

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.

George W. Li

April 9, 2015

Biostatistics

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

Jie-Lai Xia

Apr. 9, 2015

Conflict-of-interest statement

The authors declare no competing financial interests.

Guang Li

April 9, 2015

Data sharing statement

No additional data are available.

George Li

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