

= Abstract =

Expression of Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor in an Animal Model of Avascular Necrosis of the Femoral Head

Ick Hwan Yang, Sung Hun Kim, Sun Young Kong, Sun Young Joo,
Kyu Hyun Yang, Soo Bong Hahn, Hui Wan Park, Hyun Woo Kim

Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Severance Hospital Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

Purpose: To evaluate the pathologic changes, apoptosis of chondrocytes, and expression pattern of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) in the growth plate of Spontaneously Hypertensive Rats (SHR).

Materials and Methods: Sixty SHRs and thirty Wister Kyoto rats(control, WKYs) were sacrificed at the age of 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 weeks. SHRs were divided into the groups of [SHR-n] and [SHR+n] according to the evidence of ischemic necrosis of the femoral head. TUNEL assay was done for the investigation of apoptotic changes in the growth plate. VEGF immunohistochemistry was performed to identify the expression of VEGF in the growth plate, epiphysis, and articular cartilage.

Results: Apoptosis of growth plate in the groups of SHR was more evident than that of WKY group. VEGF expression in the articular cartilage, epiphysis and growth plate was decreased in the course of normal ossification. VEGF expression in the epiphysis and growth plate was decreased in the groups of SHR, especially in the group of [SHR+n]. Normal expression was found in the articular cartilage of all three groups.

Conclusion: VEGF was expressed in the growth-dependent manner, and is an essential factor for the longitudinal growth of growth plate and normal ossification.

Key Words: VEGF, Apoptosis, Growth plate, Spontaneously Hypertensive Rats

:

134

TEL: 02) 361-5640 FAX: 02) 361-1139 E-mail: pedhkim@yumc.yonsei.ac.kr

* 2003 .

— 115 —

(secondary ossification center)
 (growth plate)
 (vascular endothelial growth factor, VEGF)

Legg-Calve-Perthes (ossification center) 가 .
2-4,26,28,30)

(containment) 1.
 가 6, 9, 12, 15, 18
 12 60
 trochanter) 가 (greater WKY 6 30
 가 40% Ether
18,20,30) Legg-Calve-Perthes Smith-Peterson
 가 가
 4% paraformaldehyde 2
 Legg-Calve- Perthes 10% ethylenediaminetetracetic acid(EDTA)
 가 가 (ligamentum
2,3,15,18,32,34) teres) (coronal
 (Spontaneously plane) 4 μm silane coat-
 Hypertensive Rats, SHR) ing slide (MUTO PURE CHEMICALS
 Wister kyoto rats(WKY) CO., LTD, Japan)
 , hematoxylin eosin
 가 SHR
 가 가
 Legg-
 Calve-Perthes [SHR+n] ,
13,14,16,24,27) [SHR-n]
 (endochondral ossification)
 (angiogenesis)
9,25) 2.
 가 가 1) (biotin nick
 가 가 end labeling TUNEL assay)
8,10,19,21) Tris-HCl (pH 8.0)
 10 20 proteinase
 K(SIGMA, St. Louis, MO, USA)
 , PBS 3% H₂O₂
 (articular cartilage), peroxidase PBS

DNA buffer 10 70, 90, 100% Ethanol (dehydration) xylene histomounting solution
 DNase (F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Basel, Switzerland) 20 VEGF (mounting)
 DNA . Transferase-mediated deoxyuridin triphosphated (TdT, SIGMA, St. Louis, MO, USA) buffer 150 μm × 250 μm
 terminaldeoxytransferase
 Biotin-16-2'-deoxy-uridine-5-triphosphate(dUTP, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Basel, Switzerland) 37 2 30 WKY , SHR-n
 dUTP . SHR+n
 terminaldeoxytransferase
 TB buffer 10 가 , ,
 2% Bovine serum albumin(BSA, SIGMA, St. Louis, MO, USA) 15 ,
 blocking PBS streptavidin-peroxidase(SIGMA, St. Louis, MO, USA) two-way ANOVA , P=0.01
 30 DAB .
 nuclear fast red
 70, 90, 100%
 . TUNEL assay 150 μm × 250 1. μm
 2) 12 20%
 (VEGF Immunohistochemistry) 가 (Table 1, Fig. 1, 2).
 (VEGF DAKO) 6 SHR-n 가
 . 60 oven , 18
 1 paraffin xylene WKY 23.7%, SHR-n
 10 3 (hydration) 34.7%, SHR+n 42.9% 가
 100, 90, 70% Ethanol WKY 2
 (rinse) . 3% H2O2 . WKY
 Peroxidase 6
 PBS rinse 5:1 Goat serum 15.4%, 18 23.7% 20%
 (VEGF . SHR+n 6
 primary Antibody) . PBS 19% 18 47% 가
 Avidin-Biotin DAB . 6 WKY
 hematoxylin 9.9% SHR-n

30.7%, SHR+n 36.1% SHR
 WKY
 SHR-n 26% 가
 14 18%

가
 (columnar pattern)
 (lower hypertrophic zone)
 (mineralized zone)
 (resting zone)
 (proliferative zone)
 가
 (zone)
 (Fig. 3, 4). 가 SHR-n
 (columnar pat-

2.

1) (Growth Plate)
 WKY

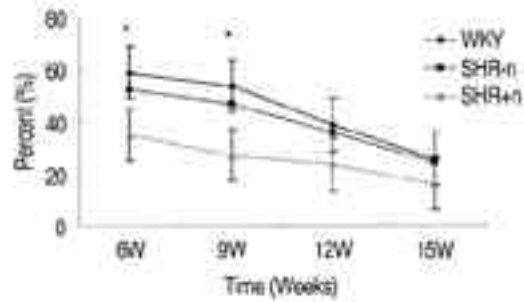
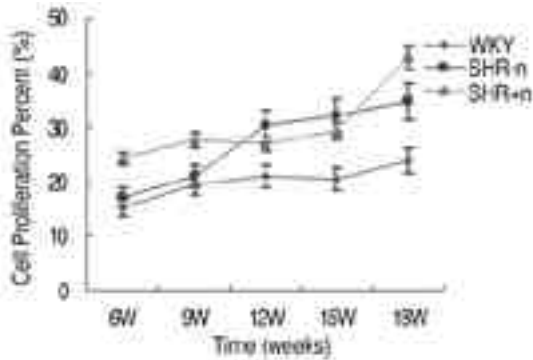


Fig. 1. Percentage of Apoptotic cells in the Growth Plate with Aging. (*p<0.001)

Fig. 3. Percentage of VEGF Expression in the Growth Plate with Aging. (*p<0.001)

Table 1. Percentage of Apoptotic cells in the Growth Plate with Aging (Scale: %, *p<0.001)

		total length	resting zone	proliferation zone	hypertrophic zone
6weeks	WKY	15.37 ± 3.85	9.92 ± 5.90	17.37 ± 4.78	14.3 ± 4.61
	SHR-n	17.18 ± 6.32	13.72 ± 9.08	16.02 ± 6.40	18.23 ± 5.94
	SHR+n	24.24 ± 7.53	16.1 ± 14.69*	20.97 ± 9.10	28.27 ± 8.94
9weeks	WKY	19.44 ± 4.83	28.49 ± 4.96	5.81 ± 2.43	24.1 ± 7.3
	SHR-n	20.89 ± 6.07	26.09 ± 7.11	22.08 ± 9.97	16.48 ± 3.72
	SHR+n	26.66 ± 6.2	44.34 ± 11.74	22.32 ± 8.69*	28.15 ± 9.26
12weeks	WKY	20.92 ± 5.17	23.92 ± 12.04	24.61 ± 5.49	19.08 ± 8.68
	SHR-n	30.26 ± 5.97	33.15 ± 12.06	25.39 ± 5.21	33.71 ± 5.84
	SHR+n	21.01 ± 6.57	47.72 ± 10.3	33.03 ± 4.34	25.11 ± 7.75
15weeks	WKY	20.44 ± 3.98	29.84 ± 8.43	6.39 ± 9.56	26.27 ± 4.91
	SHR-n	32.11 ± 5.87	43.24 ± 9.82	25.71 ± 8.4	29.5 ± 10.72
	SHR+n	29.25 ± 7.7	31.32 ± 11.64	33.88 ± 16.89	31.59 ± 8.37
18weeks	WKY	23.76 ± 4.74	42.23 ± 8.94	12.03 ± 5.77	26.45 ± 6.58
	SHR-n	34.69 ± 8.87	45.42 ± 4.62	14.51 ± 6.73	44.58 ± 12.25
	SHR+n	42.9 ± 7.74	49.6 ± 7.75	31.19 ± 11.74	47.75 ± 20.91

tern) WKY 2) (secondary ossification center, epiphysis)
 가 SHR+n WKY 가
 (island pattern)
 (Fig. 5). 12, 15 가 . 12 가
 WKY
 가 SHR-n

(Table 2, Fig. 4).

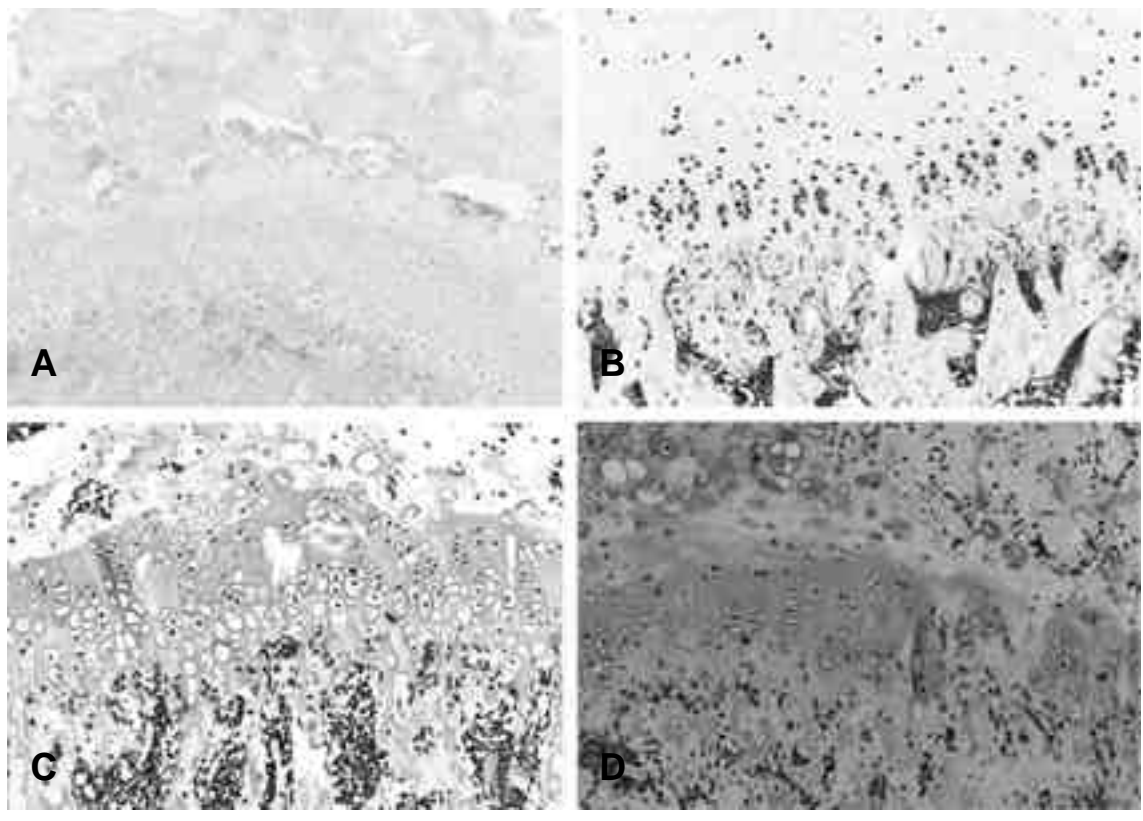


Fig. 2. TUNEL assay in the growth plate. ($\times 40$ A, B; $\times 100$ C, D, $*p < 0.001$) (A) negative control (B) positive control (C) 12wks WKY (D) 12wks SHR+n

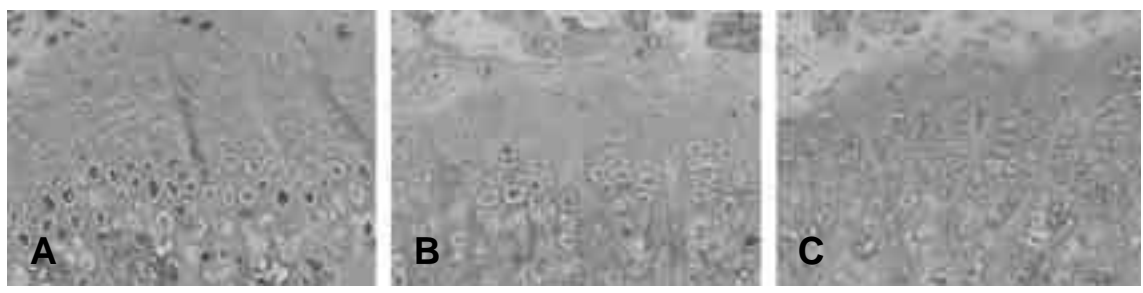


Fig. 4. VEGF expression in the growth plate of WKY. ($\times 200$) (A) 9 wks (B) 12 wks (C) 15wks

가 WKY WKY , SHR-n SHR+n
 WKY 가
 SHR+n (anterolat
 eral portion) 가
 가
 15 Legg-Calve-Perthes
 (self limiting)
 (Fig. 6, 7).
 3) (articular cartilage) ^{2,3,15,18,26,28,30,32,34} 가
 Legg-Calve-Perthes
 (genetic),

Table 2. Percentage of VEGF Expression in the Growth Plate with Aging (Scale: %, *p<0.001)

		VEGF Expression	
6wk	WKY	58.90 ± 11.07	
	SHR-n	52.55 ± 11.5	
	SHR+n	35.15 ± 8.66*	
9wk	WKY	53.91 ± 12.51	
	SHR-n	47.07 ± 12.84	
	SHR+n	27.16 ± 10.97	
12wk	WKY	38.95 ± 13.22	
	SHR-n	35.91 ± 10.60	
	SHR+n	23.71 ± 11.04	
15wk	WKY	25.95 ± 12.11	
	SHR-n	24.64 ± 12.27	
	SHR+n	16.27 ± 4.17	

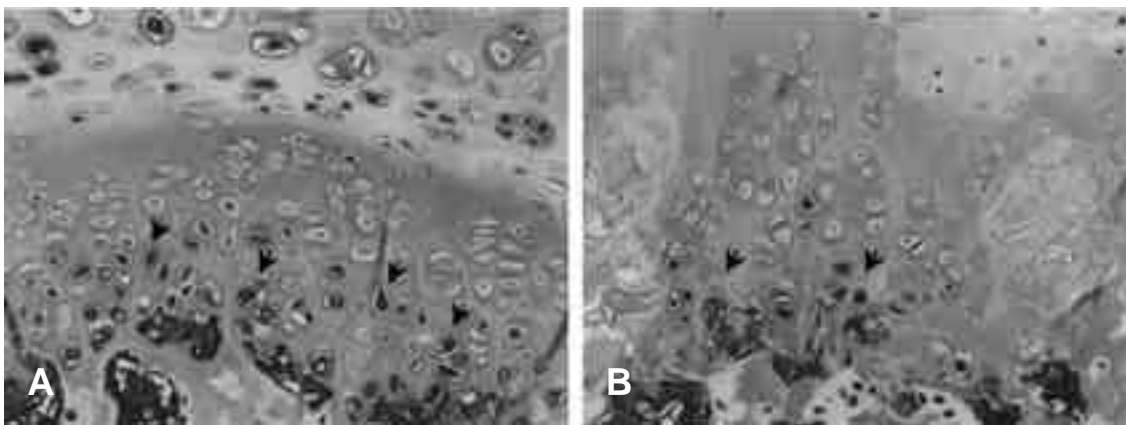


Fig. 5. VEGF expression in the growth plate of 15 weeks old rats. (× 200) (A) SHR-n (B) SHR+n

(epidemiological), (biochemical) (essential hypertension)
 (histopathological) 가 . WKY
 (vascular disturbance) (ossification)

, piglet 가
 2,17) 가
 가 Perthes 13,14,16,24,27) , Kong
 가
 Legg-Calve-Perthes “ 가 가 18).
 ” (lower hypertrophic zone)
 가
 (Spontaneously Hypertensive Rats, SHR) Wister
 Kyoto Rats 5,6,11,22,33)
 mmHg 200 12,22,29,31,23) TUNEL assay 가
 DNA DNA

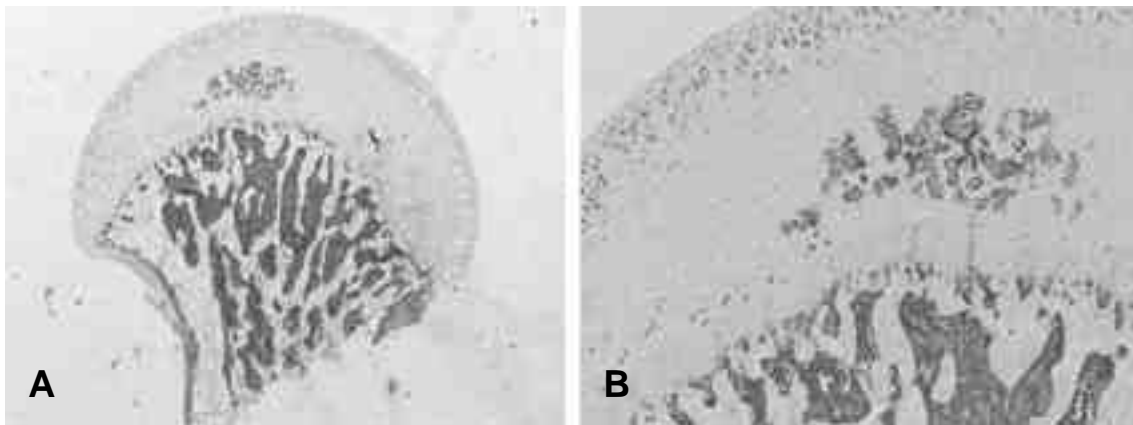


Fig. 6. VEGF expression in the epiphysis of SHR+n. (A) × 40 (B) × 100

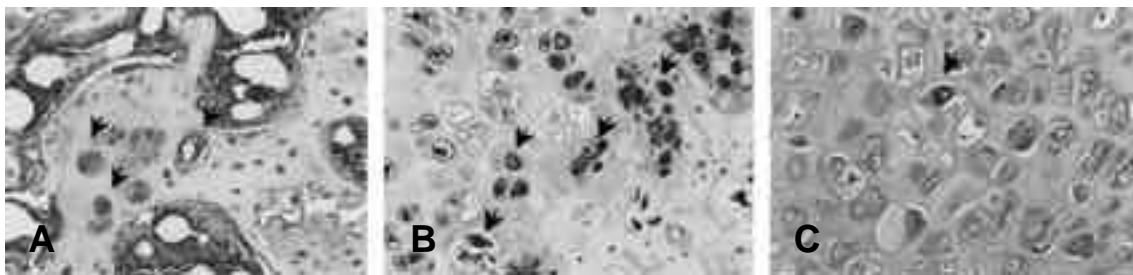


Fig. 7. VEGF expression in the epiphysis of 12weeks old rats. (× 200) (A) WKY (B) SHR-n (C) SHR+n

가
 1.7)
 가
 6 15 24%
 가
 6 9
 SHR-n SHR+n
 WKY 가
 18 WKY SHR
 SHR+n 가 47.8% 23.7%
 WKY 가 SHR
 가 SHR
 SHR-n 가
 SHR+n 가
 DNA
 가
 가
 WKY 가 SHR-n 가
 가 SHR+n 가
 SHR 가

REFERENCES

9 15
 가 SHR-n WKY
 가 가
 가 가
 가 가
 가 가

- 1) **Aizawa T, Kokubun S and Tanaka Y:** Apoptosis and proliferation of growth plate chondrocytes in rabbits. *J Bone Joint Surg[Br]*, 79-B(3): 483-486, 1997.
- 2) **Catterall A, Pringle J, Byers P, Fulford G, Kemp H, Dolman C et al:** A review of the mor-

- phology of perthes' disease. *J Bone Joint Surg[Br]*, 64-B(3): 269-275, 1982.
- 3) **Chung S**. Hip disorders in infants and children: Philadelphia: *Lea & Febiger*, 19-28, 235-253, 1981.
 - 4) **Farnum C and Wilsman N**: Chondrocyte kinetics in the growth plate. In: Sapiro IM, Boyan B, Anderson HC, editors. The growth plate. Vol 54. Amsterdam: *ISO press*, 245-257, 2002.
 - 5) **Farnum C and Wilsman N**: Determination of proliferative characteristics of growth plate chondrocyte by labeling with bromodeoxyuridine. *Calcified tissue int*, 52: 110-119, 1993.
 - 6) **Galotto M, Campanile G, Robino G, Canceda F, Bianco P and Cancedda R**: Hypertrophic chondrocytes undergo further differentiation to osteoblast-like cells and participate in the initial bone formation in developing chick embryo. *J Bone Mineral Res*, 9(8): 1239-1249, 1994.
 - 7) **Gavrieli Y, Sherman Y and Bensasson S**: Identification of programmed cell death in situ via specific labelling of nuclear DNA fragmentation. *J Cell Biolo*, 119: 493-501, 1992
 - 8) **Gerber H and Ferrara N**: Angiogenesis and bone growth. *Trends Cardiovasc Med*, 10(5): 223-227, 2000.
 - 9) **Gerber H, Vu T, Ryan A, Kowalski J, Werb Z and Ferrara N**: VEGF couples hypertrophic cartilage remodeling, ossification and angiogenesis during endochondral bone formation, 5(6): 623-628, 1999.
 - 10) **Gerber H et al**: VEGF is required for growth and survival in neonatal mice. *Development*, 126: 1149-1159, 1999.
 - 11) **Gibson G**: Active role of chondrocyte Apoptosis in Endochonral ossification. *Microscopy research and technique*, 43: 191-204, 1998.
 - 12) **Hatori M, Klatte K, Yeixeira C and Sapiro I**: End labelling studies of fragmented DNA in Avian growth plate: evidence of apoptosis in terminal differentiation chondrocytes. *J Bone Min Res*. 10: 1960-1968, 1995.
 - 13) **Hirano T, Iwasaki K, Oda J and Kumashiro T**: Osteonecrosis of the femoral head in spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Acta Orthop Scand*, 63(1): 37-40, 1992.
 - 14) **Hirano T, Iwasaki K. and Yamane Y**: Osteonecrosis of the femoral head of growing, spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Acta Othop Scand*, 59: 530-5, 1988.
 - 15) **Hirano T, Majima R, Yoshida G and Iwasaki K**: Characteristics of blood vessels feeding the femoral head liable to osteonecrosis in spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Calcif Tissue Int*, 58: 201-205, 1996.
 - 16) **Iwasaki K and Hirano T**: Osteonecrosis and ossification disturbance of the femoral head in spontaneously hypertensive rats. *J Jpn Orthop Assoc*, 62: 1003-1010, 1988.
 - 17) **Kim H, Su R and Qiu Y**: Histopathologic changes in growth plate cartilage following ischemic necrosis of the capital femoral epiphysis. *JBJS[Am]*, 83-A(5): 688-697, 2001.
 - 18) **Kong S, Yang I, Park K, Park H and Kim H**: Cellular kinetics in growth plate of the femoral head of the spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Korean Journal of Bone Metabolism*, 11: 137-145, 2004.
 - 19) **Klagsbrun M, D 'Amore P**: Vascular endothelial growth factor and its receptors. *Cytokine Growth Factor Rev*, 7: 259-270, 1996.
 - 20) **Lovell and Winter**: Pediatric orthopaedics. 5th edition. *Legg-Calve-Perthes syndrome*, 957-998, 2001.
 - 21) **Maes C, Carmeliet P, Moermans K, Stockmans I, Smets N, Clooen D et al**: Impaired angiogenesis and endochondral bone formation in mice lacking the vascular endothelial growth factor isoforms VEGF and VEGF. *Mechanisms of development*, 111: 61-73, 2002.
 - 22) **Matsuno T, Ishida O, Arihiro K, Sunagawa T, Mori T and Ikuta Y**: Cell proliferation and death of growth plate chondrocyte caused by ischemia and reperfusion. *Microsurgery*, 21(1):

- 30-36, 2001.
- 23) **Nagata S**: Apoptosis by death factor. *Cell* 88: 355-365, 1997.
- 24) **Naito S, Ito M, Sekine I et al**: Femoral head necrosis and osteopenia in stroke-prone spontaneously hypertensive rats(SHRSPs). *Bone*, 14: 745-753, 1993.
- 25) **Norman D, Reis D, Zinman C, Misselevich I and Boss JH**: Vascular deprivation-induced necrosis of the femoral head of the rats. An experimental model of avascular osteonecrosis in the skeletally immature individual or Legg-Perthes disease. *Int. J Exp Path*, 79: 173-181, 1998.
- 26) **Oda J, Hirano T, Iwasaki K. and Majima R**: Vascular occlusion and cartilage disorders in osteonecrosis of the femoral head in rats. *Int. Orthopaedics*, 20: 185-189, 1996.
- 27) **Ohtubo Y**: Avascular necrosis in the femoral heads of the spontaneously hypertensive rats. A study on deffering incidence between the sexes. *J Jpn Orthop Assoc*, 66: 83-91, 1992.
- 28) **Ponseti I, maynard J, Weinstein S, Ippolito E and Pous J**: Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease. *J Bone Joint Surg[Am]*, 65-A(6): 797-807, 1983.
- 29) **Roach H, Erenpreisa J and Aigner T**: Osteogenic differentiation of hypertrophic chondrocytes involves asymmetric cell divisions and apoptosis. *J. cell biology* 131(2): 483-494, 1995.
- 30) **Schoenecker P**: Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease. *orthopaedic review*, 9: 561-574, 1986.
- 31) **Streeter G**: Developmental horizons in human embryos. A review of the histogenesis of cartilage and bone. *Carnegie Inst Wash*, 583(33): 151-167, 1949.
- 32) **Tomita M, Shimokawa I, Maeda H, Higami Y, Kawahara T, Ikeda T, et al**: Dietary restriction reduces the prevalence of osteonecrosis of the caput femoris in spontaneously hypertensive rats. *Calcif Tissue Int*, 64: 259-262, 1999.
- 33) **Vanky P, Brockstedt U, Hjerpe A and Wikstrom**: Kinetic studies on epiphyseal growth cartilage in the normal mouse., 22(4): 331-339, 1998.
- 34) **Wenger D and Ezaki M**: Bilateral femoral head collapse in an adolescent with brachydactyly (multiple epiphyseal dysplasia tarda type Ic). *J Pediatr orthop*, 1: 267-271, 1981.