EFFECT OF eCG AND PROGESTAGEN ON FOLLICLE POPULATION IN GOATS

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OBJECTIVE

The aim of present study was to evaluate the response of ovarian follicle population to eCG/progestagen treatment in goats.

RESULTS

At 0 h no differences (P > 0.05) between groups were found in any class of follicles. Through the successive examinations, an increase of follicles in total (fig. 1) and 3-5 mm (fig. 2) in diameter categories was observed in G-eCG but not in G-C groups.

![Graph of follicle population over time](image1)

**Fig 1.** Evolution of total follicles number in G-eCG and G-C through 92 h (P<0.05). Superscript omitted letters: P>0.05.

CONCLUSIONS

These results suggest that low dose of eCG stimulate the number of 3-5 mm follicles present in ovaries but not the small (<3 class) follicles.

![Graph of follicle population over time](image2)

**Fig 2.** Evolution of follicles number, 3-5 mm in diameter category, in G-eCG and G-C through 92h (P<0.01). Superscript omitted letters: P>0.05.

In >5 class, the number of follicles remained constant (1.2 ± 0.2) in all examinations, without differences between groups. The number of follicles <3 mm was constant in both groups until 42 h (4.7 ± 0.3) but increased at 92 h (7.1 ±0.5; P < 0.001) in G-eCG.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In second half of February, seven Serrana goats (G-eCG) received 250 UI of eCG (Intergonan®, Intervet, Holland) at the removal of intravaginal sponges impregnated with 20 mg of flugestone acetate (Chronogest® CR 20 mg, Intervet, Holland) and kept in place during 6 days.

Six other Serrana goats (G-C) remained untreated as controls. Ovarian transrectal ultrasonographic examinations were performed in both groups at 0 h, 20 h, 42 h, 72 h and 92 h after eCG administration in G-eCG.

Follicles were counted and classified according to the following classes: total follicles, <3, ≥3, 3-5 and ≥5 mm in diameter.