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Title page

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

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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

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