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Effect of luteinizing hormone on goat theca cell apoptosis and steroidogenesis through activation of the PI3K/AKT pathway

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ABSTRACT

Luteinizing hormone (LH) is a glycoprotein that regulates the function of ovarian follicular cells. Theca cells (TCs) also have a key role in follicular growth and atresia. The effects and intracellular signaling mechanisms were investigated of LH on apoptosis and steroidogenesis in goat gonadotropin-independent follicular (1.0-4.0 mm) TCs. The results indicated that LH increased androstenedione secretion and relative abundance of *CYP17A1*

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