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A fast and reliable protocol for activation of porcine oocytes

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Revised

1 **A fast and reliable protocol for activation of porcine oocytes**

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15 **Short title:** Porcine oocyte activation with ionomycin and TPEN

16

17 **Abstract**

18 Oocyte activation is physiologically triggered by the sperm during fertilization, however,
19 production of porcine embryos by somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT), intracytoplasmic sperm
20 injection (ICSI) or parthenogenetic activation (PA) requires artificial oocyte activation. Although
21 effective protocols for artificial oocyte activation have been developed, current protocols require
22 long exposures to non-specific inhibitors, which do not mimic the physiological process and may
23 have detrimental consequences for embryo development. This study attempted to mimic the

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