

# The Co-Evaluation of Endometrial Karyorrhesis and Uterus Congestion after Erythropoietin Effect on Uterine Ischemia Reperfusion Injury

Tsompos C<sup>1\*</sup>, Panoulis C<sup>2</sup>, Toutouzas K<sup>3</sup>, Triantafyllou A<sup>4</sup>, Zografos CG<sup>3</sup> and Papalois A<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Gynecology, General Hospital of Thessaloniki "St. Dimitrios" Thessaloniki, Greece

<sup>2</sup>Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Aretaieion Hospital, Athens University, Athens, Attiki, Greece

<sup>3</sup>Department of Surgery, Ippokrateion General Hospital, Athens University, Athens, Attiki, Greece

<sup>4</sup>Department of Biologic Chemistry, Athens University, Athens, Attiki, Greece

<sup>5</sup>Experimental Research Centre ELPEN Pharmaceuticals, SA Inc., Co., Pikermi, Attiki, Greece

\*Corresponding author: Tsompos Constantinos, Consultant A, Department of Gynecology, General Hospital of Thessaloniki "St. Dimitrios" Thessaloniki, Greece, Tel: 00302313322100; E-mail: [tsomposconstantinos@gmail.com](mailto:tsomposconstantinos@gmail.com)

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## Abstract

**Aim:** This study co-evaluated the 2 quoted histologic variables after erythropoietin (Epo) administration. The calculation was based on the results of 2 preliminary studies, each one evaluating a respective histologic variable of endometrial karyorrhesis (EK) or uterus congestion (UC) in an induced ischemia reperfusion (IR) animal experiment.

**Materials and methods:** The 2 main experimental endpoints at which the EK and UC scores were evaluated the reperfusion 60<sup>th</sup> min (for A & C groups) and the reperfusion 120<sup>th</sup> min (for B & D groups). Specially, the groups A and B were processed without drugs, whereas the groups C and D after Epo administration.

**Results:** The first preliminary study showed that Epo non-significantly reduced the EK scores by without lesions  $0.2727273 \pm 0.17222171$  (p-value=0.1102). The other preliminary study showed that Epo also non-significantly reduced the UC scores by without lesions  $0.0090909 \pm 0.12689199$  (p-value=0.9414). Both studies were co-estimated since they belong to the same experimental setting. This study co-evaluated the combined diagnostic values of both variables together.

**Conclusions:** Epo has a non-significant recessing potency for these histological parameters at the "without lesions" grade  $0.1409091 \pm 0.12249148$  (p-values=0.2421) since they were co-evaluated together.

**Keywords:** Ischemia; Erythropoietin; Endometrial karyorrhesis; Uterus congestion; Reperfusion

## Introduction

Erythropoietin (Epo) was investigated whether having antioxidant capacities. 2 histologic variables in a uterine ischemia reperfusion (UIR) experiment were tested for this purpose. The one variable was that of endometrial karyorrhesis (EK) which was recessed by without lesions  $0.2727273 \pm 0.17222171$  (p-value=0.1102) [1]. The other variable was that of uterus congestion (UC) and was restored by without lesions  $0.0090909 \pm 0.12689199$  (p-value=0.9414) [2]. Although Epo is met in over 29,895 published biomedical studies, only a 3.51% of them negotiate its antioxidant capacities. The present experimental work tried to co-evaluate these EK and UC variables together and to compare its outcome with each one separately, from the same rat induced UIR protocol.

## Materials and Methods

### Animal Management

The Vet No 3693/12-November-2010 & 14/10-Januaru-2012 licenses, the auspices company, the experimental location and the Pathology Department are mentioned in preliminary references [1,2]. The human animal care of female *Wistar Albino* rats, the one week pre-experimental *ad libitum* diet, the intra-experimental anesthesiologic techniques, the acidometry, the electrocardiogram and the oxygen supply and post-experimental euthanasia are also described in preliminary references. General anaesthesia was induced by initial IM administration of 0.5 cc compound, constituted by 0.25 cc xylazine, [25 cc, 20mg/cc] and 0.25 cc ketamine hydrochloride [1000, 100mg/cc, 10cc]. 0.03 cc butorphanol [10mg/cc, 10cc] anaesthesia was followed S.C. before laparotomy. Rats were 16-18 weeks old. They were randomly assigned to four (4) groups consisted in N=10. The common stage of 45 min ischemia was preceded in all 4 groups. Afterwards, 60 min reperfusion was followed in group A; 120 min in group B; immediate Epo

intravenous (IV) administration and 60 min reperfusion in group C; and immediate Epo IV administration 120 min in group D. The dose height was assessed at pre-experimental phase as 10 mg/Kg body mass. Ischemia was induced by laparotomic clamping the inferior aorta upper the renal arteries level with forceps for 45 min. The forceps removal was restoring the inferior aorta blood patency and reperfusion. Epo was administered at the time of reperfusion; through an inferior vena cava catheter. Finally, the sedated rats were administered by diazepam SQ injection with an insulin syringe in the flank area which was rarely felt. Once the rats were sedated, an intraperitoneal injection (IP; in the abdomen) of the correct dose of sodium pentobarbital was administered, also with insulin syringe in the lower right side of the abdomen. The EK and UC scores were determined at 60<sup>th</sup> min of reperfusion (for A and C groups) and at 120<sup>th</sup> min of reperfusion (for B and D groups). The pathologic score grading was maintained the same as in preliminary studies: (0-0.499) grade without lesions, (0.5-1.499) grade mild lesions, (1.5-2.499) grade moderate lesions and (2.5-3) grade serious lesions damage. Relation was raised between animals' mass with neither EK scores (p-value=0.0692) nor with UC ones (p-values=0.5769).

### The ischemia-reperfusion injury model

#### Placebo groups

The 20 placebo rats were the same for preliminaries and this study.

#### Group A

60 min reperfusion concerned 10 placebo rats of combined EK and predicted UC (EK&UC) score as the mean of EK score and UC one (Table 1).

#### Group B

120 min reperfusion concerned 10 placebo rats of combined EK&UC (cEK&UC) score as the mean of EK and predicted UC one (Table 1).

#### Epo group

The 20 L rats were the same for preliminaries and this study.

#### Group C

60 min reperfusion concerned 10 Epo rats of cEK&UC score as the mean of EK score and predicted UC one (Table 1).

#### Group D

120 min reperfusion concerned 10 Epo rats of cEK&UC score as the mean of EK score and predicted UC one (Table 1).

### Statistical Analysis

Successive comparisons among the 4 cEK&UC groups were performed applying Wilcoxon signed-rank test (Table 2). Then, the generalized linear models (glm) were applied with dependant variable the cEE&UI scores Independent variables were used the Epo administration or no, the reperfusion time and their interaction.

## Results

Epo administration non-significantly recessed the cEK&UC scores by without lesions 0.275 [-0.6702756- 0.01202756] (p=0.1595 and 0.1671) by Wilcoxon signed-rank test and glm methods respectively. Reperfusion time also non-significantly recessed the cEK&UC scores by between without lesions 0.125 [-0.3168828 - 0.5668828] (p=0.4046) and without lesions 0.025 [-0.430378 - 0.380378] (p=0.9013) by Wilcoxon signed-rank test and glm methods respectively. However, erythropoietin administration and reperfusion time together also non-significantly recessed the cEE&UI scores by without lesions 0.1409091 [-0.3809924-0.0991742] (p=0.2421). A concise form of the above findings is depicted at table 3 and 4.

**Table 1:** Endometrial karyorrhesis (EK), Uterus congestion (UC) and their mean and SD scores.

	Mean EK score +SD	Mean UC score +SD	Mean EK&UC score +SD
<b>Group A</b>	mild lesions 1 ± 0.942809	mild lesions 1.4 ± 0.5163978	mild lesions 1.2 ± 0.4830459
<b>Group B</b>	mild lesions 1.1 ± 0.875595	mild lesions 1.1 ± 0.3162278	mild lesions 1.1 ± 0.4594683
<b>Group C</b>	mild lesions 0.8 ± 0.7888106	mild lesions 0.9 ± 0.5676462	mild lesions 0.85 ± 0.6258328
<b>Group D</b>	mild lesions 0.5 ± 0.9718253	mild lesions 1.3 ± 0.9486833	mild lesions 0.9 ± 0.875595

**Table 2:** The values difference for groups (DG) after Wilcoxon signed-rank test for mean EK & UC scores.

DG	Difference	p-value
A-B	-0.1	0.5632
A-C	-0.35	0.3004
A-D	-0.3	0.3213
B-C	-0.25	0.3941
B-D	-0.2	0.3458
C-D	+0.05	0.9180

**Table 3:** The alteration influence of erythropoietin in connection with reperfusion time-p-values.

Alteration	95% c. in.	Reperfusion time	wilcoxon	glm
without lesions -0.35	-1.004116-0.304116	1h	0.3004	
without lesions 0.1	-0.3429133-0.5429133	1h		0.6410
without lesions -0.275	-0.6702756-.01202756	1.5h	0.1595	0.1671
without lesions -0.2	-0.6828291-0.2828291	2h	0.3458	
without lesions -0.05	-0.765034-0.665034	2h		0.8848
without lesions -0.025	-0.430378-0.380378	reperfusion		0.9013
without lesions -0.125	-0.3168828-0.5668828	reperfusion	0.4046	
without lesions -0.1409091	-0.3809924-0.0991742	interaction		0.2421

**Table 4:** Concise form of the table 3.

Increase	95% c. in.	Reperfusion time	p-value
without lesions -0.125	-.67351465-0.42351465	1h	0.4707
without lesions -0.275	-.6702756-0.1202756	1.5h	0.1633
without lesions -0.125	-.72393155-.47393155	2h	0.6153
without lesions -0.075	-.3736304- 0.4736304	reperfusion	0.6529
without lesions -0.1409091	-0.3809924-0.0991742	interaction	0.2421

**Table 5:** The erythropoietin (Epo) influence ( $\pm$ SD) on the levels of 34 seric variables of complete blood count and blood chemistry tests versus reperfusion (rep) time.

34 Variables	1h rep	p-value	1.5h rep	p-value	2h rep	p-value	interaction of Epo and rep	p-value
Mean	+3.52% $\pm$ 12.31%	0.5694	+4.60% $\pm$ 14.69%	0.3743	+5.69% $\pm$ 18.79%	0.3463	+2.93% $\pm$ 7.21%	0.4114

## Discussion

Thaete LG, et al. [3] used Pep-1 (inhibits low-molecular-weight hyaluronan (LMW-HA) due to binding to toll-like receptor 4 [TLR4]). TLR4 has a regulatory role for two anti-inflammatory cytokines: the interferon-B1 decreased in wild-type mice and the interleukin-10 increased in TLR4-deficient mice ( $P < 0.001$ ), in response to UIR. Pep-1 completely inhibited the UIR induced fetal growth restriction (FGR) ( $P < 0.001$ ), ascribing possible roles for the endogenous TLR4 ligand LMW-HA in UIR induced FGR. FGR is up to both TLR4 and endogenous ligand(s), including the breakdown products of HA. In addition, TLR4 plays a role in staving pregnancy loss after UIR. Reiter RJ, et al. [4] described placenta, in particular, often as a site of excessive free radical production due to suboptimal adhesion to the uterine wall, which leads to either persistent or intermittent hypoxia or re-oxygenation. Both of these processes cause massive free radical production and organ dysfunction. These may induce pre-eclampsia and other disorders associating the pregnancy. Melatonin has prevented the above in non-human mammals. The optimal maternal circadian rhythmicity via the melatonin rhythm, oscillates the developing one of the fetus. However, disturbed maternal circadian rhythms, known as chronodisruption, and disturbed melatonin cycles have ominous consequences for the maturing fetal oscillators, which may lead to neonatal psychological and behavioral problems. Melatonin, of any origin, promotes fetal maturation and placenta/uterine homeostasis. The peripheral reproductive organs circadian clock genes have important roles in reproductive and organismal (fetal and maternal) physiology. Indoleamine may be beneficial for the treatment of pre-eclampsia, intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR), placental and fetal IR. This benefit is due to the possible antioxidant actions of melatonin along with its virtual absence of toxicity. The nocturnal propensity for parturition may relate with the interaction of nocturnal increase in melatonin with oxytocin. Sahin S, et al. [5] indicated that immunosuppressant tacrolimus reduces oxidative damage in rat UIR. Histologic evaluation revealed that tacrolimus attenuates the inflammatory response and protects the tissue damage

induced by UIR in rats. Alawadhi F, et al. [6] improved fertility after bone marrow derived stem cells (BMDSC) transplant in Asherman's Syndrome mice, demonstrating a potential novel prevention and treatment for murine Asherman's Syndrome after uterine injury. Trifonova EA, et al. [7] studied a cluster of 63 differentially expressed genes (DEG) up-regulated in preeclampsia patients including not only the known candidate genes identified in many other genome-wide studies (e.g. BHLHB2, LEP, SIGLEC6, BCL6, RDH13), but also new ones (SYDE1, ANKRD37, ITGB2, CYBA, etc.), considered as new biological markers of preeclampsia with increasing interest. So, the development of preeclampsia may be related with immune processes, a stress response, the intracellular signaling cascades, the regulation of cell-cell interactions, etc. Iran-Nejad A, et al. [8] found the uterus weight augmented by estradiol ( $P < 0.05$ ) after renal IR injury in female rats. Drobyshevsky A, et al. [9] showed a significant 3.72-fold hypoperfusion of the maternal placenta in reperfusion phase in the saline than the antioxidant group dynamic contrast enhanced (DCE) MRI, relative to pre-occlusion values correspondingly. 31% systematic hypoperfusion of placenta by steepest slope DCE MRI is significant on fetal antenatal ischemia in a rabbit model. Vafapour M, et al. [10] found uterus weight decreased significantly in female rats treated with GABA. Atalay YO, et al. [11] found remifentanyl to protect the UIR and thus safe in uterus transplantation in exposed rats. Talebi N, et al. [12] found the uterus weight increased significantly after estradiol administration ( $P < 0.05$ ) in ovariectomized rats. Tang Y, et al. [13] indicated that the soy isoflavone (SI) phytoestrogen, similar chemically with endogenous estrogen-estradiol; protects myocardial IR injury in ovariectomized rats increasing PI3K/Akt/eNOS signal pathway and decreasing the oxidative stress. Ingles J, et al. [14] defined the preconditioning as "the preparation for a subsequent action." The unfolded protein response (UPR) is a cellular stress response controlled at the level of the endoplasmic reticulum. However, in the context of remote preconditioning, activation of these intracellular molecular pathways must result in the extracellular transmission of adaptive signals to remote targets. The activation of the UPR in the pregnant uterine myocyte may be associated with increased uterine myocyte quiescence and

normal gestational length. A gestational stress-induced uterine paracrine secretome—for example, glucose-regulated protein 78, with preconditioning-like properties - acts to promote both local and systemic tolerance to the ensuing gestational insults, allowing for the maintenance of uterine quiescence. In this context, preterm labor may be the result of a pregnant uterus experiencing a stress it cannot accommodate or when it is unable to host an appropriate UPR resulting in insufficient preconditioning and a diminished local and systemic capacity to tolerate pregnancy-dependent increases in normal gestational stress; in order to prolong uterine quiescence in pregnancy. Tricard J, et al. [15] revealed a moderate inflammation of the endometrium and serosa at 90 min following reperfusion in the 3-h group and severe inflammation in the 24-h group. These first macroscopic and histological results suggest that the uterus is an organ with a good tolerance to extended cold ischemic storage before transplantation in ewes. Aslan M, et al. [16] found antioxidant effects on the uterus and specially a cellular damage of uterus reduce in oxytocin and kisspeptin administered IR group than only kisspeptin one. A numeric evaluation [17] of the Epo efficacies was provided by a meta-analysis of 34 seric variables of complete blood count and blood chemistry tests versus reperfusion time coming from the same experimental setting (Table 5).

## Conclusion

Epo has a non significant recessing potency for endometrial karyorrhesis and uterus congestion together (p-values=0.2421) creating a suspicion for beneficial usage in situations such as fetal growth restriction, pregnancy loss, pre-eclampsia, IUGR, placental and fetal IR, fertility, Asherman's syndrome, uterus transplantation, preterm labor, endometritis.

## Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

## Acknowledgement

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