

## Progesterone Acetyl-L-Carnitine

### The Effects on Sperm Parameters and Membrane after Treatment with Progesterone and/or Acetyl-L-Carnitine; Cryopreservation-Thawing

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**Objective:** To assess the effects of progesterone and acetyl-L-carnitine used after treated with Isolate<sup>®</sup> gradient before semen cryopreservation-thawing on sperm parameters and membrane integrity.

**Material and Methods:** From April 2001 to July 2001, ten normal male partner of couples who were visited in vitro fertilization (IVF) clinics. the semens were treated with Isolate<sup>®</sup> gradient before cryopreservation, spermatozoa was incubated with progesterone (1, 5 and 10  $\mu$ M), acetyl-L-carnitine (2.5, 5 and 10  $\mu$ M), or both (progesterone, 1  $\mu$ M; and acetyl-L-carnitine, 5  $\mu$ M) for 30 min.

**Results:** There were no differences in sperm parameters and vital stain among isolate only treated group, progesterone (1, 5 and 10  $\mu$ M), acetyl-L-carnitine (2.5, 5 and 10  $\mu$ M) and both (progesterone, 1  $\mu$ M; and acetyl-L-carnitine, 5  $\mu$ M). But, in high concentration of acetyl-L-carnitine (10  $\mu$ M) treated group, sperm parameters and vital stain were decreased. The statistical method was used ANOVA (Kruskal-Wallis test) and p value was <0.01.

**Conclusions:** Neither progesterone nor acetyl-L-carnitine show to be protective effect on the cryodamage assessed by sperm parameters and vital stain (eosin-Y stain) in normal sperm. High concentration of acetyl-L-carnitine (10  $\mu$ M), however, was harmful effect on cryoprevention.

**Key Words:** Progesterone, Acetyl-L-carnitine, Sperm parameters, Cyropreservation

가

1

가

acetyl-L-carnitine

Sertoli cell                      Leydieg cell  
, acetyl-L-carnitine  
.2,3 Acetyl-carnitine  
가  
,                      가                      spectrin  
actin                      .1,4  
Progesterone  
Na<sup>2+</sup> Ca<sup>2+</sup>  
가 progesterone  
, zona pellucida ,  
.1,5,6  
eosin-Y  
(integrity)  
,                      가  
.1,7  
Isolat e<sup>®</sup> gradient                      progesterone                      acetyl-

2) Progesterone /                      acetyl - L - carnitine  
가  
Isolate<sup>®</sup>                      progesterone  
1 μM, 5 μM, 10 μM                      가  
acetyl-L-carnitine                      2.5 μM, 5 μM, 10 μM  
가                      .                      progesterone  
1 μM                      acetyl-L-carnitine 5 μM                      가                      .30  
,                      , curvilinear velocity  
(VCL; the velocity derived from all 20head position),  
straight-line velocity (VSL; the velocity based on the  
first and last head positions only)                      linearity (LIN;  
VSL/VCL, a measure of the straightness of the trajec-  
tory)  
3)  
TYB (the cryoprotectant)  
,                      1:1                      , programma-  
ble freezer (cryo-magic)                      -196  
. 24                      37  
40~50                      가

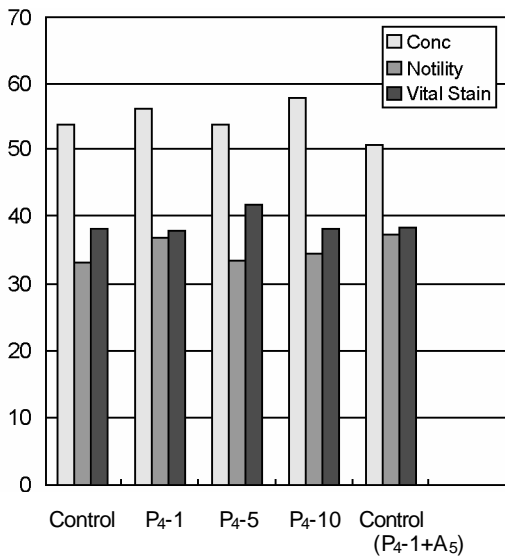
1.  
2001 4                      2001 6  
10  
1992 WHO  
가  
2.  
1)  
Isolat e<sup>®</sup> gradient                      8 -                      30  
pipette                      ,                      1.5 ml  
pipette                      ,  
. 가  
,                      30~50 ×10<sup>6</sup>/ml  
8

3.  
SPSS+ version70 package                      ANOVA: Kru-  
skal-Wallis test                      , p<0.01  
Isolate<sup>®</sup>                      -  
53.8 ±36.4 ×10<sup>6</sup>/  
ml,                      33.2 ±16.6%                      , VCL (μM/s), VSL (μM/  
s), LIN (μM/s)                      28.9 ±6.0, 12.9 ±4.8, 43.0 ±8.7  
38.2 ±12.9%  
(Table 1).  
Progesterone                      가 (                      1 μM, 5 μM,  
10 μM)                      ,                      ,                      VCL,  
VSL, LIN  
,                      38.1, 41.9, 38.2%  
(Table 1, Figure 1, 2).  
Acetyl-L-carnitine                      2.5 μM                      가

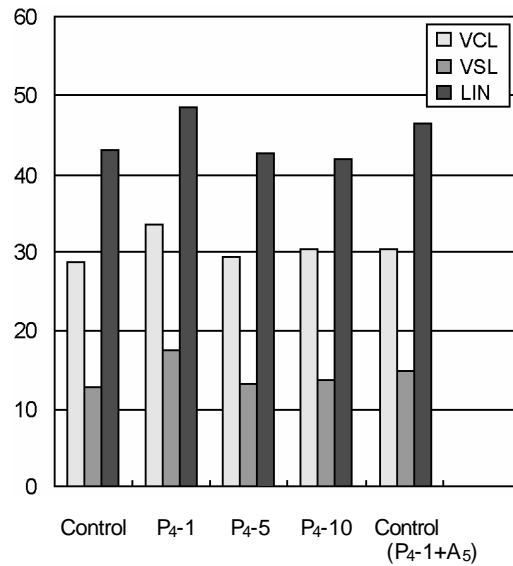
**Table 1.** The Results of Sperm parameters and vital stain

	Conc ( $\times 10^6$ /ml)	Motility (%)	VCL ( $\mu$ m/s)	VSL ( $\mu$ m/s)	LIN	Vital stain (%)
Postthaw (control)	53.8 $\pm$ 36.4	33.2 $\pm$ 16.6	28.9 $\pm$ 6.0	12.9 $\pm$ 4.8	43.0 $\pm$ 8.7	38.2 $\pm$ 12.9
P <sub>4</sub> -1 $\mu$ M	56.1 $\pm$ 40.2	36.9 $\pm$ 13.8	33.6 $\pm$ 11.9	17.4 $\pm$ 10.2	48.4 $\pm$ 12.2	38.1 $\pm$ 13.0
P <sub>4</sub> -5 $\mu$ M	54.0 $\pm$ 39.0	33.5 $\pm$ 18.1	29.4 $\pm$ 9.8	13.3 $\pm$ 7.0	42.7 $\pm$ 11.2	41.9 $\pm$ 16.2
P <sub>4</sub> -10 $\mu$ M	57.7 $\pm$ 35.5	34.5 $\pm$ 17.1	30.4 $\pm$ 9.9	13.8 $\pm$ 7.7	41.9 $\pm$ 13.2	38.2 $\pm$ 14.7
Comb (P <sub>4</sub> -1+A <sub>5</sub> )	50.8 $\pm$ 39.2	37.3 $\pm$ 16.1	30.5 $\pm$ 7.0	14.8 $\pm$ 6.4	46.4 $\pm$ 10.5	38.4 $\pm$ 13.6
acetyl-L-carnitine						
2.5 $\mu$ M	58.5 $\pm$ 36.4	39.3 $\pm$ 15.7	31.8 $\pm$ 8.9	15.8 $\pm$ 6.8	47.5 $\pm$ 11.4	43.5 $\pm$ 15.4
5 $\mu$ M	52.5 $\pm$ 40.2	32.8 $\pm$ 16.5	27.0 $\pm$ 7.9	12.5 $\pm$ 6.9	43.6 $\pm$ 10.6	35.5 $\pm$ 14.9
10 $\mu$ M	69.0 $\pm$ 27.2	7.9 $\pm$ 3.9*	13.7 $\pm$ 3.2*	2.1 $\pm$ 1.5*	14.9 $\pm$ 7.9*	5.1 $\pm$ 9.4*
Comb (P <sub>4</sub> -1+A <sub>5</sub> )	50.8 $\pm$ 39.2	37.3 $\pm$ 16.1	30.5 $\pm$ 7.0	14.8 $\pm$ 6.4	46.4 $\pm$ 10.5	38.4 $\pm$ 13.6

\*p<0.01 (ANOVA: Kruskal-Wallis test)



**Figure 1.** Comparison of concentration, motility and vital stain (control vs progesterone treated groups)  
\*conc. ( $\times 10^6$ /ml), motility (%), vital stain (%)



**Figure 2.** Comparison of VCL, VSL and LIN (control vs progesterone treated groups)  
\*VCL ( $\mu$ m/s), VSL ( $\mu$ m/s), LIN ( $\mu$ m/s)

43.5% 가 ,  
. 5  $\mu$ M 가

(Table 1, Figure 3, 4).

Acetyl-L-carnitine 10  $\mu$ M

33.2  $\pm$  16.6% 7.9  $\pm$  3.9%

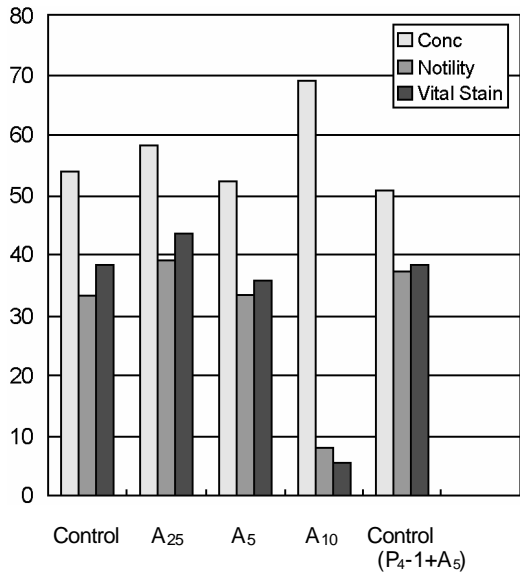
, VCL, VSL, LIN 1.37  $\pm$  3.2, 2.1  $\pm$  1.5,  
14.9  $\pm$  7.9

5.1  $\pm$  9.4% (Table 1,

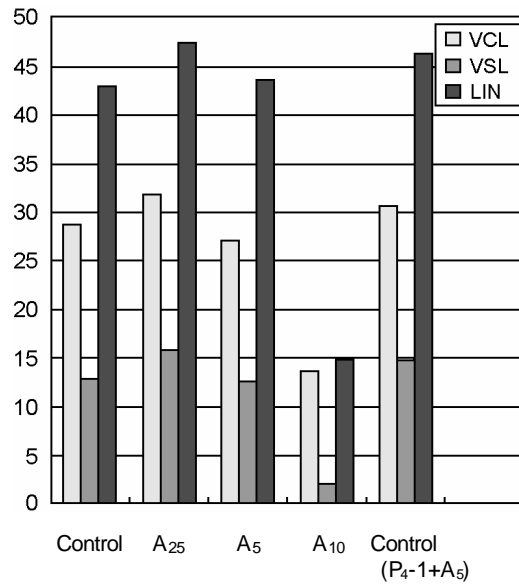
Figure 3).

Progesterone acetyl-L-carnitine

progesterone 1  $\mu$ M acetyl-L-



**Figure 3.** Comparison of concentration, motility and vital stain (control vs acetyl-L-carnitine treated groups)



**Figure 4.** Comparison of VCL, VSL and LIN (control vs acetyl-L-carnitine treated groups)  
\*VCL ( $\mu\text{M/s}$ ), VSL ( $\mu\text{M/s}$ ), LIN ( $\mu\text{M/s}$ )

carnitine 5  $\mu\text{M}$  가

(Table 1, Figure 1, 2, 3).

(Artificial Insemination by Donor semen;  
AID)  
(Asthenozoospermia)  
(rapid and progressive motility) 50%  
(Oligozoospermia)  
(Artificial Insemination by Husband semen; AIH)

가  
9  
10 (motility) (viability)  
5-13  
7,12  
가  
15  
가  
TEST-  
yolk, Glycerol  
programmed freezer  
TEST-yolk가  
15  
TYB  
Isolate<sup>®</sup> gradient  
swim-up

7 Grizard

가

swim-up (oligoasthenospermia) 가  
 Isolate<sup>®</sup> gradient acetyl-L-carnitine lactate  
 progesterone Ca<sup>2+</sup> 가 dehydrogenase NADPH-cytochrome P450 reductase  
 spermatozoa Ca<sup>2+</sup> 가 ,<sup>22</sup> Grizard (1973)  
 progesterone acetyl-L-carnitine 210 ±  
 (2001) 29 nmol/10<sup>8</sup> cells .<sup>9</sup> Duru  
 progesterone acetyl-L-carnitine  
 itine ,  
 terone (myelinization) (phospholipid) (signaling molecule) subfertile  
 progesterone acetyl-L-carnitine 가  
 .<sup>1,18,19</sup>  
 acetyl-L-carnitine acetyl-L-carnitine  
 carnitine acetyl-L-carnitine 가  
 가 ,  
 L-carnitine Acetyl-L-carnitine  
 progesterone 가  
 ,<sup>20,21</sup>  
 가 ,  
 viability 가 .<sup>1</sup>  
 L-carnitine 가 Isolate<sup>®</sup> gradient  
 가  
 . Duru (2001) (oligoasthenotera-  
 tozoospermia) 가 progesterone  
 acetyl-L-carnitine cryo-  
 survival (20 mM)  
 acetyl-L-carnitine  
 .<sup>1</sup>  
 Isolate<sup>®</sup> gradient ,  
 (10 μM) acetyl-L-carnitine  
 . Duru (2001) 가

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