

*Institutional review board statement*

The study was reviewed and approved by the Fourth Military Medical University Institutional Review Board (Xi'an, China). Please see Attachment 1 which was attached to the manuscript for much detailed information.



*Institutional animal care and use committee statement*

All procedures involving animals were reviewed and approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of the Fourth Military Medical University (Xi'an, China).



*Animal care and use statement*

The animal protocol was designed to minimize pain or discomfort to the animals. The animals were acclimatized to laboratory conditions (23°C, 12 h/12 h light/dark, 50% humidity, *ad libitum* access to food and water) for two weeks prior to experimentation. All animals were euthanized by barbiturate overdose (intravenous injection, 150 mg/kg pentobarbital sodium) for tissue collection.

Frank W. Li

April 9, 2015



*Biostatistics*

The statistical methods of this study were reviewed by Dr. Jie-Lai Xia at [\[xiajielai@fmmu.edu.cn\]](mailto:xiajielai@fmmu.edu.cn), from Department of Statistics, the Fourth Military Medical University (Xi'an, China).

Jie-Lai Xia

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*Conflict-of-interest statement*

The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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*Data sharing statement*

No additional data are available.

Guoqin Li  
April 9, 2015