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Title page

Decreased H3K9ac level of StAR mediated testicular dysplasia induced by prenatal dexamethasone exposure in male offspring rats

Min Liu[a,#], Biao Chen[b,c,#], Linguo Pei[a], Qi Zhang[a], Yunfei Zou[a,d], Hao Xiao[b,c], Jin Zhou[a], Liaobin Chen[b,c,*] and Hui Wang[a,b,c,*]

[a] *Department of Pharmacology, Basic Medical School of Wuhan University, Wuhan 430071, China;*
[b] *Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University, Wuhan 430071, China;*
[c] *Hubei Provincial Key Laboratory of Developmentally Originated Disease, Wuhan 430071, China;*
[d] *School of public health, Wannan Medical College, Wuhu 241002, Anhui, China.*

[#]*Min Liu and Biao Chen contributed equally to this study.*

***Corresponding authors:**
Corresponding author: Hui Wang, Department of Pharmacology, Basic Medical School of Wuhan University, Wuhan 430071, China. Telephone: +86-13627232557; E-mail: wanghui19@whu.edu.cn; Liaobin Chen, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University, Wuhan 430071, China. Telephone: +86-13618610516; E-mail: lbchen@whu.edu.cn.

Abstract

Prenatal dexamethasone exposure (PDE) could induce testicular developmental toxicity in adults. The present study aims to confirm its intrauterine origination, and to explore its potential intrauterine programming mechanism. The pregnant rats were respectively injected subcutaneously with 0.2 and 0.8 mg/kg·d dexamethasone during gestational days (GD) 9 to 20. The testes and serum of offspring rats were collected on GD20 and postnatal week (PW) 12. *In vivo,* PDE significantly induced the abnormal testicular morphology in offspring from GD20 to PW12. Moreover, the serum and intratesticular testosterone levels and the