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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Influence of dioxin (TCDD) on the in vitro characteristics of equine gametes

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to assess the effect of different concentrations of TCDD on selected parameters of equine gametes under controlled *in vitro* conditions. Assessments covered maturation of oocytes as well as sperm cell function and structure.

In the first part of experiment the influence of different concentration of TCDD: 0.32ng, 3.2ng, 32ng/ml on in vitro maturation of equine oocytes was evaluated. During in vitro maturation, 28,38% of the oocytes reached the metaphase II stage with the lowest concentration of TCDD (0.32 ng/ml) and only 5,14% at a concentration 3.2 ng/ml. In group, with the highest concentration of TCDD in the medium (32 ng), metaphase II oocytes were not observed. In the second part of experiment was evaluated the influence of TCDD (0.32ng, 3.2ng, 32ng/ml) on sperm parameters: motility, plasma membrane integrity, acrosome integrity, Mitochondrial activity, lipid peroxidation, apoptosis and chromatin status. The present study demonstrates that moderate concentrations of TCDD may activate population of motile sperm cells under in vitro conditions with no influence on sperm cell structure nor LPO. Moreover, the modulation of motility function of sperm was confirmed by detection of the evident increase of cell number with high mitochondrial potential. Dioxins exert negative impact on both female and male reproductive systems. Thus, an overall analysis of both systems will advance scientific knowledge on the impact of toxic agents on the reproductive system.

Keywords: equine, oocytes, IVM, TCDD, dioxin, spermatozoa,

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