

Method: ICR male mice of 18 day-old were used. Testes were decapsulated and seminiferous tubules were dissociated enzymatically to release both somatic and germ cells. Collagen matrices were prepared from insoluble type collagen fiber which was extracted from rat tail by tendons by dissolving in 1/5000 acetic acid solution. For the collagen gel matrices and matrigel added collagen matrices, dissociated cells were incorporated into collagen matrices on culture dish containing concentrated culture media and then cultured for up to 18 day in modified RPMI 1640 medium at 32°C with 5% CO₂ in air. For the monolayer culture as control, a group of dissociated cells were seeded into petri dish containing the same medium. After culture, cells were smeared onto L-lysine coated microscope slides and examined for the presence of transitionprotein-2 (TP-2) known to be specific for the round spermatid using anti-goat rabbit transition protein (TP2) antibody.

Results: After the few days of incubation, Collagen gel matrices were contracted and firm testicular cell complex were formed. Based on immunocytochemistry, a haploid population of cells appeared in vitro that was not in 18-day-old mice testis. Viability of the cells cultured by monolayer method or in a collagen gel matrix was 55%, 75% respectively. Collagen gel matrix culture method was observation indicated that 75% of the TP2 antibody stained cells developed from seeding cells. And matrigel added collagen gel matrix was showed 85% of the TP2 antibody stained cells from seeding cells. In contrast, Monolayer culture method showed that only 20% of cultured germ cells developed to round spermatids.

Conclusions: The novel culture system developed in this study is promoting differentiation of gonocytes to presumptive spermatids in vitro based on the expression of spermatid-specific protein. A culture system consisting of a collagen gel matrix could support the in vitro differentiation of mouse male germ cells. Compared to the conventional monolayer culture method, the system appeared to be superior.

O-14 수컷 생쥐 생식줄기세포의 분리 및 증식과 체외배양을 통한 반수체 생식세포의 생산

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Background & Objectives: 정자형성과정은 고환의 세정관내에서 생식줄기세포 (male germ-line stem cells, GSCs)의 분열과 분화를 통하여 성숙된 정자를 생산하는 일련의 과정이다. 생식줄기세포의 체외 배양을 통한 증식과 분화는 남성불임의 원인을 찾고 남성생식능력의 생물학적 기초를 제공하는데 매우 효율적인 접근방법이라 할 수 있다. 본 연구의 목적은 분리 후 동정과 증식을 한 생식줄기세포의 배양조건 확립과 반수체 생식세포로의 분화를 유도하는데 있다.

Method: 실험재료는 3~5일령의 ICR 수컷 생쥐를 사용하였으며, 생쥐의 생식줄기세포를 분리한 후 배양하여 multi-cellular colonies를 형성시키고 5회에 걸쳐 계대배양을 하였다. 이후 multi-cellular colonies의 일부는 alkaline phosphatase activity, surface marker expression (SSEA-1, SSEA-3, SSEA-4), immunocytochemistry (integrin $\beta 1$, $\alpha 6$)와 in situ hybridization (Oct-4 mRNA probe)를 위하여 고정하였으며, 나머지

