

## Effects of Medium on Blastocyst Formation, Cell Number and Percentage of ICM in Mice

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**Objective:** The aim of this study was to evaluate the influence of different media on blastulation, mean cell number, percentage of inner cell mass (ICM) of total cells and ICM : trophoctoderm (TE) ratio in mice.

**Materials and methods:** A total 552 two cell embryos were retrieved from ICR female mice (4 weeks old) at 48 hr after hCG injection (mated just after hCG injection) and cultured in MEM (n=276) or TCM (n=276) supplemented with 20% hFF. The grading of blastocysts from zona-intact (ZiB) to -escape (hatching and hatched, ZeB) was performed at 72 hours after culture. Total, TE and ICM cell numbers were analyzed by differential staining of blastocyst. Statistical analysis was performed using *t*-test with SigmaPlot-2001. P-values < 0.05 were accepted as statistically significant.

**Results:** The blastulation rate in MEM (64.9 ±4.95%) was significantly higher (p=0.0031) than that in TCM (57.2 ±5.22%). No differences were found in the number of ZiB and ZeB between MEM (31.9 ±2.62, 33.0 ±4.58%), and TCM (27.2 ±4.28, 30.1 ±4.58%). A total 314 blastocysts (MEM=166; TCM=148) were stained differentially. Mean cell number of blastocysts was significantly higher (p=0.0002) in TCM (73.1 ±3.3) than in MEM (61.7 ±2.5). Differential staining was successfully performed in 155 blastocysts (MEM=77; TCM=78). The percentage of ICM was significantly higher in MEM than in TCM (20.9 ±1.3 vs. 17.1 ±1.2%, p=0.0281). The ICM : TE ratio was higher in TCM than in MEM (1 : 4.85 ±0.68 vs. 1 : 3.78 ±0.78, NS).

**Conclusion:** These results show that MEM increase the blastocyst formation and percentage of ICM of total cells comparing with TCM in mice.

**Key Words:** Mice, Medium, Blastulation, Inner cell mass (ICM), Trophoctoderm (TE)

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ICM (TE) (ICM) 3032, Sigma, USA) 가  
.12 280 mOsmol/kg  
, TE , 0.2 ?m (Millex-GV, Millipore, USA)  
14 ml tube (2001, Falcon, USA)  
4 (3682, Forma, USA)  
. 2 20% hFF 가  
37 5% CO<sub>2</sub> 6  
.3~6  
, 7  
ICM ICM 1  
4-6.8 3 , ICM 2  
, , ICM (1) 1  
Ham's F-10 (BSA free) + 1% Triton X-100 (T-9254, Sigma, USA) + 100 ?g/ml propidium iodide (PI, P-4170, Sigma, USA)  
가 (2) 2  
EtOH (Absolute Ethanol, Duksan, Kore) + 25 ?g/ml bisbenzimidide (B-2883, Sigma, USA)  
2 ICM  
3. (hFF, human follicular fluid)  
, IVF hFF  
. 5  
hFF  
1. (3,500 rpm) 30  
0.2 ?m 56  
35 -20  
ICR , 4 , 10~ 가 . 2  
15 .  
, 10 :14 4.  
, . 7.5 IU  
2. pregnant mare's serum gonadotropin (PMSG, G-4877, Sigma, USA) 5 IU human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG, CG-10, Sigma, USA) 48  
1) . hCG 48  
2 Ham's F-10 (F-10, 11550-043, Gibco, USA) . 2  
MEM (119660-025, Gibco, USA) (MZ 12.5, Leica, Switzerland)  
TCM-199 (TCM, 11150-059, Gibco, USA) 2-well (3037, Falcon, USA)  
. 0.0125 g/l Streptomycine sulfate  
(S-9137, Sigma, USA) 0.01375 g/l Penicillin-G (P-2

**Table 1.** Influence of medium on blastocyst formation and their cell number in mice

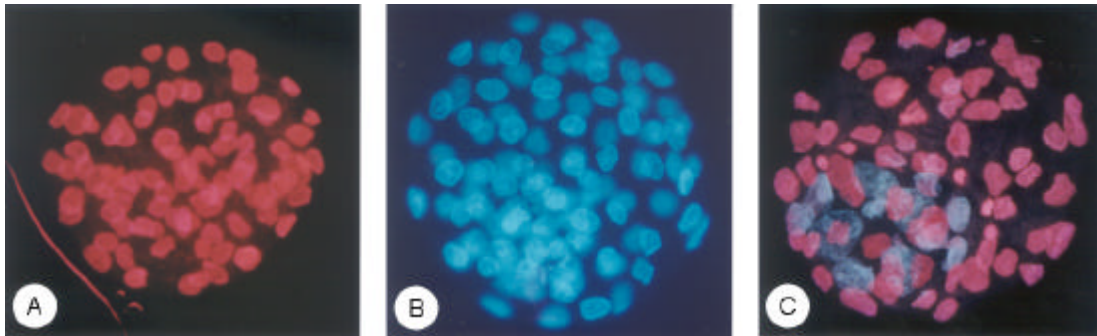
Variables	MEM	TCM	p-value
No. of 2-cell embryos used	276	276	-
No. of blastocysts			
Total	179 (64.9 ±5.0)	158 (57.2 ±5.2)	0.0031
Zona-intact	88 (31.9 ±2.6)	75 (27.2 ±4.4)	NS
Early	16 (5.8)	24 (8.7)	NS
Middle	15 (5.4)	19 (6.9)	NS
Late	57 (20.7)	32 (11.6)	NS
Zona-escape	91 (33.0 ±4.6)	83 (30.1 ±4.1)	NS
Hatching	86 (31.2)	77 (27.9)	NS
Hatched	5 (1.8)	6 (2.2)	NS
No. of blastocysts stained	166	148	-
Cell number			
Total	10,243	10,814	-
Mean	61.7 ±2.5	73.1 ±3.3	0.0002
Range	8~162	5~168	-

NS=not significant. Values are mean ±SEM.

5. 2 - Olympus, Japan) UV

552 2 MEM (n=276) 1 PI (Figure 1A) ,  
TCM (n=276) 50 ?1 mineral oil (M-8410, 2 bisbenzimid (Figure 1B)  
Sigma, USA) (3002, Falcon, USA) . TE (PI) (bisbenzimid)  
72 zona-in- ICM  
tact (ZiB) escape (hatching-hatched, ZeB) TE ICM  
ICM/TE (Figure 1C).  
7.

6. PI bis-  
benzimid가  
Thouas 6 differential staining , %ICM ICM :TE ratio  
ICM TE ICM/TE가  
1 10 %ICM ICM  
2 4 1.5 , ICM :TE ratio ICM 1  
glycerol (G-2025, Sigma, USA) ) ( ±  
slide glass SEM)  
cover glass (BX 50, t-test 5%



**Figure 1.** Differential staining of mouse blastocysts ( $\times 400$ ): (A) propidium iodide (PI), (B) bisbenzimidazole and (C) differentially stained. Note that the intense pink color represents the chromatin in nuclei of lysed trophoblast (TE) cells that had been both red (PI) and blue (bisbenzimidazole). ICM nuclei remain blue, because these cells were not permeabilized.

**Table 2.** Inner cell mass (ICM), trophoblast (TE) and total cell number of mouse blastocysts differentially stained after 2-cell embryos cultured in two different medium

Variables	No. of blastocysts differentially stained	Cell number			%ICM of total cells	ICM : TE ratio
		Total	ICM	TE		
MEM	77	4,829	1,011	3,818	20.9 $\pm$ 1.31	1 : 3.78 $\pm$ 0.78
TCM	78	6,628	1,132	5,496	17.1 $\pm$ 1.19	1 : 4.85 $\pm$ 0.68
p-value	-	-	-	-	0.0281	NS

NS=not significant. Values are mean  $\pm$ SEM.

SigmaPlot-2001 (v7.0)

552 2 337 (MEM=179; TCM=158)가

314 (MEM=166; TCM=148)

2 (n= (Mean: 73.1  $\pm$  3.3; Range: 5~168) MEM (Mean: 61.7  $\pm$  2.5; Range: 8~162) (p=0.0002)

552) TCM (n=276) 72 MEM (n=276) (Table 1).

314 ICM

Table 1 2 TE가 155 (MEM=77; TCM=78) ICM TE

MEM (64.9  $\pm$  5.0%, 179/276) (p=0.0031) %ICM ICM ICM

TCM (57.2  $\pm$  5.2%, 158/276) , ICM : TE ratio ICM 1 TE

. ZiB (31.9  $\pm$  2.6 vs. 27.2  $\pm$  4.4%; p=0.8334, NS) , ICM (13.1 vs. 14.5) TE

ZeB (33.0  $\pm$  4.6 vs. 30.1  $\pm$  4.1%; p=0.3765, NS) (49.6 vs. 70.5) TCM MEM

MEM TCM 가 %ICM MEM (20.9  $\pm$  1.3%) TCM (17.1  $\pm$  1.2%) (p=0.0281) , ICM : TE

. ZiB ZeB early, middle, late, hatching ratio TCM (1 : 4.85  $\pm$  0.68) MEM (1 : 3.78  $\pm$  0.78)

hatched blastocyst MEM 가 (NS) (Table 2).

(5.8, 5.4, 20.7%) TCM (8.7, 6.9, 11.6%)

MEM 2 ICM

Differential staining, Thouas<sup>8</sup>

MEM 2 TCM blastocyst 20% uneven comparison non-specific staining 80% 75.3 ± 3, %ICM (/total cell number) 27.8%, ICM : TE ratio 1 : 2.63

Hamster 2 glucose 가 glycolysis 가 cytosolic metabolism mitochondrial metabolism oxidative phosphorylation 49.4% (155/314), total cell number 61.7 ± 2.5 (MEM) 73.1 ± 3.3 (TCM), %ICM 1 : 3.78 (MEM) 1 : 4.85 (TCM), %ICM ICM : TE ratio

ster<sup>10</sup> hamster 8 energy "Crabtree effect" 8 hybrid F1 expanded/expanding/partially hatched blastocyst

11,12 가 ICR early-hatched ICM TE 가

bolism Krebs cycle catabolism<sup>9,10</sup> glu- Seshagiri<sup>4</sup> hamster 8 %ICM 26.6~ 28.4%, ICM : TE ratio 1 : 2.6~2.7 hatched blastocyst %ICM 36.4%, ICM : TE ratio 1 : 1.9, Iwasaki<sup>7</sup> rabbit oviduct ICM proportion 가

Gardner Lane<sup>13</sup> glucose pyruvate lactate 가 glucose glycolytic activity (glucose 가 lactate )<sup>14</sup> glucose (0.2, 0.6, 1.8, 5.4 mmol/l) 가<sup>4,7,18</sup>

hatching<sup>15</sup> Glutamine glutamine transaminase 2-oxoglutarate ICM metabolic source (Table 1, 2)<sup>16</sup> MEM<sup>17</sup> (Iwasaki<sup>7</sup> : -196 expanded hatched blastocyst ICM damage 가 hatched blastocyst 가

). Richter <sup>3</sup> (IVC-1/IVC-3 P-1/  
 Blastocyst medium) source (Donor  
 Patient) 가 ,  
 ICM (>4,500 ?m<sup>2</sup>, 55%; <4,500  
 ?m<sup>2</sup>, 31%) 가 ( , 7%;  
 가 , 58%; , 33%)  
 (ICM  
 , >4,500 ?m<sup>2</sup> + 가 ) (71%)  
 가 ICM  
 Table 1 337 314  
 23  
 가 , Table 2 155  
 314 TE ICM  
 (MEM: 64.9%  
 vs. TCM: 57.2%) ICM (MEM: 22.3% vs. TCM:  
 18.4%) MEM , (T-  
 CM: 73.1 vs. MEM: 61.7) ICM  
 (TCM: 14.5 vs. MEM: 13.1) TCM (Ta  
 ble 1, 2). , , ICM  
 ICM  
 가 ,  
 MEM TCM  
 (82.3 vs. 86.0%) (63.1 vs.  
 60.0%) 가 , 가  
 BG1  
 MEM (50.8%) TCM (15.0%)  
 ,<sup>17</sup> 5  
 MEM (57.9%) TCM  
 (27.3%) (data not sh-  
 own), ICM  
 MEM

가 , 2 M-  
 EM TE ICM  
 IVF  
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