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Oral Presentations

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Vitamin C and E supplementation effects on secretory and molecular aspects of vascular endothelial growth factor derived from peritoneal fluids of patients with endometriosis

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Background: Endometriosis is an extremely heterogeneous disease and affects about 10% of the female population during their reproductive years. Recent studies showed that endometriosis is an angiogenesis-dependent disease. Peritoneal macrophages are a well-characterised source of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF).

Objective: The aim of this study was to determine the *VEGF* gene expression and production in peritoneal macrophages of patients with endometriosis under the effects of vitamins C and E in comparison with control.

Materials and Methods: The lab trial study carried

out on 50 patients undergoing laparoscopy and peritoneal fluid samples were collected from them. We compared the *VEGF* gene expression and production in peritoneal macrophages among groups by using real-time polymerase chain reaction and enzymelinked immunosorbent assay methods, respectively.

Results: Our results showed that gene expressions influenced by vitamin C increased in different concentrations and incubation times, except for the incubation time after 48 h. In the case of vitamin E, this was evident with the exception of vitamin E 50 μ M after 24 h and vitamin E 100 μ M after 48 h.

Conclusion: Our findings indicated that vitamin C and E in different concentrations and incubation times altered *VEGF* gene expression in the peritoneal macrophages but they had not affected on *VEGF* productions.

Key words: Endometriosis, Vascular endothelial growth factor, Vitamin C, Vitamin E.

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