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# Title: Effect of polydeoxyribonucleotide and polynucleotide on healing and fatty degeneration of rotator cuff in hypercholesterolemic rat model

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**Disclosures:**  
I (and my co-authors) have  
nothing to disclose.



# BACKGROUND

- For chronic rotator cuff tear, the rate of healing failure after surgical repair and fatty degeneration is considerably high (Park et al. Arthroscopy. 2013., Goutallier et al. JSES. 2003.).
- Polydeoxyribonucleotide (PDRN) has been used as a tissue regeneration activator (Altavilla et al. Surgery. 2011., Galeano et al. Wound Repair Regen. 2008.).
- Hypercholesterolemia may have an adverse effect on biomechanics of rotator cuff healing (Bearson et al. JSES. 2013.) and on fatty infiltration on repaired rotator cuffs. (Chung et al. AJSM. 2016)



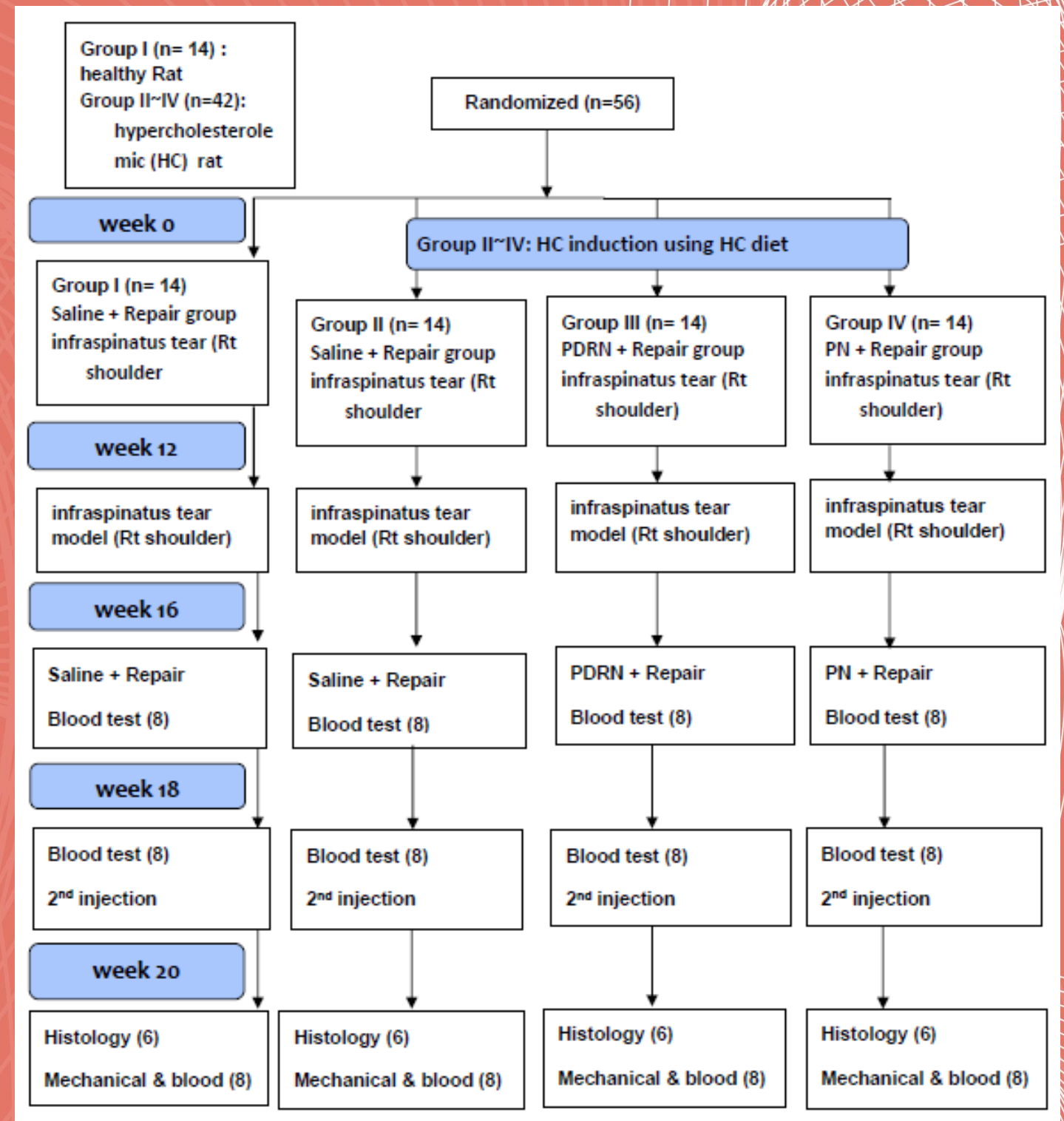
# THE AIM OF THIS STUDY

- To verify the effects of polydeoxyribonucleotide (PDRN) and polynucleotide (PN) on tendon healing and reversal of fatty degeneration in a chronic rotator cuff tear model using the infraspinatus of hypercholesterolemic rat.



# METHODS

- One normal rat group (saline+repair: NSR, G1), three hypercholesterolemic (HC) diet-induced HC rat groups (saline+repair: HSR, G2, PDRN+repair: HPR, G3, and PN+repair: HPNR, G4).
- The right shoulder was used for experimental interventions, and the left served as a control.



Flow diagram of the present study. HC: hypercholesterolemic, PDRN: polydeoxyribonucleotide, Rejuran: polynucleotide (PN).<sup>6</sup>



- **Histologic evaluation**
- **Fatty degeneration** - musculotendinous (M-T)
  - H&E stain
  - Oil Red O stain
  - Immunohistochemistry
  - CD68 : macrophage marker indicating tissue degeneration
  - CD168 : macrophage marker indicating tissue regeneration
  - CD68/CD168 ratio

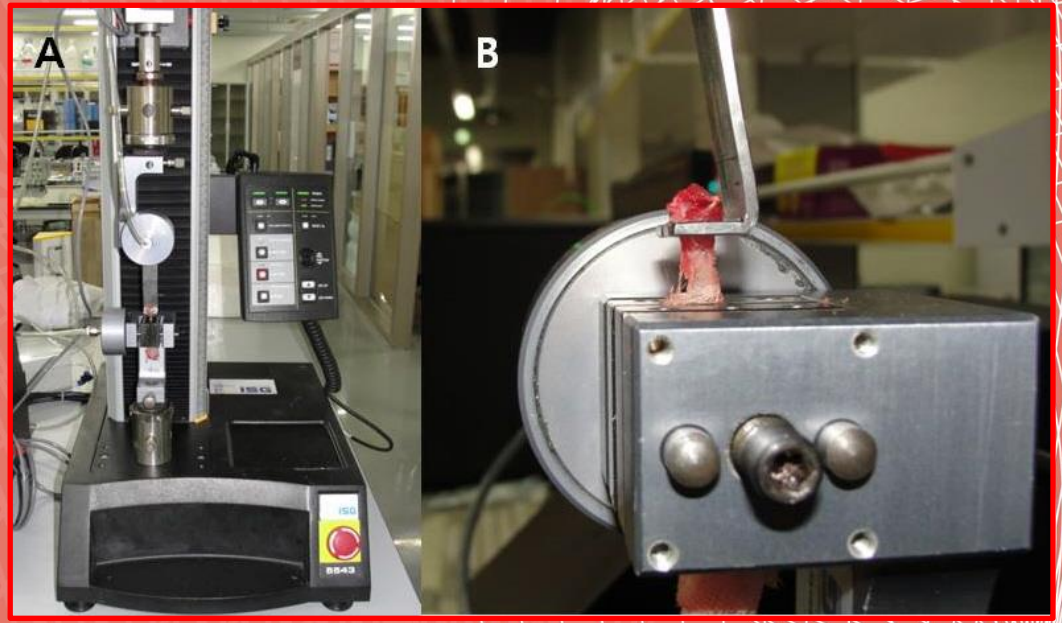
- **Tendon healing** - tendon to bone (T-B)
  - H&E stain,
  - Masson's Trichrome stain

- **Mechanical evaluation**
- **Instron** material testing machine
  - parameters - **peak load to failure (N)**
  - tear pattern**

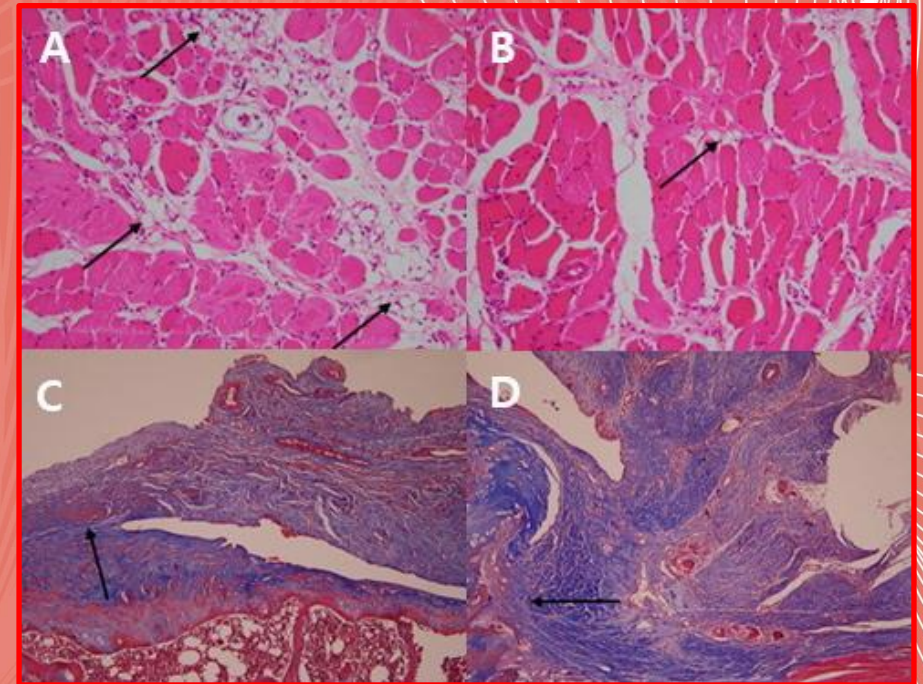
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Mechanical testing: A. The materials testing machine. Instron 5543, pneumatic grip, and rat muscle fixation device (KR Design Registration 30-0854878). B. Tensile load is being applied to infraspinatus of rat. Hwang et al. TERM. 2021 Dec;18(6):1009-1020.



A-B: Musculotendinous junction on H&E stain(x200). A. Adipocyte in Saline group. B. Adipocyte in PN group. C-D: Tendon to bone junction on Masson-Trichrome stain(x100) C. Saline group. D. PDRN group. Hwang et al. TERM. 2021 Dec;18(6):1009-1020.



# RESULTS

Mechanical testing. G: group, G 1 & 2: saline + repair, G 3: PDRN + repair, G 4: PN + repair, G1: normal rat, G2~4: hypercholesterolemic rat, p<.05

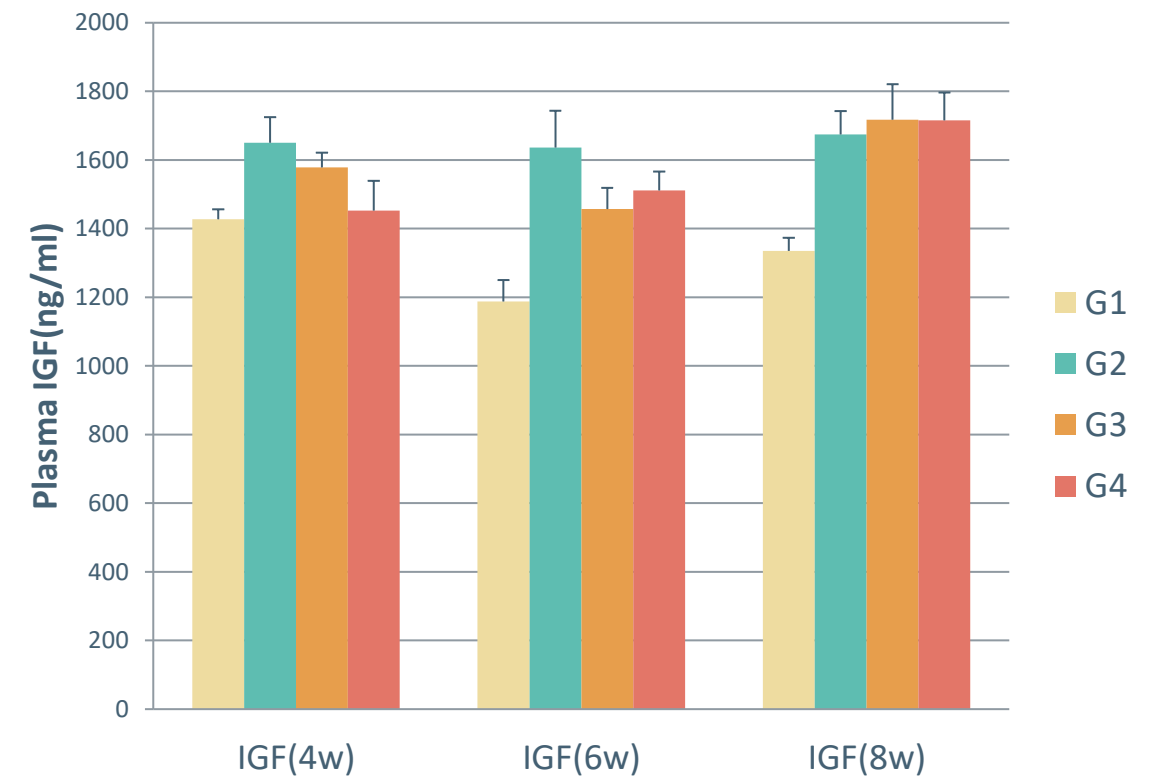
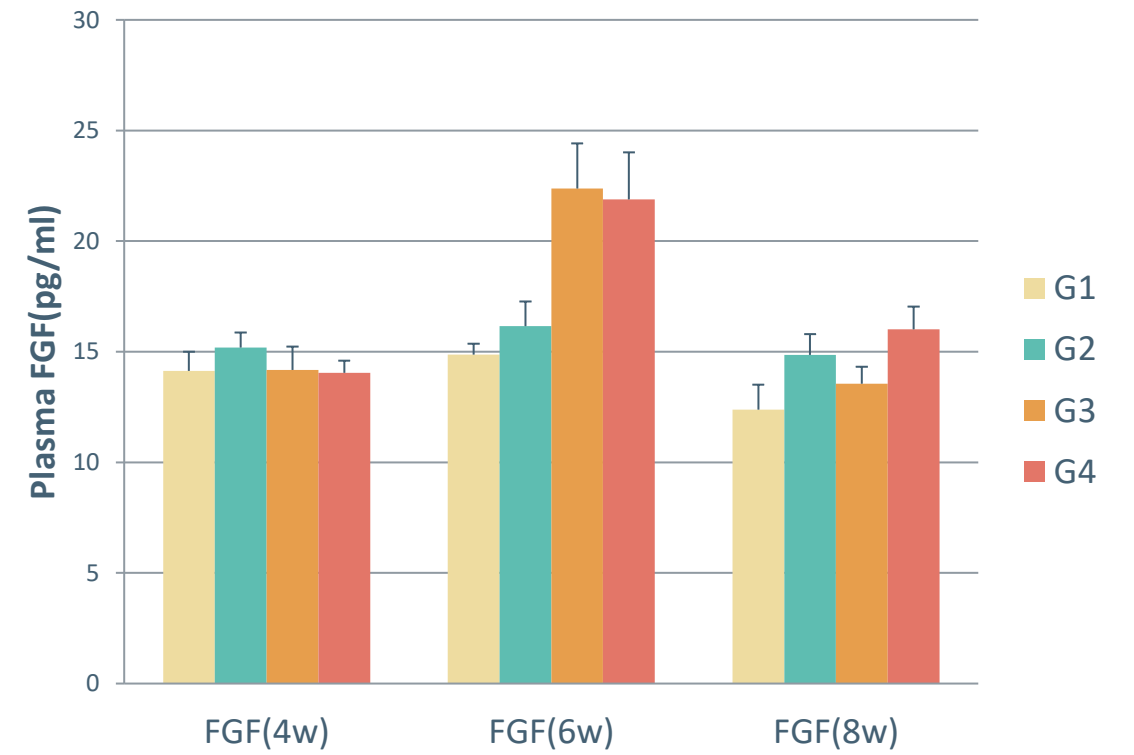
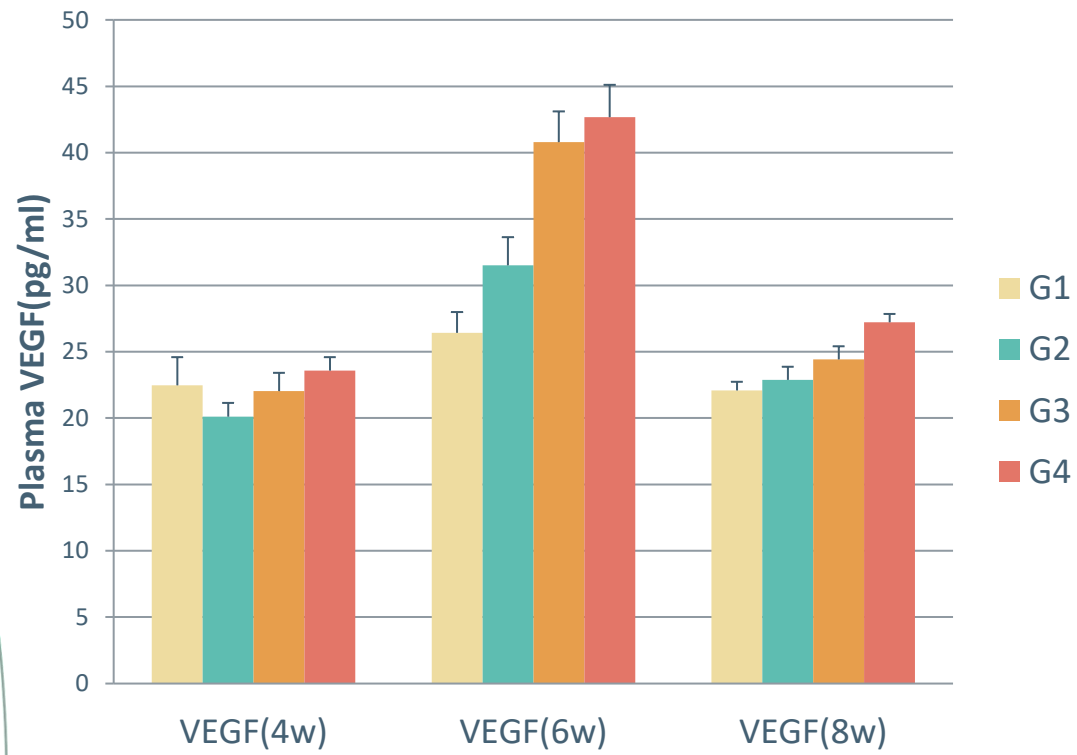
	G1 (n=7)	G2 (n=7)	G3(n=7)	G4(n=7)
<b>Load to failure-operated side (N)</b>	18.60 ± 8.26	14.33 ± 6.52	24.64 ± 10.76	20.42 ± 6.21
<b>Load to failure-control side (N)</b>	28.60 ± 4.74	29.91 ± 5.74	30.14 ± 2.78	28.82 ± 3.12
<b>P value</b>	.017	<.001	.215	.008
<b>Tear pattern</b> <b>Insertional : Midsubstance – operated side (n)</b>	7 : 0	7 : 0	6 : 1	6 : 1
<b>Tear pattern</b> <b>Insertional : Midsubstance – control side (n)</b>	0 : 7	0 : 7	0 : 7	0 : 7
<b>P value</b>	<.001	<.001	.002	.002

Among Rt shoulders		Load to failure (N)		Tear pattern	
<b>Normal Vs HC</b>	<b>G1 Vs G2</b>	.304		1.000	
<b>Among HC</b>	<b>G2 Vs G3</b>	.086	.083	.317	.591
	<b>G2 Vs G4</b>	.528		.317	
	<b>G3 Vs G4</b>	1.000		1.000	

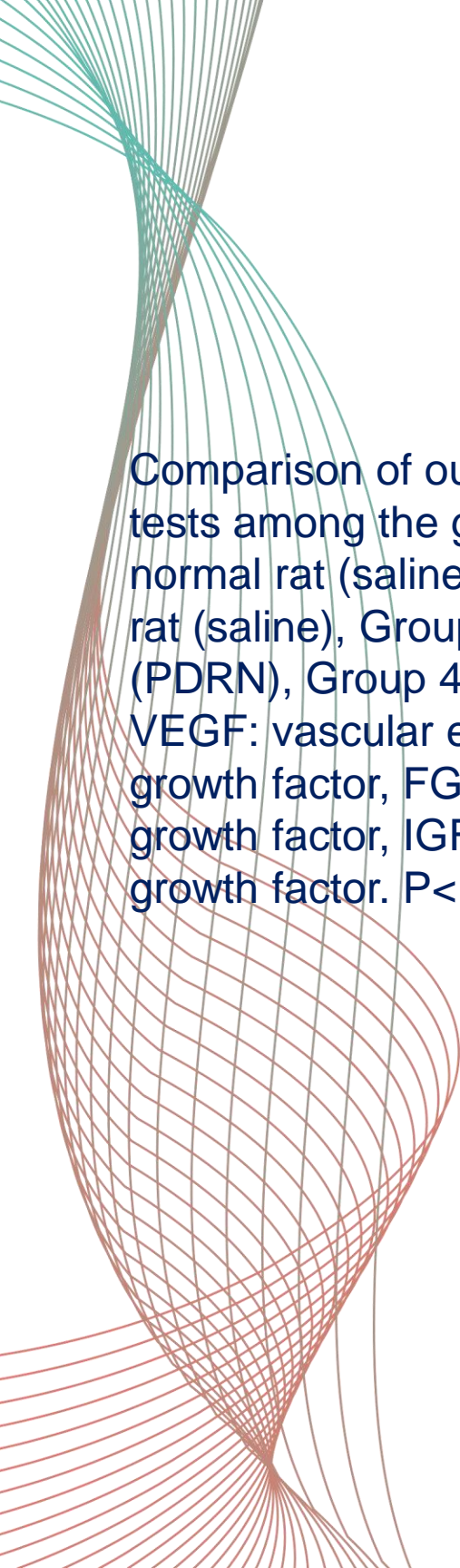


Groups		MT-H&E	MT-ORO	MT-CD68	MT-CD168	MT-CD68/C D168	TB-Co	TB-Pa
4-week	Sham1 Vs G1	.004	.005	.005	.034		.003	.003
	Sham2 Vs G2	.004	.005	.005	.002		.005	.005
	Sham2 Vs G3	.065	.007	.005	.001		.014	.014
	Sham2 Vs G4	.015	.007	.005	.030		.003	.003
	One-Way ANOVA or Kruskal Wallis	.016	.005	.011	.229	.765	.024	.024
	G2 Vs G3	.020	.012	.023	.279	1.000	.028	.028
	G2 Vs G4	.067	.012	.025	1.000	1.000	.116	.116
	G3 Vs G4	1.000	1.000	1.000	.992	1.000	1.000	1.000

Histologic evaluation. Sham1 or 2: non-operated Lt shoulder of G1 or 2, G1 or 2: saline + repair, G3: PDRN + repair, G4: PN + repair, MT: musculotendinous, TB: tendon to bone, Co: continuity of collagen fiber, Pa: parallelism of collagen fiber, P<.05



Blood testing. G 1~4: Group 1~4, Group 1: normal rat (saline), Group 2: HC rat (saline), Group 3: HC rat (PDRN), Group 4: HC rat (PN), VEGF: vascular endothelial growth factor, FGF: fibroblast growth factor, IGF: insulin like growth factor. 4w: 2<sup>nd</sup> operation, 6w: 2<sup>nd</sup> injection, 8w: sacrifice. Error bars indicate standard errors.



Comparison of outcome in bold tests among the groups. Group 1: normal rat (saline), Group 2: HC rat (saline), Group 3: HC rat (PDRN), Group 4: HC rat (PN), VEGF: vascular endothelial growth factor, FGF: fibroblast growth factor, IGF: insulin like growth factor. P<.05

	Normal Vs HC (G1 vs G2)	
<b>G1 vs G2</b>	VEGF (2 <sup>nd</sup> OP)	.406
	VEGF (2 <sup>nd</sup> injection)	.077
	VEGF (sacrifice)	.528
	FGF (2 <sup>nd</sup> OP)	.357
	FGF (2 <sup>nd</sup> injection)	.482
	FGF (sacrifice)	.120
	IGF (2 <sup>nd</sup> OP)	.016
	IGF (2 <sup>nd</sup> injection)	.004
	IGF (sacrifice)	.001
<b>One-way ANOVA or Kruskal-Wallis testing P&lt;.05</b>	Among HC (G2~4)	
<b>VEGF (2<sup>nd</sup> injection) P=.006</b>	G 2 Vs G 3	.031
	G 2 Vs G 4	.009
	G 3 Vs G 4	1.000
<b>VEGF (sacrifice) P=.009</b>	G 2 Vs G 3	.693
	G 2 Vs G 4	.008
	G 3 Vs G 4	.118
<b>FGF (2<sup>nd</sup> injection) P=.048</b>	G 2 Vs G 3	.079
	G 2 Vs G 4	.117
	G 3 Vs G 4	1.000

# DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

- In the present study, polydeoxyribonucleotide (PDRN) and polynucleotide (PN) showed a property of tendon healing and reversal of fatty degeneration of chronic rotator cuff tear in hypercholesterolemic rat model associated with growth factors.
- PDRN and PN might be effective for hypercholesterolemic human rotator cuff healing similar to PRP or stem cell.
- The use of PDRN and PN might have a possibility to improve tendon healing and decrease fatty degeneration in hypercholesterolemic state after cuff repair.



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