

and pepsin secretions were measured by titration and the Anson method, respectively. Stages of the measurements were basal (first and second), stimulated and returned-basal.

Results: Basal acid and pepsin secretions in the paraoxon group (14.61 ± 1.46 and $2.97 \pm 0.32 \mu\text{g}/15 \text{ min}$, respectively) were more than those in the control group (7.88 ± 0.26 and $0.55 \pm 0.06 \mu\text{mol}/15 \text{ min}$). Although pentagastrin-stimulated acid secretion in all the three groups was more than basal acid secretion, there were no differences between the groups. Stimulated pepsin secretion in the paraoxon group was significantly more than that in the control group.

Conclusion: Paraoxon, in chronic exposure, increases gastric acid and pepsin secretion.

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Effects of cysteamine on in vitro maturation of mouse oocytes (IVM) in two media

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Low rate of in vitro maturation of oocytes is one of the challenges of assisted reproductive techniques. A sub-optimal environment for maturation in vitro is one of the many factors that could account for the low IVM rates. In this study, we investigated effects of supplementation of different dose of cysteamine on in vitro maturation of oocytes in two different media. Germinal vesicle oocytes were collected from immature mouse ovary. Germinal vesicle oocytes were cultured in two media (TCM199 and MEME) with 0, 50, 100, 200, 500 $\mu\text{M}/\text{ml}$ cysteamine. Number of germinal vesicle breakdown (GVBD) and metaphase II (MII) oocytes were recorded 4 and 12 h after culture, respectively. The results showed that, rate of IVM in 100 μM cysteamine was high significantly compared to control groups in two media ($p < 0.05$). Comparison of two media showed that TCM199 improved rate of IVM and oocyte maturation better than MEME, however, this difference was not significant. These findings indicated that presence

of cysteamine in culture medium can affect the rate of maturation of oocytes.

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Experimental osteolathyrisms in rats

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Presently, lathyrisms, still an important public health subject in some countries, particularly in Africa and Asia. The objectives of this study is to evaluate morphogenic changes in bone and cartilages related to this disease.

Thirty animals were use randomly distributed by three groups of 10 animals each. Group I was submitted to no manipulation. Groups II and III were submitted to the administration of semicarbazide hydrochloride for 4 weeks. The toxic was incorporated in the diet, in the dose of 3 g/kg, for group II and in dose of 6 g/kg for group III. All the animals were sacrificed on the 30th day, by an overdose of anesthetics and necropsy was performed. Each tissue sample was embedded separately in paraffin block. After embeddin, cross-sections were taken from each block and stained with hematoxylin–eosin, Masson trichomic and red Syrius. The slides were examined by light microscope and the histopathologic study of bones and cartilages was performed.

In tissues sections obtained from groups II and III were observed morphological alterations in the growth plate cartilage.

The morphologic alterations observed suggest that semicarbazide hydrochloride have marked influences on cartilages, that is expressed by morphological alterations in growth plate cartilages.

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Predictive profiling of chemical compounds using human in vitro model systems and Omics technologies

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Our main objective is to build a quality-controlled database of toxic reference compounds using currently