

Apoptotic Gene

1, 2
 1 . 1 . 1 . 2

Expression of Apoptotic Genes in Mouse Preimplantation Embryo Development

Yu-Il Lee¹, Jin Lee¹, Mi-Young Kim¹, Sang-Young Chun²

¹Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, College of Medicine, ²Hormone Research Center, Chonnam National University, Gwangju, Korea

Objective: The aim of this study was to evaluate the influence of three different media on preimplantation embryo development and the expression of *Bcl-2*, *Mcl-1*, *Bax*, and *Bok* in mouse.

Materials and Methods: Two-cell embryos were retrieved from ICR female mice (4 weeks old) at 48 hr after hCG injection and cultured in Ham's F-10, HTF, and G1.2 media. The developmental rate of 2-cell embryos was evaluated from 24 hr to 72 hr after culture. RT-PCR was performed for the detection of *Bcl-2*, *Mcl-1*, *Bax*, and *Bok* gene expression.

Results: The rates of morula and blastocyst in HTF and G1.2 media (88%, 98.1%) were significantly higher than those in Ham's F-10 media (39.6%) at 48 hr. Likewise, the rates of hatching and hatched blastocyst in HTF and G1.2 media (21.9%, 52.9%) were higher than those in Ham's F-10 media (3.5%) at 72 hr. *Bcl-2* and *Bax* mRNAs were highly detected in embryos cultured in Ham's F-10 when compared in embryos cultured in HTF and G1.2. In contrast, the expression of *Mcl-1* and *Bok* was not significantly different.

Conclusion: These results show that HTF and G1.2 culture media increase the rate of blastocyst formation and stimulate *Bcl-2* and *Bax* gene expression in mouse preimplantation embryos.

Key Words: Blastocyst, Culture medium, Apoptotic gene, Preimplantation embryo

120 96~ 15~50% 30~50%
 가
 1
 (frag- 15%
 mentation), (arrest) (dying) 34
 . Janny Menezo ²

: ,) 501-190 1 8 ,
 Tel: (062) 220-6371, Fax: (062) 227-1637, e-mail: leeyi@chonnam.ac.kr
 * (CUHRI-U-200146)

5-7 가

Gardner 9,10 가

45.5% mRNA genome activation

programmed cell death 11 genome activation

Bcl-2 11 12,13

Bcl-2

1. F-10 Nutrient Mixture Medium (Ham's F-10, Gibco, USA), Human Tubal Fluid (HTF) G1.2 (IVF Science, Sweden) Ham's F-10 1 mM Ca-lactate (Calbiochem, Germany), 20 mM NaHCO₃ (Sigma, USA) 0.075 g anti-biotics (Streptomycin sulfate; Penicillin-G, Sigma, USA) 가 HTF 101 mM NaCl, 4.7 mM KCl, 0.37 mM KH₂PO₄, 0.2 mM MgSO₄ · 7H₂O, 25 mM NaHCO₃, 2 mM CaCl₂ · 2H₂O 21.4 mM Sodium lactate, 0.33 mM Sodium pyruvate, 2.8 mM Glucose, 1 mM Glutamine, 0.1 mM EDTA, 0.025 g Streptomycin sulfate 0.025 g Penicillin-G 가 G1.2 , Dulbecco's phosphate buffered saline (DPBS, Gibco, USA) 0.1 g CaCl₂ (Gibco, USA) 가 37 , 5% CO₂

2. ICR 4~6 8 5 IU pregnant mare's serum gonadotropin (PMSG, Sigma, USA) 48 5 IU human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG, Sigma, USA) . hCG 48

3. 2 DPBS 2 가 Ham's F-10, HTF G1.2 24 2~3 4~8 72 가 37 5% CO₂, 100%

4. Total RNA RT - PCR 2 24 가 72 가

Table 1. Primers designed for amplification of the target mRNA in RT-PCR reaction

Name of the gene product	Forward (F) and reverse (R) primer sequences	RT-PCR product size	Gene Bank accession No.	Reference
<i>Anti-apoptotic</i>				
<i>Bcl-2</i>	F 5'-ACTTTGCAGAGATGTCCAGT-3' R 5'-CGGTTTCAGGTAAGTCAATCAT-3'	217 bp	U34964	(14)
<i>Mcl-1</i>	F 5'-TTAAAAACGAGGACGATGTT-3' R 5'-CCTTCTAGGTCCTGTACGTG-3'	268 bp	AF115380	(15)
<i>Pro-apoptotic</i>				
<i>Bax</i>	F 5'-CGGCGAATTGGAGATGAACTG-3' R 5'-GCAAAGTAGAAGAGGGCAACC-3'	160 bp	L22473	(16)
<i>Bok</i>	F 5'-TCTTCTCAGCAGGTATCACA-3' R 5'-CTGTGCTGACCACACTT-3'	207 bp	AF027954	(17)

Table 2. In vitro development of mouse 2-cell embryos cultured in different media for 24 hr

Media	Total No. of 2-cell embryos	Developmental stage (%)	
		2~3-cell	2~3-cell
Ham's F-10	366	254 (68.2)	112 (31.2)
HTF	760	83 (10.1)*	677 (89.9)*
G1.2	504	65 (15.2)*	439 (84.8)*

* p<0.01, when compared to embryos in Ham's F-10

2 ml eppendorf tube -70 . PCR .

 RNeasy mini kit (Qiagen, USA) PCR cycle 95 , 10 de-

 total RNA . Reverse transcrip- naturation , primer annealing

 DEPC-DW 20 ?l total *Bcl-2* 55 , *Mcl-1* 50 ,

RNA 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, 50 mM KCl, 1 mM *Bax* 61 , *Bok* 50 5 anne-

dNTP, 1 unit RNase inhibitor, 2.5 ?M Random Ha- aling 72 extension

xamers 2.5 unit MuLV reverse transcriptase . PCR product 0.5 ?g/ml ethi-

 60 ?l dium bromide 가 1.8% agarose gel

 . UV . Band density GelDoc

 RT 65 10 RNA denatura- 2000 (Bio-Rad, Italy) .

 tion , 42 60 RNA

 cDNA , 99 5 MuLV

reverse transcriptase .

 . PCR 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.3, 50 5. Primer Pairs

 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM dNTP, 1 unit Taq *Bcl-2*, *Mcl-1*, *Bax*

polymerase (Takara, Japan), 10 pmol 5' 3' primer *Bok* cDNA primer pairs Table 1 .

 RT product 가 Roche PCR machine 6.

 . Pearson's Chi

Table 3. In vitro development of 2~3-cell and 4~8-cell embryos cultured in different media for 48 hr

Media	Morula (%)		Blastocyst (%)	
	2~3-cell	4~8-cell	2~3-cell	4~8-cell
Ham's F-10	5 (2.2)	32 (35.5)	0	4 (4.1)
HTF	10 (11.5)	480 (67.7)*	0	114 (20.3)*
G1.2	11 (9.9)	210 (46.7)*	1 (0.7)	222 (51.4)*

* p<0.01, when compared to embryos in Ham's F-10

Table 4. In vitro development of 2~3-cell and 4~8-cell embryos cultured in different media for 72 hr

Media	Blastocyst (%)		Hatching & Hatched Blast. (%)	
	2~3-cell	4~8-cell	2~3-cell	4~8-cell
Ham's F-10	8 (3.8)	30 (31.5)	0	4 (3.5)
HTF	2 (0.7)	404 (60.4)*	0	135 (21.9)*
G1.2	7 (12.5)	172 (43.5)*	3 (2)	249 (52.9)*

* p<0.01, when compared to embryos in Ham's F-10

square test, p = 0.01. hatching hatched blastocyst Ham's F-10 HTF G1.2 3.5% (4/112) 21.9% (135/677), 52.9% (249/439) Ham's (Table 4).

1. Ham's F-10, HTF G1.2 2 F-10 Bcl-2 ICR 2 Ham's F-10, HTF G1.2 2 24 24 4 72 2~3 4~8 72 가 total RNA Bcl-2 가 . 24 Mcl-1, Bax Bok cDNA primer RT-PCR . Bcl-2 (439/504) , Ham's F-10 31.2% , Table 2 (112/366) 2 Bax (Table 2). 72 hatching hatched blasto Ham's cyst 3.5% Ham's F-10 HTF G1.2 2.5 (Figure 1). Bax 98.1% , 2~3 Bcl-2 Ham's F10 HTF G1.2 2.2%, 11.5% 10.6% 2 . , (Table 3). Bok Ham's F-10, HTF G1.2 72 Mcl-1 Bax Bcl-2

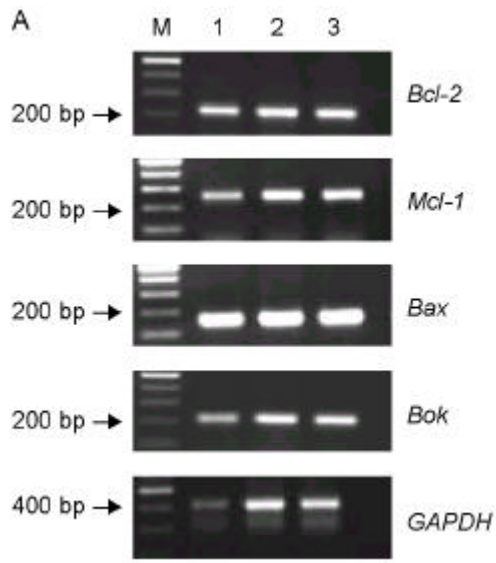
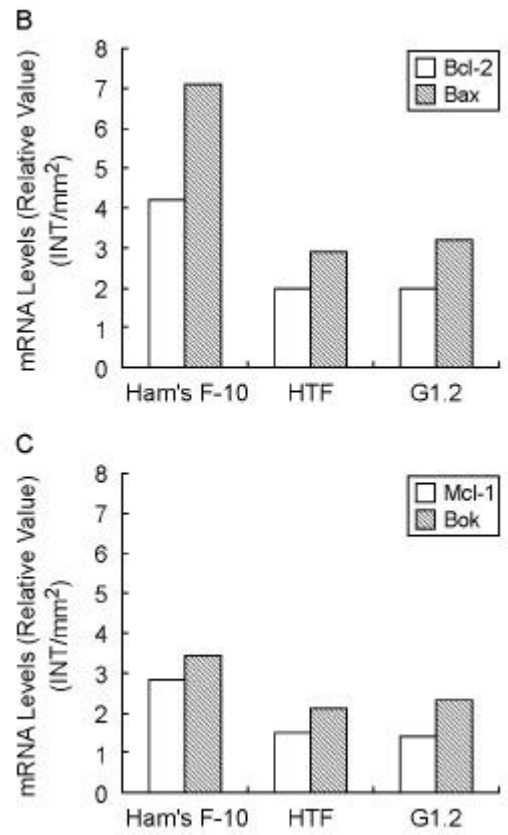


Figure 1. Expression of Bcl-2 family members in mouse preimplantation embryos. (A) Total RNA extracted from 4-cell embryos cultured in Ham's F10 (lane 1), HTF (lane 2), and G1.2 (lane 3) for 72 hr were used for RT-PCR. The expression of GAPDH was used as an internal standard. M, MW marker. Densitometric analysis of relative mRNA levels of *Bcl-2/Bax* (B) and *Mcl-1/Bok* (C). Data represent mean value from two independent experiments.



Ham's F10 HTF G1.2

20

가 Ham's

F-10, HTF G1.2 2

48

G1.2 HTF

97.2%, 88%

18

Ham's F10 (39.6%)

가

72

RNA

Bcl-2, Mcl-1, Bax Bok

, Ham's F-10

HTF

G1.2

Bax

2.5

Bcl-2, Bax

219

50%

가

2~3

15
Bok Mcl-1
Bcl-2

17 24
 4 Ham's F-10,
 72

가 가 가 HTF G1.2
 89 Quinn 8
 HTF
 가 ,
 F-10 *Bcl-2 Bax* Ham's
 2 2.5

21,22 , Gardner 9 2 F-10 HTF G1.2 Ham's
 G1 3 G2 *Bcl-2 Bax* ,
 45.5% 96.4% 72 82.3%
 가 . *Mcl-1 Bok*

Ham's F-10 HTF
 G1.2 2 72
 . 24
 가 HTF G1.2
 Ham's F-10 *Bcl-2 Bax*
 F-10 . Sano 26 가 Ham's
 가 HTF G1.2 *Bcl-2* *EAT/*
 Ham's F-10 *mcl-1* 2
 . 24 8
 (2~3) (4~8) . Kim 27
) 72 가 *Bcl-2*가
 , (4~8) , 가 *Bax*가
 , , 가 *Bcl-2*

23,24 , Fenwick
 23 25 2 ,
 32.2%가
 , 25 2 *Bax Bok*
 16.6%

2가
 . 25
 , *Bcl-2 Bax* RT-PCR
 25
Bcl-2 Mcl-1 , ,

1. Gardner DK, Lane M. Culture and selection of viable blastocysts: a feasible proposition for human IVF? *Hum Reprod Update* 1997; 3: 367-82.
2. Janny L, Menezo YJR. Maternal age effect on early human embryonic development and blastocyst formation. *Mol Reprod Dev* 1996; 45: 31-7.
3. Cohen J, DeMouzon J, Lancaster P. World collaborative report on assisted reproduction: results of 1991 attempts. *J Assist Reprod Genet* 1993; 10 (Supple 6): 2 (Abstr).
4. Stein A, Pinkas H, Rufas O, Ovadia J, Amit S, Bisch B, et al. Assisted hatching by parial zona dissection of human pre-embryos in patients with recurrent implantation failure after in vitro fertilization. *Fertil Steril* 1995; 63: 838-41.
5. Min BK, Kim KS, Lee HS, Hong KY, Kim HG, Shin MC, et al. The effect of platelet activating factor on development of embryonic cells at co-culture in vitro with human salpingeal cell in mouse. *Kor J Fertil Steril* 1996; 23: 1-6.
6. Cheon YP, Gye MC, Kim CH, Kim MK. Effects of indomethacin on development and hatching of mouse embryo. *Kor J Fertil Steril* 1997; 24: 35-42.
7. Ham RG. An improved nutrient solution for diploid chinese hamster and human cell lines. *Exp Cell Res* 1963; 29: 515-26.
8. Quinn P, Kerin JF, Warnes GM. Improved pregnancy rate in human in vitro fertilization with the use of a medium based on the composition of human tubal fluid. *Fertil Steril* 1985; 44: 493-8.
9. Gardner DK, Vella P, Lane M, Wagley L, Schlenker T, Schoolcraft WB. Culture and transfer of human blastocysts increases implantation rates and reduces the need for multiple embryo transfers. *Fertil Steril* 1998; 69: 84-8.
10. Fong CY, Bongso A, Ng SC, Anandakurmar C, Trounson A, Ratnam S. Ongoing normal pregnancy after transfer of zona-free blastocysts: implications for embryo transfer in the human. *Hum Reprod* 1997; 12: 557-60.
11. Jurisicova A, Latham KE, Casper RF, Varmuza SL. Expression and regulation of genes associated with cell death during murine preimplantation embryo development. *Mol Reprod Develop* 1998; 51: 243-53.
12. Adams JM, Cory S. The *Bcl-2* protein family: Arbiters of cell survival. *Science* 1998; 281: 1322-6.
13. Chao DT, Korsmeyer SJ. *Bcl-2* family: Regulators of cell death. *Annu Rev Immunol* 1998; 16: 395-419.
14. Tilly JL, Tilly KI, Kenton ML, Johnson AL. Expression of members of the *Bcl-2* gene family in the immature rat ovary: equine chorionic gonadotropin-mediated inhibition of granulosa cell apoptosis is associated with decreased *bax* and constitutive *Bcl-2* and *Bcl-xlong* messenger ribonucleic acid levels. *Endocrinology* 1995; 136: 232-41.
15. Leo CP, Hsu SY, Chun SY, Bae HW, Hsueh AJW. Characterization of the antiapoptotic *Bcl-2* family member myeloid cell leukemia-1 (*Mcl-1*) and the stimulation of its message by gonadotropins in the rat ovary. *Endocrinology* 1999; 140: 5469-77.
16. Oltvai ZN, Milliman CL, Korsmeyer SJ. *Bcl-2* heterodimerizes in vivo with a conserved homolog, *Bax*, that accelerates programmed cell death. *Cell* 1993; 74: 609-19.
17. Hsu SY, Kaipia A, McGee E, Lomeli M, Hsueh AJW. *Bok* is a pro-apoptotic *Bcl-2* protein with restricted expression in reproductive tissues and heterodimerizes with selective anti-apoptotic *Bcl-2* family members. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 1997; 94: 12401-6.
18. Andres S, Christel HG, Maria SA, Aila T, Timo T. The predictive value of pronuclear morphology of zygotes in the annessment of human embryo quality. *Hum Reprod* 2001; 16: 2177-81.
19. Levy R, Benchaib M, Cordonier H, Souchier C, Guerin JF. Annexin V labelling and terminal transferase-mediated DNA and labelling (TUNEL) assay

- in human arrested embryos. *Mol Hum Reprod* 1998; 4: 775-83.
20. Reed JC. *Bcl-2* and the regulation of programmed cell death. *J Cell Biol* 1994; 124: 1-6.
21. Scholtes MC, Zeilmaker GH. A prospective, randomized study of embryo transfer result after 3 or 5 days of embryo culture in in vitro fertilization. *Fertil Steril* 1996; 65: 1245-8.
22. Jones GM, Trounson AO, Gardner DK, Kausche A, Lolatgis N, Wood C. Evolution of a culture protocol for successful blastocyst development and pregnancy. *Hum Reprod* 1998; 13: 169-77.
23. Fenwick J, Platteau P, Murdoch AP, Herbert M. Time from insemination to first cleavage predicts developmental Competence of human preimplantation embryos in vitro. *Hum Reprod* 2002; 17: 407-12.
24. Lundin K, Bergh C, Hardarson T. Early embryo cleavage is a strong indicator of embryo quality in human IVF. *Hum Reprod* 2001; 16: 2652-7.
25. Warner CM, Cao W, Exley GE, McElhinny AS, Alikani M, Cohen J, et al. Genetic regulation of egg and embryo survival. *Hum Reprod* 1998; 13: 178-90.
26. Sano M, Umezawa A, Suzuki A, Shimoda K, Fukuma M, Hata J. Involvement of *EAT/mcl-1*, an anti-apoptotic *Bcl-2*-related gene, in murine embryogenesis and human development. *Exp Cell Res* 2000; 259: 127-39.
27. Kim JS, Kim MS, Yang HW, Yu CH, Yoon YD, Bae IH, et al. The study on apoptosis and expression of *Fas*, *Fas-ligand*, *Bax* and *Bcl-2* in human fragmented embryos. *Kor J Fertil Steril* 2002; 29: 167-78.
-