

Animal Care and Use Statement

All animals were housed and handled according to Tianjin Medical University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee guidelines and all animal work was approved by the appropriate committee. All experiments were performed according to institutional guidelines. 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 (25 °C, 12 h/12 h light/dark, 50% humidity, and libitum access to food and water) for one week prior to experimentation. All animals were euthanized by barbiturate overdose (110 mg/kg pentobarbital sodium, iv) for tissue collection.