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Study on the Factors Influencing Fertilization and Developmental Rate of *In Vitro* Cultured Cat Oocytes Recovered from Ovaries Collected at Different Stages of the Reproductive Cycle

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The study was carried out to investigate the effects of morphology, reproductive cycle, incubation time and activation of oocytes on *in vitro* maturation of cat oocytes and development of IVM/IVF embryos.

The results were summarized as follows:

- 1. When recovered from ovaries collected at different stages of the reproductive cycle (inactive, follicular and luteal stage), the developmental rates of oocytes to GV and MI stage were 72.5% and 27.5%, 57.5% and 7.5%, 62.5% and 17.5%, respectively.
- 2. The developmental rates of oocytes with cumulus cells to GV and MI stage in different conditions of incubation (5% CO_2 , 95% O_2 and 10% CO_2 , 90% O_2) were 70.0% and 27.5%, 52.5% and 20.0%, 55.0% and 12.5%, respectively.
- 3. The developmental rates to GV and MI oocytes when cultured at different time of incubation (17~20, 21~24, 25~28 and 29~32 h) were 67.5% and 20.0%, 67.5% and 30.0%, 62.5% and 22.5%, 65.0% and 15.0%, respectively.
- 4. The fertilization and cleavage rates of freshly collected oocytes with and without cumulus cells were 72.5% and 25.0%, 37.5% and 7.5%, respectively. The rates were greater in oocytes with cumulus cells than those without cumulus cells.
- 5. The fertilization and cleavage rates of oocytes recovered from ovaries collected at different stages of the reproductive cycle (inactive, follicular and luteal stage) were 75.0% and 25.0%, 40.0% and 7.5%, 50.0% and 15.0%, respectively.

Key words: Cat, Developmental rate, Reproductive cycle, Incubation time