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Oral Presentations

O-17

Expression of *CALM1*, *PSMD6*, and *AK124742* *LncRNA* genes in cumulus cells of infertile PCO women: A good predictor of successful fertilization

Akbari A¹, Kazemi M², Aboutorabi R¹, Mostafavi F¹.

1. Department of Anatomical Sciences, School of Medicine, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran.

2. Department of Genetics and Molecular Biology, School of Medicine, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran.

Email: fs.mostafavi@gmail.com

Background: In human assisted reproductive technology (ART), selection of high-quality embryos to transfer usually is based on morphological criteria but it cannot be always a good predictor of successful fertilization. Analyzing gene expression of cumulus cells (CCs) might lead to some important molecular information about the embryo quality. Calmodulin 1 (*CALM1*), Proteasome 26S Subunit, Non-ATPase 6 (*PSMD6*), and *AK124742* expression in the CCs of pregnant patients were more significant compared to the non-pregnant ones. One of the well-known causes of female infertility is polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and the number of retrieved oocytes with a higher implantation potential is limited, so the process

of selecting good embryos in PCOS patients is very important.

Objective: The aim of this study was to compare the expression of *CALM1*, *PSMD6*, and *AK124742* genes in the CCs of infertile PCO patients with control fertile group.

Materials and Methods: Samples were the CCs from 33 fertile egg donor women and 33 infertile PCO women. They undergo ART and the CCs were collected and frizzed till real time PCR (RT-PCR) was performed. The expression of *CALM1*, *PSMD6*, and *AK124742* genes was detected by RT-PCR. Chemical pregnancy rates were used to assess the success of ART.

Results: Clinical pregnancy was observed in 38 of the 66 patients. Expression of all three genes *CALM1*, *PSMD6*, and *AK124742* in the pregnant group were higher than the non-pregnant group. This increase was not significant for the *CALM1* gene but for two genes *PSMD6* ($p < 0.001$) and *AK124742* ($p < 0.05$) were significant. The expression of *CALM1* and *ak124274* gene increased significantly and the expression of *psmd6* decreased significantly in PCOs group compared to the control group ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusion: All three genes are proper markers for predicting embryo competence due to increased expression levels in pregnant groups.

Key words: *CALM1*, Infertility, *lncRNA*, PCO, *PSMD6*.