lead to accusations of research misconduct. 67% of ORI’s closed research misconduct cases involved image manipulation.*

*Between 2011 and 2015

**WHAT ELSE MUST YOU DO?**
- Clearly document all changes made to an image.
- Retain the unprocessed image for your records.
- Follow journal guidelines for permissible processing.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT IMAGE PROCESSING:**
http://ori.hhs.gov/ImageProcessing