

Experimental model of obtaining tissue adipose, mesenchymal stem cells isolation and distribution in surgery flaps in rats¹

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ABSTRACT

PURPOSE: To investigate the experimental model for obtaining adipose tissue, isolation, characterization of mesenchymal stem cells and evaluation of their distribution in the tram flap in rats.

METHODS: Five rats of Wistar were randomly assigned to two groups. In group I, three animals underwent removal of adipose tissue in the groin procedure to establish the experimental model and obtain a cell lineage. The animals of group II (n = 2) underwent surgical flap procedure, and satisfaction injection of mesenchymal stem cells pretreated with marker fluorescente.

RESULTS: obtaining adipose tissue of the inguinal region of the rat proved to be possible. The isolated cells were characterized as mesenchymal stem cells and fluorescence microscopy showed the presence of multiple cells arranged around blood vessels and capillaries.

CONCLUSION: It was possible to establish an experimental model for obtaining adipose tissue for isolation of mesenchymal stem cells and their distribution in the TRAM flap in rats.

Key words: Stem Cells, Adipose Tissue, Animal Models, Mesenchymal Stem Cell Transplantation, Surgical Flaps.

Introduction

Many studies with adult stem cells have been focused on mesenchymal stem cells derived from bone marrow. Adipose tissue such as the bone marrow-derived embryonic mesenchyme and contains a stroma easily isolated¹⁻³. Preliminary studies have identified stem cells in the stromal compartment of adipose tissue. This population of cells can differentiate into osteogenic lineage, chondrogenic, myogenic and chondrogenic¹⁻³. Stem cells are cells with the ability to differentiate into various cell types, including endothelial progenitor cells⁴. The stem cells derived from adipose tissue can differentiate into osteogenic lineage, chondrogenic, adipogenic, myogenic, neurogenic and angiogenic^{1-3,5-8}. Previous studies identified the presence of mesenchymal stem cells in adipose tissue, which can be isolated similarly to the cells derived from bone marrow. The use of this cell mode has major advantages, the ease in obtaining it, removal of large number of cells and a lower morbidity of the donor area⁹

The lack of studies in the literature describing the experimental model for obtaining adipose tissue in rats and especially the protocol of differentiation and immunophenotyping of mesenchymal stem cells derived from adipose tissue, marking and tracing, spurred the development of this study.

Methods

This study was submitted to the UNIFESP Research Ethics Committee (0148/12).

Five Wistar rats, adult male, weighing between 250 and 300 grams (g) aged three months were obtained from the Central Animal Laboratory of the Federal University of São Paulo (UNIFESP) were used. The animals were randomized into two groups. In group I, three animals underwent removal of adipose tissue in the groin procedure to establish the experimental and obtain a cell line model. The animals of group II (n = 2) underwent TRAM flap procedure, and solution injection of mesenchymal stem cells pretreated with CM-DiI fluorescent marker (Life Technologies) solution.

Food, anesthesia and animal preparation for procedures

Anesthesia was induced with intraperitoneal application of tiletamine hydrochloride and zolazepam hydrochloride at a dose of 25 mg / kg. Following anesthesia, the animals were immobilized in a dorsal decubitus position on a surgical board and the abdomen was shaved with an electric razor 76274 Oster (Oster, Tennessee, USA).

Obtaining adipose tissue

The adipose tissue was removed from the bilateral inguinal region of the rat. A line of three inches long was demarcated in the inguinal fold of the animal, with superior extension in the anterior axilar line measuring two centimeters and three centimeters distally from the midline. Asepsis and antisepsis of the area and placement of sterile drapes was performed. The incision was made with a scalpel blade 15 and the detachment of the flap with scissors. The resection of adipose tissue of the inguinal region fragment was made with scissors without the need for hemostasis. The removed fragment of each inguinal region was then referred for weighing (Figure 1).

After removal, the entire fragment of adipose tissue was placed into a sterile container containing fetal bovine serum (FBS).

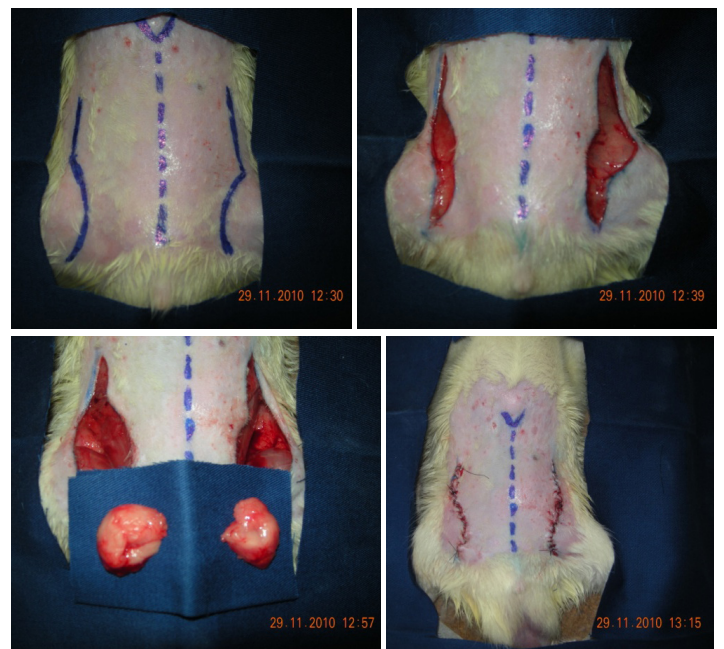


FIGURE 1 - Demarcation of the incision in the groin incision, removal of fat and suture the donor area.

Preparation and isolation of stem cells

After removing the tissue flap was shredded into small pieces and incubated in collagenase type I 1mg/ml for 3 hours at 37 ° C under stirring. Then the tube was centrifuged for 10 minutes at 800 xg and the supernatant discarded. The cells were resuspended in α MEM medium (Gibco) (San Diego, CA, USA) supplemented with 200 mM L-glutamine (Gibco), 10,000 units / ml penicillin (Gibco), 10,000 units / ml streptomycin (Gibco) and 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) (Gibco), and subjected to counting in a Neubauer chamber.

After counting the cells with trypan blue, the cells were incubated at a concentration of 2×10^6 cells / ml and maintained at 37 ° C in 5% carbon dioxide. Adherent cells were maintained in culture medium supplemented α MEM, at 37°C in a humidified 5% CO₂-containing atmosphere.

Only cultures with isolated stem cells from the third passage were used in the in vivo study. The cells were resuspended in α MEM medium at a concentration of 5×10^5 cells in 0.1 ml for each injection point of the flap totaling 0.4 ml or 2×10^6 cells per animal.

Cells were treated with fluorescent marker (1,1-Dioctadecyl-3,3,3,3-Tetramethylindocarbocyanine - IBD), to the study of its location in the retail and distribution by fluorescence microscopy.

Characterization of stem cells derived from adipose tissue

The third passage cells were analyzed by immunocytochemistry with primary antibodies CD105, CD73, CD90 and CD45 (Santa Cruz). All reactions were revealed with anti-mouse secondary antibody produced in rabbit and streptavidin conjugated to fluorochrome DS-RED 594.

The cells were also assessed for their proliferation as adherent cells and ability to differentiate in vitro into osteoblasts, adipocytes and chondroblasts¹⁰.

For osteogenic differentiation, the cells were grown at high confluence for approximately one month in α MEM medium containing 10% FBS (Gibco), 10⁻⁸ M dexamethasone (Sigma), 5 mg / mL ascorbic acid (Sigma) and 10 mM of β -glycerophosphate (Sigma). For observation of the deposit of calcium, cells were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde for 30 minutes, washed with PBS and stained with Alizarin Red pH 4.2 (Sigma). Excess dye was removed with distilled water.

For adipogenic differentiation, the cells were cultured in α MEM medium containing 10⁻¹⁰ M dexamethasone (Sigma), 2.5 mg / mL insulin (Sigma), 5 mM rosiglitazone (Sigma). One month later, the cells were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde for 30 minutes, washed with PBS and stained with Oil Red (Sigma). Excess dye was removed with distilled water.

For chondrogenic differentiation, cells were cultured in α MEM 6.25 g / ml insulin, 10 ng / ml TGF β 1, 50 nM ascorbic acid and 10% FBS. One month later, the cells were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde for 30 minutes, washed with PBS and stained with 2.5% Alcian Blue (Sigma). Excess dye was removed with distilled water.

Musculofasciocutâneo transversus abdominalis rectus abdominal flap¹¹⁻¹⁵

The flap was demarcated in the cranial ventral region, measuring five centimeters in the transverse direction, taking the middle line as a parameter and three centimeters in the longitudinal direction, lying an inch from xiphoid process (xiphoid process).

The skin incision was made with a scalpel blade 15 in its entire extension, following the previous demarcation.

The detachment was made with scissors in suprafascial plan. The contralateral segment was displaced to the midline and the ipsilateral segment was taken off the right edge of the flap to the right edge of the rectus muscle of the right abdomen.

Flap was released with the midline incision and separation of the rectus muscles, the cranial portion of the rectus muscle of the right abdomen in the same line of skin incision along the right margin of the rectus muscle of the right abdomen. Flap was displaced caudally and stayed vascularized only by the caudal pedicle rectus right abdomen.

Silicone blade five inches wide, three inches long and three millimeters thick, was placed between the flap and the donor area¹³⁻¹⁶. Synthesis of the abdominal wall was performed with a continuous suture of 5-0 monofilament nylon and retail was distributed and secured with simple points of the same wire in the four corners and middle cranial point. The skin was sutured continuously, also with 5-0 monofilament nylon. Cervical collar made of plastic material is placed to avoid injury autophagy¹⁷. The collar was fastened with four-point nylon 0, left lateral positions in the cranial, caudal, and right side. The animals were relocated in individual cages with food and water *ad libitum*.

Application of mesenchymal stem cells

During the TRAM flap procedure the solution containing mesenchymal stem cells was applied. 0.1 ml of DMEM (phosphate buffered saline solution) solution containing five hundred thousand cells intradermally at each point of application, a single dose was applied totaling two million cells per animal. A 26 gauge needle was used to administer the solution in four points corresponding to each central zone of the TRAM flap areas. The area I call comprises the segment of skin between the midline and the lateral border of the rectus muscle of the right abdomen (pedicle). Zone II comprises the segment between the lateral border of the rectus muscle of the left abdomen and the midline. Zone III comprises the segment between the lateral border of the rectus muscle of the right abdomen and right lateral margin of the flap, and zone IV the

segment between the lateral border of the rectus muscle of the left abdomen and the left edge of the flap (Figure 2)¹⁸.

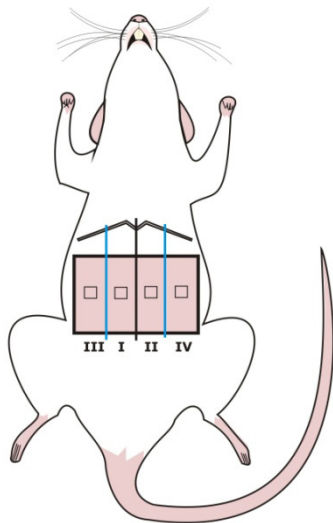


FIGURE 2 - Application points of the solution in the abdomen during the procedure of the TRAM flap.

Distribution and origin of stem cells

Fragment six millimeters, which was withdrawn from the center of each zone of the TRAM flap¹⁹, corresponding to the point of application. Photographs were taken on a fluorescence microscope. Initially a panoramic lens examination under a 100 X increase to identify areas of increased microvascular density (hot spot) was performed. Once identified this area, proceeded to capture the image with an eyepiece lens and objective 10 X 20 X 40 and X, totaling an increase of 200 and 400 X. The photographs were used to reveal the distribution of cells and cells present in retail, were derived stem cells DiI-positive, previously transplanted.

Results

Obtaining the adipose tissue was found to be possible by removing 0.5 to 1.0 g of fat in each inguinal region of each animal, total 1.0 to 2.0 g per animal. Cells of the third passage were analyzed by immunotyping, and were positive for CD105, CD73 and CD90 antibodies and negative for CD45 (Figure 3).

Cells presented as adherent cell proliferation and differentiation capacity in vitro into osteoblasts, adipocytes and chondroblasts (Figure 4).

The image pickup by fluorescence microscopy with a 200 and x400, showed the presence of multiple cells stained red fluorescent (DiI-positive) along the flap. The stained cells were predominantly located around blood vessels and capillaries (Figure 5).

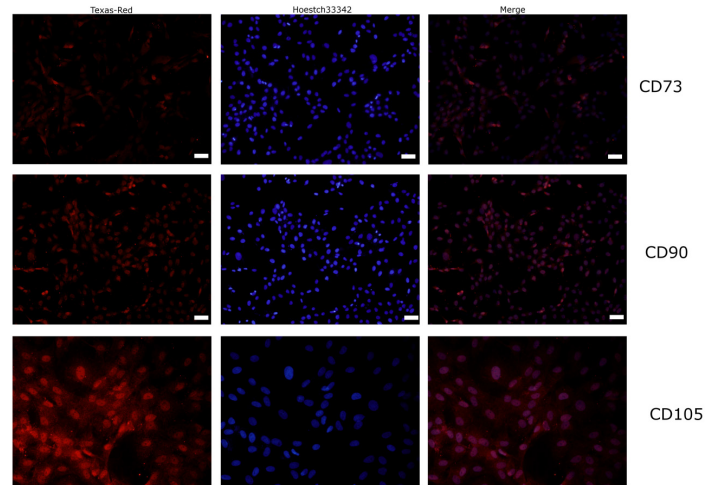


FIGURE 3 - Immunotyping for characterization of mesenchymal stem cells derived from adipose tissue. Positive for CD105, CD73 and CD90.

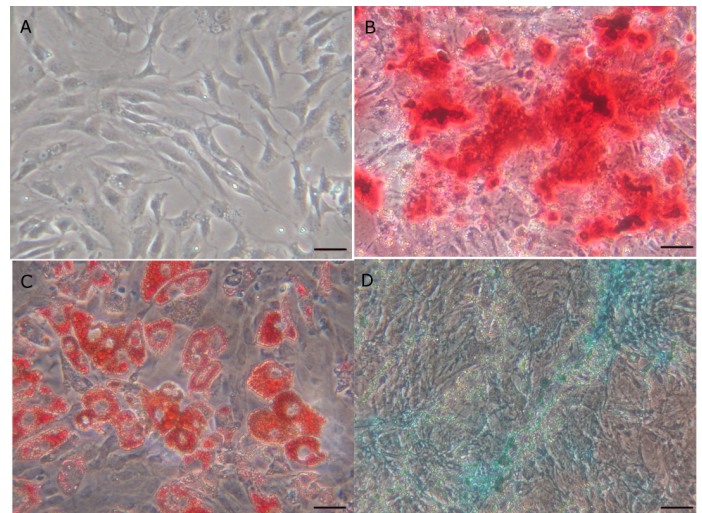


FIGURE 4 - Differentiation of Mesenchymal Stem Cells in three different cell types. **A:** Undifferentiated cells. **B:** Differentiation for osteocyte. **C:** Adipocyte differentiation for. **D:** Chondrocyte differentiation.

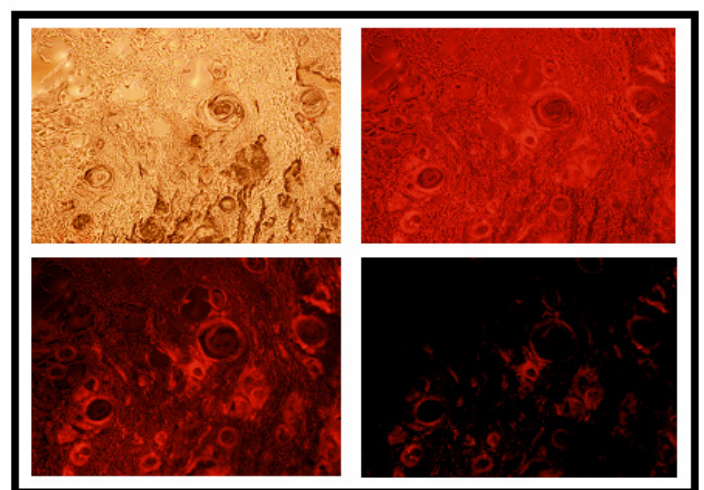


FIGURE 5 - DiI-positive cells, mesenchymal stem located with fluorescence microscopy. Blade with 400X magnification with gradual removal of light intensity, the same observation area, maintaining only the fluorescence.

Conclusion

It was possible to establish an experimental model for obtaining adipose tissue for isolation of mouse mesenchymal stem cells and their distribution in the TRAM flap in rats.

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