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## Detection of *Mycoplasma bovis* Infection in Cattle Mammary Tissue by Immunofluorescence and qRT-PCR Methods

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### ABSTRACT

Mastitis in cattle causes important economic losses in all over the world and *Mycoplasma bovis* is one of the important agent among pathogens shown to be responsible for this disease. The aim of this study was to determine the presence and prevalence of *Mycoplasma bovis* among the pathological agents implicated in mastitis by immunofluorescence staining and qRT-PCR methods in cattle mammary tissue. For this aim, 120 mammary samples with or without macroscopic lesions as this agent causes subclinical mastitis, were collected. Mastitis was diagnosed in 78 of 120 cases. Chronic mastitis cases in 56 and, acute mastitis in 22 cases were histopathologically diagnosed. Fluorescent positivity was determined 28/120 according to the results of immunofluorescence staining for all sections. Immunopositive signs of *Mycoplasma bovis* were commonly observed in samples with chronic mastitis. These results were confirmed by qRT-PCR. According to these results the presence of *Mycoplasma bovis* agent that an important threat to herd health is 23,3%.

**Keywords:** Cattle, Subclinical Mastitis, *Mycoplasma bovis*, qRT-PCR, Immunofluorescence.

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### Sığırların Memelerinde *Mycoplasma bovis* Enfeksiyonunun İmmunofloresan ve qRT-PCR Yöntemleriyle Araştırılması

#### ÖZ

Sığırlarda Mastitis tüm dünyada önemli ekonomik kayıplara neden olmaktadır. *Mycoplasma bovis* ise bu hastalıktan sorumlu olarak gösterilen patojenler arasında en önemli bakteriyel etkenlerden biridir. Bu çalışmanın amacı, sığırların memelerinde oluşan mastitiste rol oynayan patolojik ajanlar arasında *Mycoplasma bovis*'in varlığı ve prevalansını immunofloresan boyama ve qRT-PCR yöntemleriyle ve saptamaktır. Bu amaçla, etkenin subklinik mastitise yol açtığı düşünülerek, makroskopik olarak lezyonlu ya da lezyonsuz olunmasına bakılmaksızın 120 adet meme örneği toplandı. Toplanan 120 örneğin 56 kronik ve 22 akut olmak üzere toplam 78 örnekte histopatolojik olarak mastitis tanısı kondu. Tüm kesitlere uygulanan immünofloresan boyama sonuçlarına göre floresan pozitifliği 28/120 olarak belirlendi. *Mycoplasma bovis* immünopozitiflikleri daha yoğun olarak kronik mastitisli örneklerde gözlemlendi. Bu sonuçlar örneklere uygulanan qRT-PCR sonuçları ile uyumludur. Bu sonuçlara göre, Erzurum'da sürü sağlığı için önemli bir tehdit olan *Mycoplasma bovis* etken varlığı %23,3 oranında tespit edilmiştir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Sığırlar, Subklinik mastitis, *Mycoplasma bovis*, qRT-PCR, İmmunofloresan.

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## INTRODUCTION

Bovine mycoplasmosis caused by *M. bovis* has an important place in mastitis disease and cause serious economic losses in cattle worldwide. Mastitis caused by *M. bovis* is highly contagious and results in a rapid decline in milk production (Giovannini et al. 2013; Amram et al. 2013). This agent is associated with a variety of disease involving pneumonia, arthritis, keratoconjunctivitis, otitis media (Tamada et al. 2002; Adamu et al. 2013). *M. bovis* is a high pathogen, especially in young calves less than 4 months, but it always threat animals with other virus such as *Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus*, *Parainfluenza Virus Type 3*, *Bovine Herpes Virus*, *Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis Virus*, *Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus* and bacterium such as *Mannheimia haemolytica serotype A*, *Pasteurella multocida* and *Histophilus somni* ( Aebi et al. 2012; Amram et al. 2013). Besides the severity of disease increases by various factors like stress, environmental conditions, immunodeficiency. Treatment application such as vaccination and using antibiotics was reported to be ineffective. In recent years *M. bovis* is shown as the most important pathogen with increasing prevalence values. *M. bovis* infection in animals results in an annual economic loss of body weight gain was reported to be \$ 32 million in the United States. At the same time, \$ 100 million loses reported due to mastitis bigger than due to pneumonia or loss of body weight. *M. bovis* which is highly contagious agents can be found in milk, body fluids, reproductive discharges, semen. Chronically infected cows defined as carrier animals play important role in transferring. *M. bovis* passes from cattle to calves with milk by systemic infection without any clinical signs, therefore this agent threat calves health directly (Nicholas et al. 2002 Haapalaa et al. 2018). Because of the nonspecific clinical signs and pathological lesions of *M. bovis* only laboratory diagnosis by culture and serological methods is necessary for identification. Because of false results due to contamination and long survival time of antigen in blood. In recent years PCR and immunohistochemistry methods have successfully and effectively been employed for *M. bovis* ( Radelli et al. 2008; Karahan et al 2010; Wooley et al. 2012). In this study, we aimed to investigate presence and prevalence of *M. bovis* infection in mastitis cases in Erzurum.

## MATERIAL and METHOD

### Sampling

The material of this study (120 samples) was obtained from slaughterhouses in Erzurum Province in Turkey. Half of each received mammary tissue samples were stored for 1 day to be fixed in a 10% buffered formalin solution for histopathology and immunohistochemistry and half of each sample were stored -20 °C for qRT-PCR. Routine histopathological process was performed in Shandon

Citadel 2000 (USA) tissue system. After the routine histopathology process, all sample were poured into paraffin for blocking and prepared microtome sections in 5µm by using rotary microtome (Leica RM 2255). Haematoxylin Eosin staining applied to all sections. Slides were examined under the light microscopy (Olympus BX52 with DP72 camera attachment).

### Immunofluorescence staining method

After the routine histopathology process, Paraffin sections 4 µm were taken on to lysine-coated slides. These slides put in the oven for deparaffinization in 57° C for 1 hour. For indirect immunofluorescence staining, paraffin sections in 4 µm were placed on lysine-coated slide after primary Anti-rabbit *M. bovis* polyclonal antibody, Pendik Veterinary Control Institute) antibody application which was performed according to the protocol, 1\ 50 diluted seconder immunofluorescence antibody Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG H&L (FITC) (Cat No: ab 6717, 1/100 dilution, Abcam, Cambridge, UK) dropped 12 µl by using micropipette to each slides and waited 45 min. in the darkness. After standing in the dark, slides were washed with distilled water and covered with mounting medium (glycerol, 9 volumes; PBS 1 volume). All slides were examined in florescence microscope (Carl Zeiss axioskop A1 with Calibri 2 led fluorescence attachment).

### Total RNA Isolation

Total RNA isolation was realized from the collected mammary tissue samples through the utilization of Trizol (Invitrogen, USA). Total RNA isolation was realized in line with the manufacturers's protocols. Following the total RNA isolation, the RNA concentration was measured by virtue of NanoDrop (Epoch Microplate Spectrophotometer, USA). RNAs were run in a 1.5% agarose gel in 1XTBE solution for one hour at 80 volts with a view to control total RNA quality and visualized by gel imaging system and their RNA quality was determined.

### DNase I treatment and cDNA Synthesis

DNase I (Thermo Scientific, USA) was performed against DNA contamination in isolated RNA samples. Dnaz I treatment was performed in line with the protocol provided in the kit. Subsequently, 1 µg was taken from these RNAs and cDNA was synthesized through utilization of the miScript Reverse Transcription Kit (Qiagen, Germany) in line with the protocol provided. The purity and quantity of the obtained cDNA was measured by virtue of spectrophotometer (Epoch Microplate Spectrophotometer, USA), and the cDNAs were diluted at the same ratios. Subsequently, the cDNA samples were stored at -20 °C for utilization in Real Time PCR studies.

### Real-time PCR

qRT-PCR was performed through utilization of the CFX96 BioRad device in order to detect *M. Bovis*. The  $\beta$ -actin gene was employed for internal control. Master mix content created in real time PCR experiments is as follows: Syber Green 2X Rox Dye Master mix (Qiagen Germany), forward and reverse primers designed for genes, cDNAs as template and nuclease-free water. Reaction conditions and primer sequences of the genes (Fan et al. 2018) are shown in Table 1.

### Statistical analysis

IBM SPSS 20 program was performed for statistical analysis. The Cp values of each virus were evaluated using a linear mixed model (Thonur et al. 2012).

## RESULTS

In this study 120 cow mammary tissue were collected from the slaughterhouse. Mastitis was diagnosed in 78 of 120 (65%) cases. Chronic mastitis cases in 56 and, acute mastitis in 22 cases were histopathologically diagnosed. Fluorescent positivity was determined 28/120 according to the results of immunofluorescence staining for all sections. Positive immun signs of *M. bovis* were observed in 24 samples with chronic mastitis, 4 samples with acute mastitis. qRT-PCR test for *M. bovis* agent extracted from mammary tissue were applied, 28 out of 120 lung tissue samples examined were positive at qRT-PCR test. For positive reactions of immunofluorescence stain frequently cytoplasm of inflammatory cells was first target also epithelium and exudate in the lumen of mammary gland.

### Histopathology

Histopathological analysis of 56/120 samples were diagnosed with chronic mastitis and 22/120 cases were diagnosed with acute mastitis. In chronic cases, mononuclear cell infiltration in interstitial tissue (Fig.1 A,B) and interalveolar septum thickness due to increased connective tissue were observed. In acute cases, presence of exudates containing neutrophil leukocytes in alveoli of mammary gland was observed.

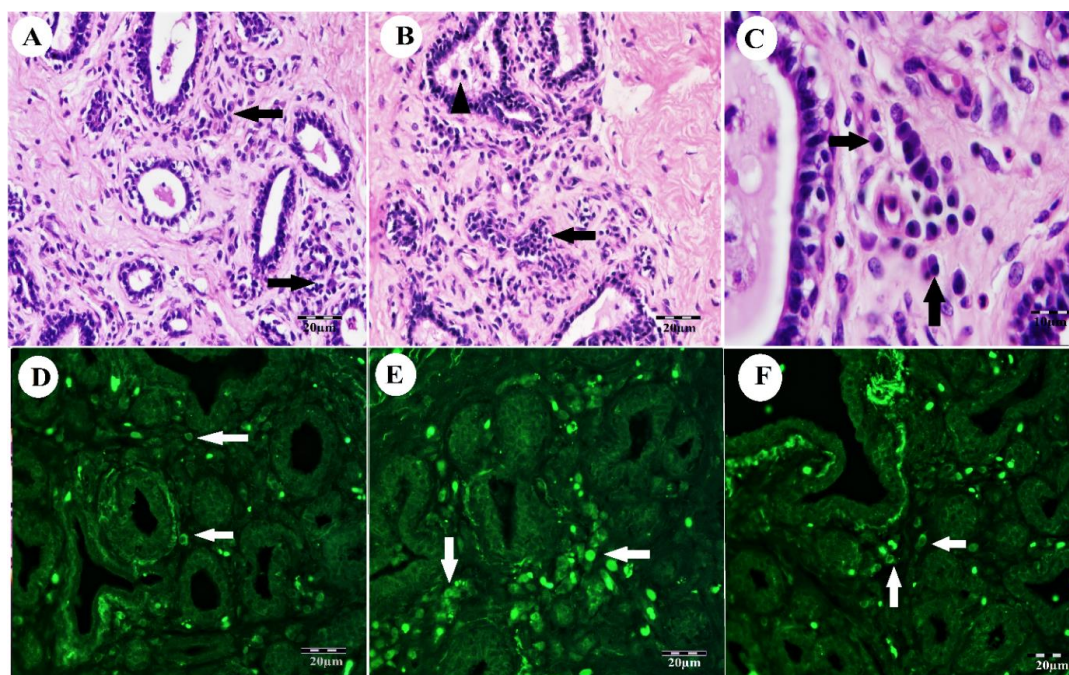
Macrophage infiltration with mononuclear cells was observed. Besides, diffuse and common plasma cell infiltration (Fig.1C) was the most striking finding in *M. bovis* positive tissues.

### Immunofluorescence staining results

Positive staining for *M. bovis* antigen was detected in 28 out of 120 by indirect immunofluorescence. *M. bovis* antigen has been localized in the cytoplasm of macrophages around the alveoli and lumen of alveoli containing inflammatory cells in exudate. Positive reactions for immunofluorescence were located in frequently cytoplasm of inflammatory cells and epithelial cells.

### qRT-PCR Results

A ten-fold serial dilution of each of the in vitro transcribed RNAs of *M. bovis* was triplicate analysis. *M. bovis* was detected 20 of 120 samples. *M. bovis* nucleic acid signals were shown in Figs. 2 and 3.



**Figure 1.** **A)** Mononuclear (macrophage) cell infiltrations in the interstitial space (arrows). H & E. 20  $\mu$ m. **B)** Plasma cell infiltrations (arrows), H & E. 20  $\mu$ m. **C)** Plasma cell accumulation (arrows). Macrophages in gland (arrowhead). H & E. 20  $\mu$ m. **D)** *M. bovis* positivity in cytoplasm of mononuclear cells (arrows). IF. 20  $\mu$ m. **E)** Positivity (arrows) in mononuclear cells. IF. 20  $\mu$ m. **F)** Positive reaction for *M. bovis* (arrows) in mononuclear cells. IF. 20  $\mu$ m

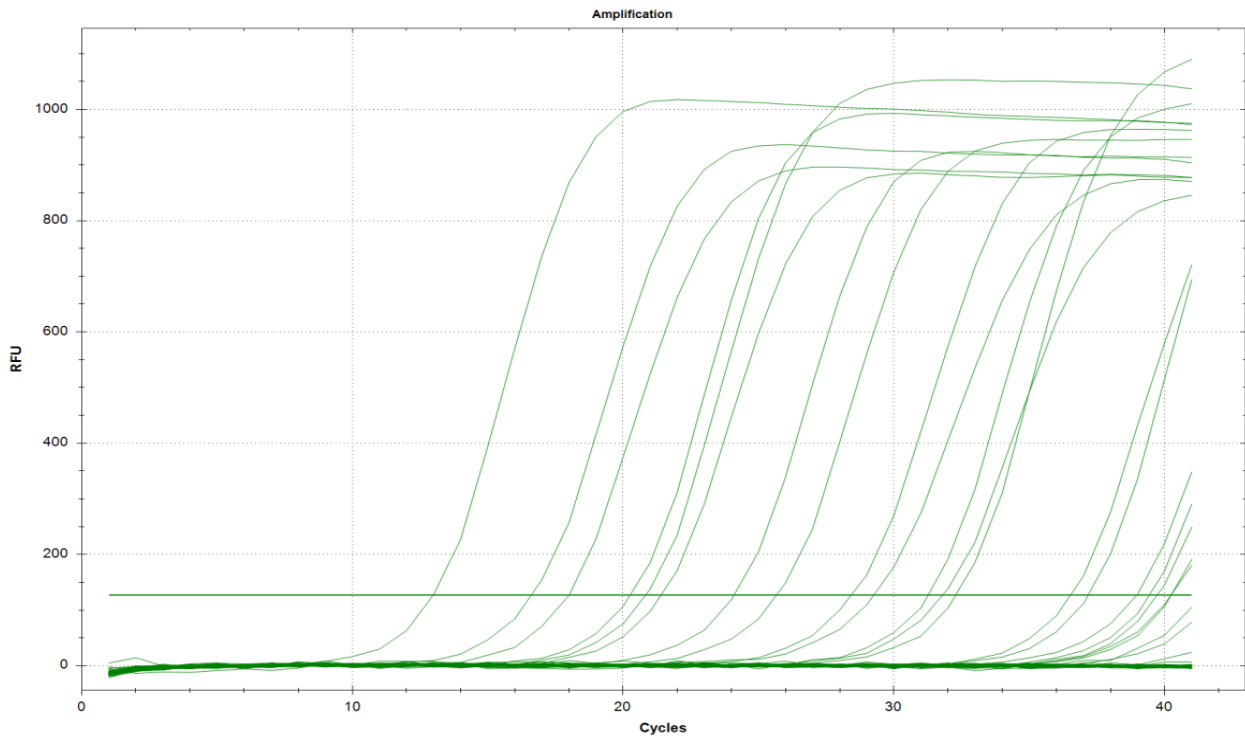


Figure 2. *M. bovis* nucleic acid signals in mammary tissues.

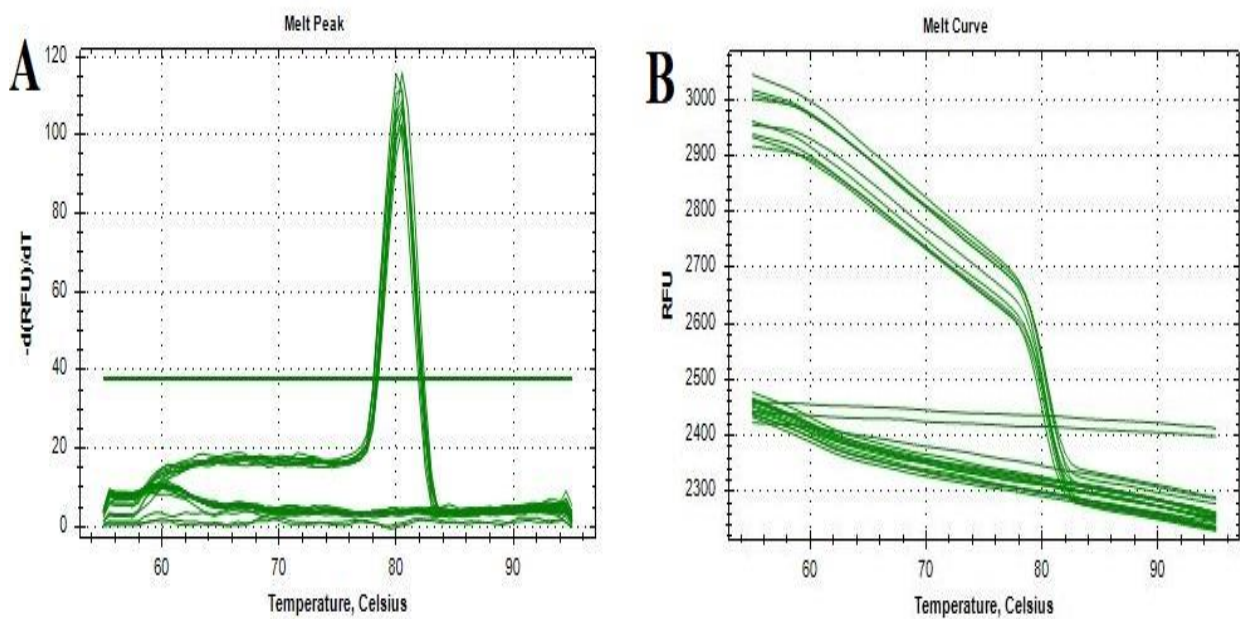


Figure 3. *M. bovis* primer melt peak and melting curve analysis.

Table 1. Primer sequences of *M. bovis*/uvrC

Gen Name	Primer sequences	Annealing	Reference
<i>M. bovis</i> /uvrC	F:CCTGTCGGAGTTGCAATTGTT R:CGGTCAACTTCAACTTGAATTG	60	Fan et al., 2018



## DISCUSSION

Mastitis diseases in cattle is widespread throughout the world, as are diseases which often results in Turkey (Karahan et al. 2010). Mycoplasmal agents are reported to be the most common cause of mastitis with the increasing prevalence values. A lot of studies usually built on serological tests carried out in the presence of *M. bovis* in the world; in France (Grand et al. 2002) 10-20 %, England (Ayling et al. 2005) 22%, United States (Soehnlén et al. 2011) 41.1%. In our country, it is noted that a small number of studies on this subject as reported of mycoplasmal mastitis in cattle, the prevalence of *M. bovis* was reported to be 7.5 % in the Marmara region and (Erdağ et al. 1998). In this study the presence of *M. bovis* factors in cattle with mastitis was found in 23.3 % by immunofluorescence and qRT-PCR.

Although the pathogenesis of the disease is not fully explained, the data reported in different studies are as follows; In a study conducted by investigating *M. bovis* in tissues by immunohistochemical methods. *M. bovis* cause necrosis in the cells by providing oxidative stress and nitrate stress markers via increasing the production of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (Hydrogen peroxide) (Schott et al. 2013). *M. bovis* infection was found to slow cellular metabolism in an experimental study. In addition, decreased neutrophil degranulation and ROS (Reactive Oxygen Species) factors caused by decreasing the growth of leukocytes, the immune system was seen to suppress the immunosuppression and therefore it is revealed that *M. bovis* infections are chronic. In experimental studies, it has been found that *M. bovis* agents have been placed in the cytoplasm of phagocytic cells such as tissue macrophages and can hold onto the surface of macrophages and proliferate here (Kleinschmidt et al. 2013). Obtained findings of this study especially immunofluorescence staining results support these informations.

In recent studies, diagnostic methods such as PCR, culture, ELISA, SDS-PAGE, nucleic acid hybridization were compared and PCR techniques were described as more sensitive and specific method than any other technique. Besides, many researchers have used immunohistochemistry successfully in operation to demonstrate the presence of the agent in lesion. Last research claim that the first step to control and to prevent the spread of mycoplasmal disease is recognizing but mycoplasmal agents are known to be difficult in the early and rapid diagnosis due to difficulty in isolation and identification (Giovannini et al. 2013). This disease not only threatens the cows with mastitis but also threatens the calves due to their subclinical progression in adults and contaminating milk (Stipkovits et al. 2000; Rosetti et al 2010).

In conclusion our findings demonstrate a high prevalence of *M. bovis* infection in adult cattle in the east of Turkey. Suitable environment conditions for the animals waiting to be able to create an infectious disease in the normal flora and subclinically infected cows of the factors show that the continuity of this threat. There is a critical need for preventative strategies in the farm for this pathogen. According to the results obtained, RT-PCR is an effective method for identification but optimizing processes in the RNA extraction phase for detection *M. bovis* factor by using this method hold an important place for obtaining reliable results.

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## Dermatophytes Isolated From Dogs and Cats Suspected Dermatophytoses in Istanbul, Turkey Within A 15-Year-Period: An Updated Report

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### ABSTRACT

The present research was aimed to determine the prevalence of dermatophytes isolated from symptomatic dogs and cats, within a 15-year-period, in the city of Istanbul, Turkey. Dermatological specimens were collected from 1504 dogs and 846 cats, which were presented clinical signs of ringworm. Direct microscopy and mycological cultures were performed. The fungal growth rate was detected at 8.2% and 22.8% from dogs and cats, respectively. *Microsporum canis* was the most frequently isolated species followed by *Trichophyton* spp., *M. gypsum*, *T. mentagrophytes*, *M. nanum*, other *Microsporum* spp. moreover *T. tonsurans*. The cats less than two-year age and more than ten-year age showed a statistically significant higher isolation rate of infection ( $p < 0.05$ ). There were no statistically significant differences between the age of the dogs and the dermatophyte isolation rate and between the gender of the dogs and cats and the dermatophyte isolation rate. As a conclusion, the data suggest an updated report on local epidemiology and define potential etiologic agents.

**Keywords:** Dermatophytoses, Dog, Cat, Mycological Culture, *Microsporum* spp., *Trichophyton* spp.

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### 15-Yıllık Periyotta İstanbul Türkiye’de Dermatofitoz Şüpheli Köpek ve Kedilerden İzole Edilen Dermatofitler: Güncellenmiş Rapor

### ÖZ

Bu araştırma, İstanbul ilinde 15 yıllık bir süre içinde semptomatik köpek ve kedilerden izole edilen dermatofitlerin yaygınlığını belirlemeyi amaçlamıştır. Dermatolojik örnekler ringworm klinik belirtileri gösteren 1504 köpek ve 846 kediden toplandı. Direkt mikroskopi ve mikolojik kültürler yapıldı. Mantar üreme oranları, köpeklerde % 8.2 kedilerde % 22.8 olarak saptandı. En sık izole edilen tür *Microsporum canis* idi. Bunu *Trichophyton* spp., *M. gypsum*, *T. mentagrophytes*, *M. nanum*, diğer *Microsporum* spp. ve *T. tonsurans* takip etti. İki yaşından küçük ve on yaşından büyük kediler, istatistiksel olarak anlamlı derecede yüksek bir etken izolasyon oranı gösterdi ( $p < 0.05$ ). Köpeklerin yaşı ve dermatofit izolasyon oranları ile kedi ve köpeklerin cinsiyeti ve dermatofit izolasyon oranları arasında istatistiksel olarak anlamlı bir fark bulunmadı. Sonuç olarak, veriler yerel epidemiyoloji üzerine güncel bir rapor sunmakta ve olası etiyolojik ajanları tanımlamaktadır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Dermatofitler, Köpek, Kedi, Mikolojik Kültür, *Microsporum* spp., *Trichophyton* spp.

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## INTRODUCTION

Dermatophytoses in companion animals, especially dogs and cats, is a common skin disease caused by keratinophilic dermatophytes. More than 30 species of dermatophytes have been identified; however, *Microsporum canis*, *Microsporum gypsum* and *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* are the primary etiological agents. Because of the pleomorphic presentation of symptoms, contagious nature, and zoonotic importance, dermatophytoses is recognised as one of the major public health problems worldwide (Moriello et al. 2017, Paterson 2017). It has been emphasised that approximately 20-50 % of human skin infections were caused by zoonotic dermatophytes (Murmu et al. 2015, Weese and Fulford 2010).

Companion animals showed a higher prevalence and considered as the main source of human dermatophyte infections (Khosravi and Mahmoudi 2003, Mancianti et al. 2002, Seker and Dogan 2011). The spread of dermatophytes from animals to humans may usually occur by direct contact or indirectly through infected hair and scales from animals (Khosravi and Mahmoudi 2003). The spreading of dermatophyte infections is crucial to describe the infective routes to determine the possible sources of infection, or to identify the dissemination areas of the pathogens (Kanbe et al. 2003).

Various studies have been documented that the prevalence of dermatophytoses ranges worldwide ranges within 4% to 20% in dogs and more than 20% in cats (Brilhante et al. 2003, Mattei et al. 2014, Moriello et al. 2017, Nichita and Marcu 2010, Paterson 2017). Besides, in Turkey, İlhan et al. (2016), Seker and Dogan (2011) and Tel and Akan (2008) have determined the prevalence of these infections and the ranges were between 8% and 19% in dogs, while 7% and 72% in cats. Most studies have focused that *M. canis* is the ubiquitous dermatophyte isolated from suspected animals. Moreover, *M. canis*, as well as *M. gypsum* and *T. mentagrophytes*, are the fungus responsible for more than 95% of all dermatophytoses cases in companion animals (Mattei et al. 2014). The understanding of ringworm presence is essential for decreasing the transmission of fungal infections to animals and humans. The present study aimed to determine the prevalence of the predominant pathogenic dermatophyte species from symptomatic dogs and cats, within a 15-year-period, to present an updated report on local epidemiology and identify possible pathogens, in the city of Istanbul, Turkey.

## MATERIALS and METHODS

### Collection of samples

Cases clinically suspected of dermatophytoses and presented at the Department of Internal Medicine were included in the study. At the fifteen-year period, between 2003 and 2017, the samples were obtained from 1504 dogs and 846 cats. Diagnosis of the disease was based on historical data, clinical signs or findings on physical examination. Alopecia and desquamation were reported by veterinary practitioners and consecutively classified as suspected cases of dermatophytoses. Plucked hairs and scraped scales of each animal were collected from the lesions using a sterile lancet by veterinary practitioners and placed in sterile petri dishes. All samples were processed within 2 hours.

Demographic data on patients' sex and age were gathered from each medical record. Three age group were selected for this study; less than two years, 2-10 year, and more than ten years. We did not have age data of 420 dogs and 362 cats, and sex data of 320 dogs and 139 cats did not extract.

### Direct microscopic examination

The 'gold standard' diagnostic techniques were applied for identification of dermatophytoses such as direct microscopic examination of clinical specimens (Debnath et al. 2016, Mattei et al. 2014). All samples were examined for fungal elements in 10% potassium hydroxide (KOH) under a light microscope at 40× magnification.

### Mycologic culture

The samples were inoculated onto Sabouraud Dextrose Agar (SDA) (HiMedia Laboratories, Mumbai, India, Catalogue No. M063) supplemented with cycloheximide and chloramphenicol, and Dermatophyte Test Medium (DTM) (HiMedia Laboratories, Mumbai, India, Catalogue No. M188). The plates were incubated at 25°C for up to 3 weeks and were observed periodically for the appearance of fungal growth. The identification of the cultures was made according to "dermatophytes identification scheme". The macroscopical examination of cultures was established by the colony morphology, pigmentation and growth rate. The microscopic examination was formed by lactophenol cotton blue staining by their size, shape, presence of septa, the thickness of conidial wall and arrangement of conidial cells around the hyphae (de Hoog et al. 2000, Koneman and Roberts 1985).

### Statistical analyses

Chi-square ( $\chi^2$ ) test was used to examine the statistical significance of gender and age in the distribution of positive cultures in dogs and cats separately. The cats and dogs, which have age and gender data, were involved in statistical analyses. *p* value of < 0.05 was considered significant. SPSS 13.0 software was used for statistical analysis. (Özdamar 2003).

## RESULTS

Dermatological specimens were collected from 1504 dogs and 846 cats. In dogs, 626 were female while 558 of were male and in cats, 389 were female while 318 of were male. Three hundred twenty-five of the dogs were <2 year, 553 of were between 2 and 10 years while 206 of were >10 years. Two hundred nine of the cats were <2 years, 221 of were between 2 and 10 years while 54 of were >10 year.

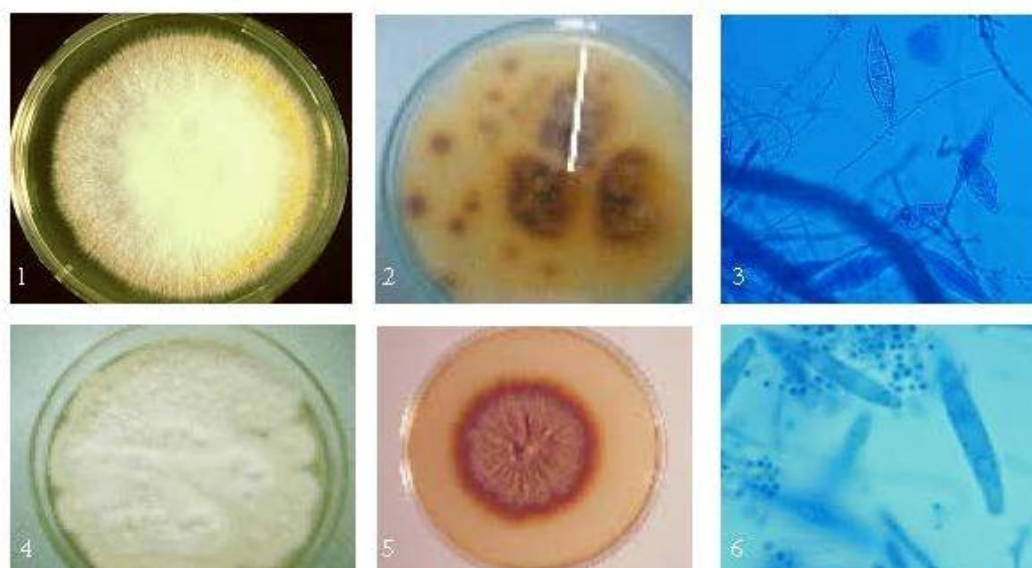
At the results of the direct microscopic examination of hair samples belonging to 1504 dogs and 846 cats, fungal elements were observed in 56,5 % and 58,2% of clinical specimens, respectively. 60 % of the dog samples and 69,9 % of the cat samples containing fungal elements were also positive for culture.

According to the fungal culture, the colony that were white or yellowish colour; plane, velvety or cottony surface and brown or golden-yellow reverse in SDA were identified as *Microsporum* spp. The appearance of white aerial hyphae and red colour around the colony in DTM demonstrated the presence of *Microsporum* spp. The colony that was powdery to a granular surface; plane, white to cream colour and reverse yellowish brown to reddish-brown in SDA were identified as *Trichophyton* spp. White colonies and a red colour change develop in the medium around the fungal growth in DTM were positive for the presence of *Trichophyton* spp.. Macroscopic appearance of *M.canis* and *T. mentagrophytes* isolates on SDA, and microscopic appearance under a light microscope at a 40× magnification of isolates stained by lactophenol cotton blue are shown in Figure 1.

Overall, dermatophytoses were detected in 317 of 2350 (13.5%) samples. The fungal growth rates were 8.2% and 22.8% from dogs and cats, respectively. *M. canis* was the most frequently isolated species from dogs and cats (64.4%), followed by *Trichophyton* spp., *M. gypseum*, *T. mentagrophytes*, *Microsporum nanum*, other *Microsporum* spp., and *Trichophyton tonsurans*. The distribution of dermatophytes isolated from dog and cat skin scrapings according to the species are shown in Table 1.

Dermatophyte identification was observed mostly in the dogs between 2 and 10 years (n: 53) and in the cats, the maximum identification was detected from the under two years animals (n: 87). Four hundred twenty dogs and 362 cats did not have age data; therefore, these animals were not included in the statistical analysis. The cats less than two-year age and more than ten-year age showed a statistical significance ( $p < 0.05$ ). There were no statistically significant differences between the age of the dogs and the dermatophyte isolation rate. The age and isolation rates of dogs and cats with dermatophytoses are shown in Table 2 and Table 3, respectively.

Dermatophyte identification was observed similarly in male and female dogs and cats. Three hundred twenty dogs and 139 cats did not have sex data; therefore, these animals were not included in the statistical analysis. There were no statistically significant differences between the gender of both dogs and cats, and the dermatophyte isolation rate. The gender and isolation rates of dogs and cats with dermatophytoses are shown in Table 4 and Table 5, respectively.



**Figure 1.** The macroscopic and microscopic appearance of *M.canis* and *T. mentagrophytes* isolates

1. *M.canis* on SDA 2. *M.canis* on SDA, reverse 3. Microscopic appearance of *M.canis* at a 40× 4. *T. mentagrophytes* on SDA 5. *T. mentagrophytes* on SDA, reverse 6. Microscopic appearance of *T. mentagrophytes* at a 40×

**Table 1.** The distribution of dermatophytes isolated from dog and cat skin scrapings according to the species

<i>Dermatophytes</i>	<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Cats</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>M. canis</i>	63 (50.8%)	141 (73%)	204 (64.4%)
<i>M. gypseum</i>	9 (7.3%)	28 (14.5%)	37 (11.7%)
<i>M. nanum</i>	7 (5.6%)	3 (1.6%)	10 (3.1%)
<b>Other <i>Microsporum</i> spp.</b>	3 (2.4%)	4 (2.1%)	7 (2.2%)
<i>T. mentagrophytes</i>	12(9.7%)	5(2.6%)	17 (5.4%)
<i>T. tonsurans</i>	1 (0.8%)	0 (-)	1 (0.3%)
<i>Trichophyton</i> sp.	29 (23.4%)	12 (6.2%)	41(12.9)
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>317</b>

**Table 2.** The age and isolation rates of dogs with dermatophytoses

<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Dermatophytoses positive</b>	<b>Dermatophytoses negative</b>	<b>Total</b>
<2 year	38 (11.6%)	287 (88.4%)	325 (100 %)
2-10 year	53 (9.5%)	500 (90.5%)	553 (100 %)
>10 year	16 (7.7%)	190 (92.3 %)	206 (100 %)
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>1084</b>

**Table 3.** The age and isolation rates of cats with dermatophytoses

<b>Cats</b>	<b>Dermatophytoses positive</b>	<b>Dermatophytoses negative</b>	<b>Total</b>
<2 year	87 (41.6%)*	122 (58.4%)	209 (100 %)
2-10 year	43 (19.4%)	178 (80.6%)	221 (100 %)
>10 year	29 (53.7%)*	25 (46.3%)	54 (100 %)
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>484</b>

\* There is a statistical difference ( $p < 0.05$ ) between groups.

**Table 4.** The gender and isolation rates of dogs with dermatophytoses

<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Dermatophytoses positive</b>	<b>Dermatophytoses negative</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Male</b>	50 (8.9%)	508 (91.1 %)	558 (100 %)
<b>Female</b>	55 (8.7%)	571 (91.3 %)	626 (100 %)
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>1079</b>	<b>1184</b>

**Table 5.** The gender and isolation rates of cats with dermatophytoses

<b>Cats</b>	<b>Dermatophytoses positive</b>	<b>Dermatophytoses negative</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Male</b>	66 (20.7%)	252 (79.3 %)	318 (100 %)
<b>Female</b>	93 (23.9%)	296 (76.1 %)	389 (100 %)
<b>Total</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>707</b>

Nichita and Marcu (2010) (16.8%) and Mancianti et al. (2002) (18.7%). However, Khosravi and

## DISCUSSION

Dermatophytoses are common worldwide and continue to increase, and thus several reports are available on the prevalence of the infection as varying. Murmu et al. (2016) indicated that the incidence of dermatophytoses in cats was the highest (55.5%) than dogs. Nweze (2011) and Esch and Peterson (2013) who observed a 58-67% occurrence rate in their studies was supported this high prevalence. The prevalence of dermatophytoses in dogs were reported by Brillhante et al. (2003) (14.3%),

Mahmoudi (2003) indicated that 8.2% of samples from dogs were found positive about dermatophytoses. Seker and Dogan (2011) were determined 20.1% as positive for dermatophytes.

In the present study, the dermatophyte isolation rates from dogs and cats were 8.2% and 22.8 %, respectively. Our findings showed roughly similarity with these results. Contrary to this, the studies that had higher results were reported by Faggi et al. (1987), Seker and Dogan (2011) and Moriello et al.

(2017). These differences are not surprising, and it may be originated because of the full range in methodologies. Moreover, the author reported that the prevalence of dermatophytes depends on geographical location, the season of sampling, clinical, and living conditions (Proverbio et al. 2014).

*M. canis* is a pathogenic fungal species that causes a superficial skin infection called dermatophytoses in domestic carnivores while they can be transmitted to human beings with close contact of the affected animal (Moriello et al. 2017). The cats are reported as the principal reservoir for this pathogen. Nichita and Marcu (2010) observed that the prevalence in cats is usually higher than in dogs. Mancianti et al. (2002), Brillhante et al. (2003) and Cafarchia et al. (2004) reported similar results. According to the results from this study, *M. canis* was the most common causative agent of dermatophyte isolated, and it is in agreement with the reports obtained (Brilhante et al. 2003, Mancianti et al. 2002).

Dermatophytoses studies have been described throughout the world; *M. canis*, *T. mentagrophytes* and *M. gypseum* were jointly responsible for almost all of the infections in dogs and cats. In the present study, the identified dermatophytes were *M. canis* (n=204), *M. gypseum* (n=37), *M. nanum* (n=10), other *Microsporum* sp. (n=7), *T. mentagrophytes* (n=17), *T. tonsurans* (n=1) and other *Trichophyton* sp. (n=41). These data almost correspond to the situation in Turkey where these species are the most common fungus, which has been seen in dogs and cats. Tel and Akan (2008) determined the distribution of isolated strains as 95.9 % *M. canis* and 4.1 % *M. nanum* in cats; 50 % *M. canis*, 18.7 % *T. mentagrophytes*, in dogs in Ankara. Seker and Dogan (2011) indicated that *M. canis* was the most common dermatophyte isolated from dogs (46%) and cats (69.7%), followed by *T. mentagrophytes* (32.4%) in dogs in Ankara and Izmir. Ilhan et al. (2016) showed that the most frequently isolated fungi were *T. terrestre* (4.1%), followed by *M. gypseum* (1.1%), *M. nanum* (1.1%), and *T. mentagrophytes* (0.7%) in cats in Van.

Moriello et al. (2017) identified the predispositions of the development of dermatophytoses in cats and dogs and underlined the being puppies and kittens, lifestyle, free-roaming animals and warm locations for the risk populations. Age was recognised as a predisposing factor by many researchers. Tel and Akan (2008) found the prevalence to be significant ( $p \leq 0.01$ ) in animals that were smaller than one year old. Mattei et al. (2014) determined that the animals younger than one-year-old appear to be susceptible to dermatophytoses. Contrary to these findings, Seker and Doğan (2011) detected no significant difference statistically between the age groups and the prevalence rate. In this study, there was a significant difference in the distribution of positive cultures in

cats less than two-year age and more than ten-year age. According to our findings, the higher susceptibility of young and old cats may be related to the immunological condition and deficiency of fungistatic linoleic acid.

Several researchers did not detect any correlation between sex and the presence of infections (Mancianti et al. 2002, Mattei et al. 2014, Seker and Dogan 2011). Therewithal, Pinter et al. (1999) and Cafarchia et al. (2004) have reported that male dogs were most often affected by dermatophyte infections. Also, Iorio et al. (2007) were detected the prevalence rate of dermatophytes in female cats more than male cats and Cafarchia et al. (2004) were reported the prevalence rate of *M. canis* in female cats more than male cats. In the current study, the isolation rate of dermatophytes in female and male animals was not found to be significant.

## CONCLUSION

The present study emphasised that fungal infections are ubiquitous in companion animals such as cats and dogs and *M. canis* is usually the first animal-associated fungus causing infections. As a conclusion, the data suggest an updated review of local epidemiology and clarify possible etiologic agents, and this study will provide valuable information on current epidemiological trends for fungal infections in Turkey.

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## Antinociceptive and Anxiolytic-Like Effects of Some Compounds Carrying Benzothiazole Ring

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to examine the antinociceptive and anxiolytic-like effects of some compounds carrying benzothiazole ring. The antinociceptive effects of test compounds, administered at a dose of 40 mg/kg, were investigated by tail clip, hot plate and acetic acid-induced writhing tests. Hole board and elevated plus maze tests were performed to evaluate the anxiolytic-like effects of the compounds. Rota-rod device was used to assess the motor coordinations of mice. As a result of the experiments, it was determined that compounds 3f, 3g and 3h increased the reaction times of animals in the tail clip and hot plate tests, and compound 3e reduced the writhing number of mice in the acetic acid-induced writhing test. On the other hand, in the hole board test, compounds 3f, 3g and 3h reduced the first head-dipping latencies of mice while increasing the total number of head-dips. In the elevated plus maze test, it has been shown that the same derivatives increase the percentages of open arm entries and time spent in the open arms. In the Rota-rod tests, test compounds did not change the falling time of mice from the rotating mill. All these findings point out that compounds 3f, 3g and 3h exhibit central antinociceptive and anxiolytic-like effects and compound 3e shows a peripheral antinociceptive effect.

**Keywords:** Benzothiazole ring, antinociceptive, anxiolytic, Rota-rod

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### Benzotiyazol Halkası Taşıyan Bazı Bileşiklerin Antinosiseptif ve Anksiyolitik-Benzeri Etkileri

#### ÖZ

Bu çalışmanın amacı benzotiyazol halkası taşıyan bazı bileşiklerin antinosiseptif ve anksiyolitik-benzeri etkilerinin incelenmesidir. 40 mg/kg dozda uygulanan test bileşiklerinin antinosiseptif etkileri kuyruk sıkıştırma, sıcak plaka ve asetik asid ile indüklenen kıvranma testleri ile araştırılmıştır. Bileşiklerin anksiyolitik-benzeri etkilerini incelemek için delikli tahta ve yükseltilmiş artı labirent testleri gerçekleştirilmiştir. Farelerin motor koordinasyonlarını değerlendirmek üzere Rota-rod cihazı kullanılmıştır. Deneyler sonucunda 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu bileşiklerin kuyruk sıkıştırma ve sıcak plaka testlerinde hayvanların reaksiyon sürelerini artırdığı ve 3e kodlu bileşiğin ise asetik asid ile indüklenen kıvranma testinde farelerin kıvranma sayılarını azalttığı belirlenmiştir. Diğer yandan, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu bileşikler delikli tahta testinde farelerin ilk baş daldırma sürelerini kısaltırken toplam baş daldırma sayılarını artırmıştır. Yükseltilmiş artı labirent testinde ise aynı türevlerin farelerin açık kola giriş sayılarının ve açık kolda kalma sürelerinin yüzdelere artırdığı ortaya konulmuştur. Rota-rod testlerinde test bileşikleri farelerin dönen milden düşme sürelerini değiştirmemiştir. Tüm bu bulgular, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu bileşiklerin santral antinosiseptif ve anksiyolitik-benzeri etki gösterdiklerine; 3e kodlu bileşiğin ise periferik antinosiseptif etki gösterdiğine işaret etmektedir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Benzotiyazol halkası, antinosiseptif, anksiyolitik, Rota-rod

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## GİRİŞ

Benzotiyazol, benzen ve tiyazolün kondenzasyonu sonucunda oluşan bisiklik heterosiklik bir halkadır (Hroch ve ark. 2015). Benzotiyazol halka sistemi ilaç geliştirme çalışmalarında kullanılan önemli yapılardan biridir. Yapısında bu halkayı taşıyan çeşitli bileşiklerin antibakteriyel (Singh ve ark. 2013, Thakkar ve ark. 2017, Zha ve ark. 2017), antifungal (Singh ve ark. 2013, Zha ve ark. 2017), antimalaryal (Sarkar ve ark. 2016, Thakkar ve ark. 2017), antiastmatik (Costanzo ve ark. 2003), antikanser (Aouad ve ark. 2018, Osmaniye ve ark. 2018), antiinflamatuvar (Muttu ve ark. 2010, Ugwu ve ark. 2018), antidiyabetik (Moreno-Díaz ve ark. 2008, Mariappan ve ark. 2012) ve antioksidan (Karali ve ark. 2010) gibi etkileri bildirilmiştir.

Benzotiyazol türevi çeşitli bileşiklerin santral sinir sistemi (SSS) ile ilişkili farmakolojik aktiviteleri de rapor edilmiştir. Bu halkayı taşıyan bileşiklerin antikonvülzan (Siddiqui ve ark. 2007, Amnerkar ve Bhusari 2010, Hassan ve ark. 2012, Ali ve Siddiqui 2015, Liu ve ark. 2016), antinosiseptif (Gökce ve ark. 2001, Siddiqui ve ark. 2008, Azam ve ark. 2013, Hamdy ve ark. 2013), antidepresan-benzeri (Siddiqui ve ark. 2008, Wang ve ark. 2014), anksiyolitik-benzeri (Sasaki-Hamada ve ark. 2013), nöroprotektif (Carboni ve ark. 2004, Anzini ve ark. 2010, Hassan ve ark. 2012) ve anti-Alzheimer (Keri ve ark. 2013, Demir Özkay ve ark. 2017a) gibi aktiviteleri olduğu bildirilmiştir.

Benzotiyazol halkası taşıyan bileşiklerin SSS üzerine potansiyel farmakolojik etkilerinden hareketle, bu çalışmada Anadolu Üniversitesi Eczacılık Fakültesi Farmasötik Kimya Anabilim Dalı tarafından sentezlenen ve daha önce antidepresan-benzeri etkinlikleri bildirilmiş olan (Demir Özkay ve ark. 2017b) benzotiyazol türevi bazı bileşiklerin olası antinosiseptif ve anksiyolitik-benzeri etkinlikleri araştırılmıştır.

## MATERYAL ve METOT

### Bileşiklerin Sentezi


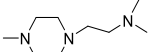
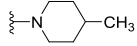
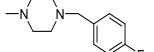
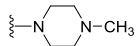
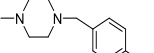
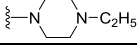
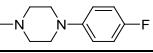
Benzotiyazol türevleri, 2-kloro-N-(5,6-dimetilbenzotiyazol-2-il)asetamid bileşiği ile çeşitli siklik aminlerin potasyum karbonat varlığında aseton içerisinde reaksiyonu sonucunda elde edilmiştir. Bileşiklerin sentez prosedürü ve spektral verileri çalışma grubumuz tarafından rapor edilmiştir (Demir Özkay ve ark. 2017b). Test bileşiklerinin kimyasal yapıları Tablo 1'de sunulmuştur.

### Deney Hayvanları

Deneyler BALB/c fareler (30-35 g) ile gerçekleştirilmiştir. Deney hayvanları 24±1°C sıcaklıktaki iyi havalandırılan ve 12 saat aydınlık/12 saat karanlık döngüsüne sahip odalarda

barındırılmıştır. Deney hayvanları deneylere başlanmadan en az 48 saat önce laboratuvara getirilmiştir. Deneyler sırasında laboratuvarın sıcaklığı, ses düzeyi ve aydınlatma koşulları sabit tutulmuştur. Bu çalışmanın deneysel protokolü, Anadolu Üniversitesi Hayvan Deneyleri Yerel Etik Kurulu tarafından onaylanmıştır.

**Tablo 1.** Test bileşiklerinin kimyasal yapıları  
**Table 1.** Chemical structures of test compounds

Bileşik	R	Bileşik	R
3a		3e	
3b		3f	
3c		3g	
3d		3h	

### Test Maddelerinin Uygulanması

Deneyler için test bileşikleri 40 mg/kg dozda oral yolla uygulanmıştır (Wang ve ark. 2014). Test bileşikleri çiçek yağı içerisinde çözüldüğü için kontrol grubunda yer alan farelere aynı hacimde çiçek yağı uygulanmıştır. Referans ilaç olarak morfin sülfat (10 mg/kg, i.p) (Kaplancikli ve ark. 2009) ve diazepam (1 mg/kg, i.p) (Can ve ark. 2016) kullanılmıştır.

### Analjezi Testleri

#### Kuyruk Sıkıştırma Testi

Kuyruk sıkıştırma testi, deney hayvanlarının mekanik ağrıya uyarana verdikleri yanıtı değerlendirmek için uygulanan bir testtir. Bu test, kuyruklarına metal bir klamp takılan deney hayvanlarının dönüp klampı ısırma sürelerinin ölçülmesi esasına dayanmaktadır. Deneylerden önce farelere duyarlılık testi uygulanmıştır. Bu testlerde klampe 10 saniyeden kısa sürede yanıt veren fareler deneylere alınmıştır. Farelerin kuyruklarının hasar görmemesi için uyarı 10 saniyeden fazla uygulanmamıştır (D'Amour ve Smith 1941, Demir Özkay ve Can 2013).

#### Sıcak Plaka Testi

Sıcak plaka testi, deney hayvanlarının termal ağrıya uyarana verdikleri yanıtı değerlendirmek için uygulanan bir testtir. Bu test, 55±1.0 °C'ye ayarlanmış Hot-plate cihazına (Ugo Basile, No. 7280, İtalya) konulan farelerin ayaklarını yalamaya başlama ve/veya zıplama sürelerinin kaydedilmesi esasına dayanmaktadır. Deneylerden önce farelere duyarlılık testi uygulanmış ve 15 saniyeden kısa sürede yanıt veren fareler deneylere alınmıştır. Uyarı 30 saniyeden

fazla uygulanmamıştır (Woolfe ve MacDonald 1944, Demir Özkay ve Can 2013).

Kuyruk sıkıştırma ve sıcak plaka testlerinde ölçülen yanıt sürelerinden maksimum olası etkinin yüzdesini (%MPE) hesaplamak için aşağıdaki formül kullanılmıştır:

$$\%MPE = \frac{(\text{uygulama sonrası süre} - \text{uygulama öncesi süre})}{(\text{cut-off süresi} - \text{uygulama öncesi süre})} \times 100$$

#### Asetik asid ile İndüklenen Kıvrınma Testi

Asetik asid ile indüklenen kıvrınma testi, deney hayvanlarının kimyasal ağrıya uyarana verdikleri yanıtı değerlendirmek için uygulanan bir testtir. Bu testte intraperitoneal yolla uygulanan %0.6'lık asetik asid solüsyonu (10 mL/kg) farelerde abdominal ağrı ve kıvrınma yanıtı oluşturmaktadır. Test, asetik asid enjeksiyonundan 5 dakika sonra deney hayvanlarının kıvrınma davranışlarının 10 dakika süre ile sayılması esasına dayanmaktadır (Koster ve ark. 1959, Demir Özkay ve Can 2013).

#### Davranış Deneyleri

##### Delikli Tahta Testi

Farelerin keşif davranışları delikli tahta testi ile değerlendirilmiştir. Testin yapıldığı delikli tahta cihazı (Ugo Basile, No. 6650, Varese, İtalya) 3 cm çapında 16 adet deliğin bulunduğu gri pleksiglas bir panelden (40×40 cm) oluşmaktadır. Cihaz yerden 15 cm yüksekliktedir. Delikli tahta testinde, her bir fare sırtı gözlemciye dönük biçimde cihazın ortasına konulmuş ve cihazı serbestçe keşfetmesine izin verilmiştir. Farelerin ilk baş daldırma süreleri ve toplam baş daldırma sayıları 5 dakikalık süre boyunca kaydedilmiştir (Takeda ve ark. 1998, Can ve ark. 2012a).

##### Yükseltilmiş Artı Şekilli Labirent Testi

Farelerin anksiyete şiddetleri yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testleri ile değerlendirilmiştir. İki açık kol (35x5 cm) ve iki kapalı koldan (35x5x15 cm) oluşan yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent düzeneği (Ugo Basile, No. 40143, Varese, İtalya) yerden 60 cm yüksekliktedir. Bu testte, her bir fare yüzü açık kola dönük şekilde merkez platforma yerleştirilmiş ve 5 dakikalık süre boyunca farelerin açık ve kapalı kollara giriş sayıları ve bu kollarda geçirdikleri süreler kaydedilmiştir (Can ve ark. 2012b, Can ve ark. 2013).

Deney hayvanlarının açık kola giriş sayılarının yüzdesini (%AKGS) ve açık kolda kaldıkları sürelerin yüzdesini (%AKKS) hesaplamak için aşağıdaki formüller kullanılmıştır:

$$\%AKGS = \frac{\text{Açık kola giriş sayısı}}{\text{Açık ve kapalı kollara giriş sayısı}} \times 100$$

$$\%AKKS = \frac{\text{Açık kolda geçirilen süre}}{\text{Açık ve kapalı kollara geçirilen süre}} \times 100$$

#### Rota-rod Testi

Farelerin motor koordinasyonları Rota-rod testleri ile değerlendirilmiştir. Deneyler başlamadan önce farelere 16 rpm sabit hızda dönen Rota-rod cihazı (Ugo Basile, no.47600, Varese, İtalya) ile üç ardışık gün boyunca alıştırma (training) yapılmıştır. Dönen milin üzerinde 180 saniyeden daha fazla kalabilen fareler deneylere alınmıştır. Farelerin dönen milin üzerinden düşme süreleri cihaz tarafından kaydedilmiştir (Kaplancikli ve ark. 2009, Demir Özkay ve Can 2013).

#### İstatistiksel Analiz

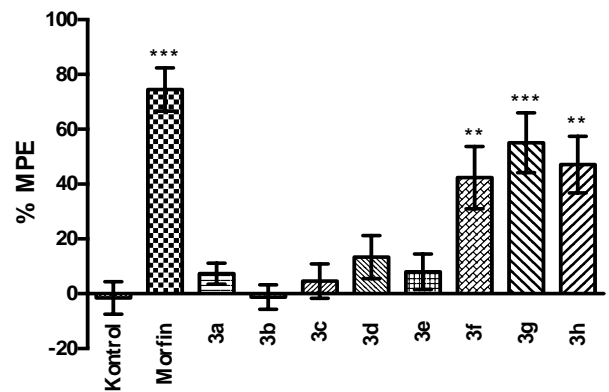
İstatistiksel analiz için Graphpad Prism ver. 6.01 paket programı kullanılmıştır. Deneylerden elde edilen veriler tek yönlü varyans analizi (ANOVA) ve ardından Tukey HSD çoklu karşılaştırma testleri uygulanarak değerlendirilmiştir. Sonuçlar, ortalama ± ortalamanın standart hatası olarak verilmiştir. p<0.05 değeri anlamlı kabul edilmiştir.

## BULGULAR

### Analjezi Deneylerine İlişkin Bulgular

#### Kuyruk sıkıştırma testine ilişkin bulgular

Test bileşikleri ve morfin uygulamalarının kuyruk sıkıştırma testinde farelerin reaksiyon süreleri üzerine etkileri Şekil 1'de verilmiştir [F(9,60)=11.77, p<0.001]. Tek yönlü ANOVA testini takiben uygulanan çoklu karşılaştırma testleri, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu türevlerin hayvanların %MPE değerlerini kontrol grubunun %MPE değerlerine göre istatistiksel olarak anlamlı biçimde artırdığını, 3a-3e kodlu türevlerin ise etkisiz olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Referans ilaç morfin uygulamaları da farelerin %MPE değerlerini anlamlı biçimde artırmıştır (Şekil 1).

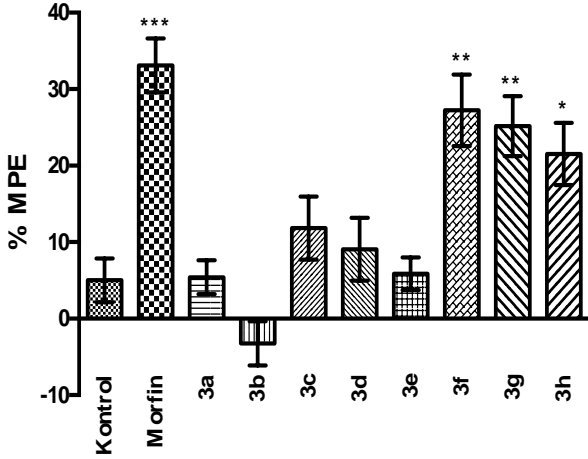


Şekil 1. Test bileşiklerinin (40 mg/kg) ve morfin'in (10 mg/kg) kuyruk sıkıştırma testinde farelerin %MPE değerleri üzerine etkileri. Kontrol grubuna göre anlamlı farklılık \*\*p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.001. Tek yönlü varyans analizi, takiben Tukey HSD çoklu karşılaştırma testi, n=7.

Figure 1. Effects of test compounds (40 mg/kg) and morphine (10 mg/kg) on MPE % values of mice in the tail clip test. Significance against control group \*\*p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.001. One-way ANOVA, post hoc Tukey's test, n=7.

### Sıcak plaka testine ilişkin bulgular

Şekil 2'de test bileşikleri ve morfin uygulamalarının sıcak plaka testinde farelerin reaksiyon süreleri üzerine etkileri gösterilmiştir [F(9,60)=11.20,  $p<0.001$ ]. Tek yönlü ANOVA testini takiben uygulanan çoklu karşılaştırma testleri, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu türevlerin ve referans ilaç morfin'in hayvanların %MPE değerlerini kontrol grubunun %MPE değerlerine göre istatistiksel olarak anlamlı biçimde artırdığını ortaya koymuştur. 3a-3e kodlu türevlerin farelerin %MPE değerlerinde anlamlı bir değişikliğe neden olmadığı belirlenmiştir (Şekil 2).



**Şekil 2.** Test bileşiklerinin (40 mg/kg) ve morfin'in (10 mg/kg) sıcak plaka testinde farelerin %MPE değerleri üzerine etkileri. Kontrol grubuna göre anlamlı farklılık \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ , \*\*\* $p<0.001$ . Tek yönlü varyans analizi, takiben Tukey HSD çoklu karşılaştırma testi,  $n=7$ .

**Figure 2.** Effects of test compounds (40 mg/kg) and morphine (10 mg/kg) on MPE % values of mice in the hot plate test. Significance against control group \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ , \*\*\* $p<0.001$ . One-way ANOVA, post hoc Tukey's test,  $n=7$ .

### Asetik asid ile indüklenen kıvranma testine ilişkin bulgular

Test bileşikleri ve morfin uygulamalarının asetik asid ile indüklenen kıvranma testinde farelerin kıvranma sayıları üzerine etkileri Şekil 3'de verilmiştir [F(9,60)=12.51,  $p<0.001$ ].

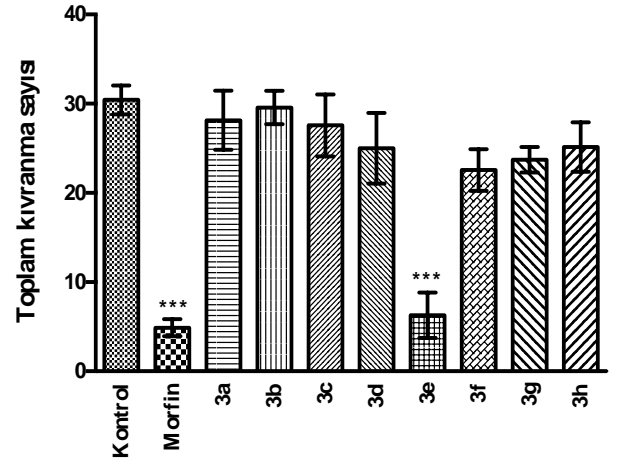
Tek yönlü ANOVA testini takiben uygulanan çoklu karşılaştırma testleri, 3e kodlu türevin hayvanların kıvranma sayılarını kontrol grubunun kıvranma sayılarına göre anlamlı biçimde azalttığını, 3a-3d ve 3f-3h kodlu türevlerin ise etkisiz olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Referans ilaç morfin uygulamaları da farelerin kıvranma sayılarını anlamlı biçimde azaltmıştır (Şekil 3).

### Davranış Deneylerine İlişkin Bulgular

#### Delikli tahta testine ilişkin bulgular

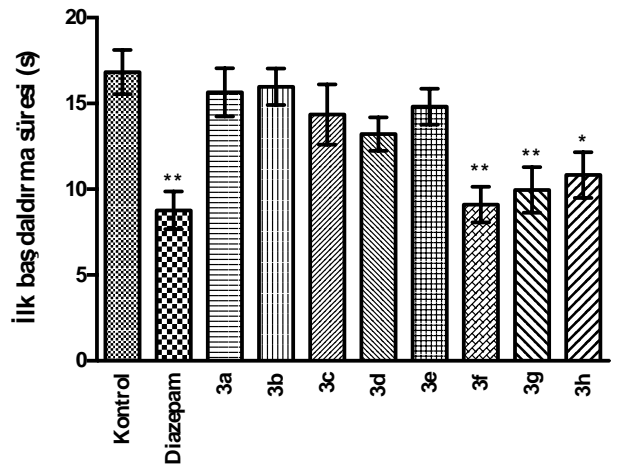
Şekil 4'de test bileşikleri ve diazepam uygulamalarının delikli tahta testinde farelerin ilk baş daldırma süreleri üzerine etkileri gösterilmiştir [F(9,60)=5.84,  $p<0.001$ ].

Tek yönlü ANOVA testini takiben uygulanan çoklu karşılaştırma testleri, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu türevlerin ve referans ilaç diazepam'ın hayvanların ilk baş daldırma sürelerini kontrol grubunun ilk baş daldırma sürelerine göre istatistiksel olarak anlamlı biçimde kısalttığını ortaya koymuştur. 3a-3e kodlu türevlerin farelerin ilk baş daldırma sürelerinde anlamlı bir değişikliğe neden olmadığı belirlenmiştir (Şekil 4).



**Şekil 3.** Test bileşiklerinin (40 mg/kg) ve morfin'in (10 mg/kg) asetik asid ile indüklenen kıvranma testinde farelerin kıvranma sayıları üzerine etkileri. Kontrol grubuna göre anlamlı farklılık \*\*\* $p<0.001$ . Tek yönlü varyans analizi, takiben Tukey HSD çoklu karşılaştırma testi,  $n=7$ .

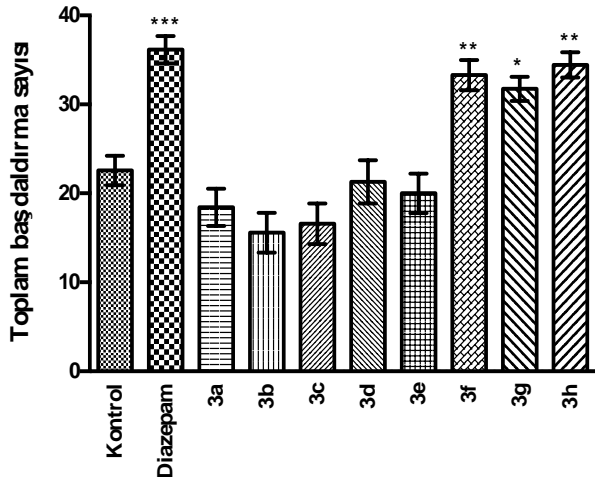
**Figure 3.** Effects of test compounds (40 mg/kg) and morphine (10 mg/kg) on writhing number of mice in the acetic acid-induced writhing test. Significance against control group \*\*\* $p<0.001$ . One-way ANOVA, post hoc Tukey's test,  $n=7$ .



**Şekil 4.** Test bileşiklerinin (40 mg/kg) ve diazepam'ın (1 mg/kg) delikli tahta testinde farelerin ilk baş daldırma süreleri üzerine etkileri. Kontrol grubuna göre anlamlı farklılık \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ . Tek yönlü varyans analizi, takiben Tukey HSD çoklu karşılaştırma testi,  $n=7$ .

**Figure 4.** Effects of test compounds (40 mg/kg) and diazepam (1 mg/kg) on first head-dipping latencies of mice in the hole board test. Significance against control group \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ . One-way ANOVA, post hoc Tukey's test,  $n=7$ .

Test bileşikleri ve diazepam uygulamalarının delikli tahta testinde farelerin toplam baş daldırma sayıları üzerine etkileri Şekil 5’de verilmiştir [F(9,60)=17.19,  $p<0.001$ ]. Tek yönlü ANOVA testini takiben uygulanan çoklu karşılaştırma testleri, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu türevlerin hayvanların toplam baş daldırma sayılarını kontrol grubunun toplam baş daldırma sayılarına göre anlamlı biçimde artırdığını, 3a-3e kodlu türevlerin ise etkisiz olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Referans ilaç diazepam uygulamaları da farelerin toplam baş daldırma sayılarını anlamlı biçimde artırmıştır (Şekil 5).



**Şekil 5.** Test bileşiklerinin (40 mg/kg) ve diazepam’ın (1 mg/kg) delikli tahta testinde farelerin toplam baş daldırma sayıları üzerine etkileri. Kontrol grubuna göre anlamlı farklılık \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ , \*\*\* $p<0.001$ . Tek yönlü varyans analizi, takiben Tukey HSD çoklu karşılaştırma testi,  $n=7$ .

**Figure 5.** Effects of test compounds (40 mg/kg) and diazepam (1 mg/kg) on total number of head-dips of mice in the hole board test. Significance against control group \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ , \*\*\* $p<0.001$ . One-way ANOVA, post hoc Tukey’s test,  $n=7$ .

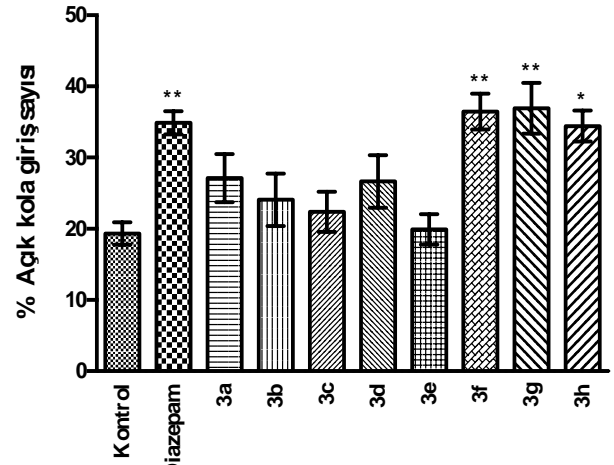
#### Yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testine ilişkin bulgular

Şekil 6’da test bileşikleri ve diazepam uygulamalarının yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testinde farelerin %AKGS değerleri üzerine etkileri gösterilmiştir [F(9,60)=5.96,  $p<0.001$ ].

Tek yönlü ANOVA testini takiben uygulanan çoklu karşılaştırma testleri, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu türevlerin ve referans ilaç diazepam’ın hayvanların %AKGS değerlerini kontrol grubunun %AKGS değerlerine göre istatistiksel olarak anlamlı biçimde artırdığını ortaya koymuştur. 3a-3e kodlu türevlerin farelerin %AKGS değerlerinde anlamlı bir değişikliğe neden olmadığı belirlenmiştir (Şekil 6).

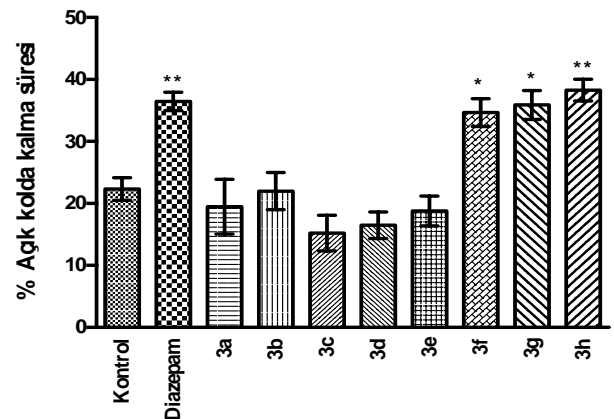
Test bileşikleri ve diazepam uygulamalarının yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testinde farelerin %AKKS değerleri üzerine etkileri Şekil 7’de

verilmiştir [F(9,60)=12.81,  $p<0.001$ ]. Tek yönlü ANOVA testini takiben uygulanan çoklu karşılaştırma testleri, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu türevlerin hayvanların %AKKS değerlerini kontrol grubunun %AKKS değerlerine göre anlamlı biçimde artırdığını, 3a-3e kodlu türevlerin ise etkisiz olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Referans ilaç diazepam uygulamaları da farelerin %AKKS değerlerini anlamlı biçimde artırmıştır (Şekil 7).



**Şekil 6.** Test bileşiklerinin (40 mg/kg) ve diazepam’ın (1 mg/kg) yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testinde farelerin açık kola giriş sayılarının yüzdeleri üzerine etkileri. Kontrol grubuna göre anlamlı farklılık \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ . Tek yönlü varyans analizi, takiben Tukey HSD çoklu karşılaştırma testi,  $n=7$ .

**Figure 6.** Effects of test compounds (40 mg/kg) and diazepam (1 mg/kg) on percentages of open arm entries of mice in the elevated plus maze test. Significance against control group \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ . One-way ANOVA, post hoc Tukey’s test,  $n=7$ .



**Şekil 7.** Test bileşiklerinin (40 mg/kg) ve diazepam’ın (1 mg/kg) yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testinde farelerin açık kolda geçirdikleri sürelerin yüzdeleri üzerine etkileri. Kontrol grubuna göre anlamlı farklılık \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ . Tek yönlü varyans analizi, takiben Tukey HSD çoklu karşılaştırma testi,  $n=7$ .

**Figure 7.** Effects of test compounds (40 mg/kg) and diazepam (1 mg/kg) on percentages of time spent by mice in open arms in the elevated plus maze test. Significance against control group \* $p<0.05$ , \*\* $p<0.01$ . One-way ANOVA, post hoc Tukey’s test,  $n=7$ .

## Rota-rod Testine İlişkin Bulgular

Test bileşiklerinin farelerin dönen milden düşme sürelerinde istatistiksel olarak anlamlı bir değişikliğe neden olmadığı görülmüştür (veri gösterilmedi).

## TARTIŞMA

Bu çalışmada, benzotiyazol türevi bazı bileşiklerin olası antinosiseptif ve anksiyolitik-benzeri etkileri araştırılmıştır. Bileşiklerin antinosiseptif etkilerini değerlendirmek için kuyruk sıkıştırma, sıcak plaka ve asetik asid ile indüklenen kıvranma testleri yapılmıştır. Anksiyolitik-benzeri etkileri delikli tahta ve yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testleri ile araştırılmıştır. Test bileşiklerinin farelerin motor koordinasyonları üzerine olası etkileri Rota-rod testi ile değerlendirilmiştir.

Kuyruk sıkıştırma ve sıcak plaka testleri santral antinosiseptif etkinliğin araştırılmasında sıklıkla kullanılan testlerdir (Can ve ark. 2012a, Demir Özkay ve Can 2013). Bu çalışmada, kuyruk sıkıştırma ve sıcak plaka testlerinde 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu test bileşiklerinin uygulanması ile farelerin yanıt sürelerinin uzadığı belirlenmiştir. Bu bulgular, söz konusu türevlerin santral antinosiseptif etkinlik gösterdiklerini ortaya koymuştur. Kuyruk sıkıştırma testinin ağırlıklı olarak spinal düzeydeki nosiseptif iletim ile, sıcak plaka testinin ise daha ziyade supraspinal düzeydeki nosiseptif iletim ile ilişkili olduğu bildirilmiştir (Wong ve ark. 1994, Gabra ve Sirois 2003). Bu nedenle, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu test bileşiklerinin antinosiseptif etkilerinin hem spinal hem de supraspinal mekanizmalar ile ilişkili olduğu ileri sürülebilir. Diğer yandan 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu test bileşiklerinin sırasıyla mekanik ve termal ağırlı uyaran uygulanan kuyruk sıkıştırma ve sıcak plaka testlerinde antinosiseptif etki göstermeleri, söz konusu türevlerin hem mekanik hem de termal ağırlı uyarının taşıdığı nöronal yolları etkilediğini işaret etmektedir.

Asetik asid ile indüklenen kıvranma testi periferik antinosiseptif etki tarama çalışmalarında sıklıkla kullanılan bir testtir (Kaplancikli ve ark. 2009, Demir Özkay ve Can 2013). Bu testte intraperitoneal asetik asid uygulaması, deney hayvanlarında abdominal kasların kasılması, arka bacakların ekstansiyonu ve beden uzaması ile karakterize bir reaksiyona neden olmaktadır (Park ve ark. 2012). İntraperitoneal iritasyonun asetilkolin, P maddesi, histamin, kininler ve prostaglandinler gibi çeşitli endojen maddelerin salınımını tetiklediği bildirilmiştir. Bu endojen maddelerin vasküler permeability artırarak, nosisepsiyon eşiklerini düşürdükleri ve nonsteroidal antiinflamatuvar ilaçlara ve/veya opioid ilaçlara duyarlı nosiseptif nöronları stimüle ettikleri rapor edilmiştir (Coelho ve ark. 2005, Pinheiro ve ark. 2012). Bu çalışmada, 3e kodlu bileşiğin farelerin asetik asid ile

indüklenen kıvranma sayılarını azalttığı belirlenmiştir. Söz konusu periferik antinosiseptif etkinin, test maddesinin periferik dokulardaki inflamatuvar mediyatörlerin salınımını azaltması ya da reseptörlerini doğrudan bloke edilmesi ile ilişkili olabileceği ileri sürülebilir. Ayrıca bu etkinin nosiseptif eşiklerinin artması ya da ağrı uyarınının sinir lifine iletiminin engellenmesi ile ilişkili olması da mümkündür (Kasap ve Can 2016).

Çalışma kapsamında benzotiyazol türevlerinin antinosiseptif etkinliğinin yanı sıra anksiyolitik-benzeri etkileri de araştırılmıştır. Anksiyolitik-benzeri etki taramalarında delikli tahta ve yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testleri sıklıkla kullanılmaktadır (Can ve ark. 2012a, Can ve ark. 2012b, Can ve ark. 2013, Can ve ark. 2016). Delikli tahta testinde deney hayvanlarının yeni bir ortamdaki keşif davranışları değerlendirilmektedir (File ve Pellow 1985). Yükseltilmiş artı şekilli labirent testinde ise, deney hayvanları yerden yüksekte olan artı şekilli labirente konulmaktadırlar. Bu düzenekte deney hayvanları açık, dar ve yüksek olan kollardan kaçınmakta ve doğal eğilimleri gereği kapalı ve karanlık kolları tercih etmektedirler (Kumar ve ark. 2007, Can ve ark. 2016). Anksiyolitik ajanların %AKGS ve %AKKS değerlerinde artışa neden olurken, anksiyojeniklerin bu değerleri azalttığı bildirilmiştir (Sampath ve ark. 2011). Bu çalışmada, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu test bileşikleri farelerin ilk baş daldırma sürelerini kısaltmış, toplam baş daldırma sayılarını ise artırmıştır. Ayrıca söz konusu bileşiklerin %AKGS ve %AKKS değerlerini artırdığı belirlenmiştir. Bu bulgular, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu bileşiklerin anksiyolitik-benzeri etki gösterdiklerine işaret etmektedir.

Deney hayvanlarının motor koordinasyonlarının değerlendirildiği Rota-rod testlerinde test bileşikleri farelerin dönen milden düşme sürelerinde istatistiksel olarak anlamlı bir değişikliğe neden olmamıştır. Bu bulgu, bu çalışmada ortaya konulan farmakolojik etkilerin spesifik olduğunu göstermektedir.

## SONUÇ

Deneyler sonucunda, 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu bileşiklerin santral antinosiseptif ve anksiyolitik-benzeri etki gösterdikleri; 3e kodlu bileşiğin ise periferik antinosiseptif etki gösterdiği saptanmıştır. Bileşiklerin yapıları incelendiğinde, santral etkinlik gösteren 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu bileşiklerin piperazin halkasının 4. konumunda fenil ya da benzil süstitüenti taşıdıkları, periferik etkinlik gösteren 3e kodlu bileşiğin ise piperazin halkasının 4. konumunda dimetilaminoetil süstitüenti taşıdığı görülmektedir. Piperazin halkasının 4. konumunda aromatik yapılar içeren 3f, 3g ve 3h kodlu bileşiklerin yüksek logP değerlerine sahip oldukları çalışma grubumuz tarafından daha önce bildirilmiştir (Demir Özkay ve ark. 2017b). Bu

nedence, söz konusu bileşiklerin santral etkilerinin lipofilik özellikleri ile ilişkili olduğu ileri sürülebilir.

Bu çalışmanın bulguları benzotiyazol halkası taşıyan bileşiklerin antinosiseptif ve anksiyolitik-benzeri etkilerini bildiren önceki çalışmaları destekler niteliktedir. Diğer yandan, söz konusu farmakolojik etkilere aracılık eden mekanizmaların aydınlatılması için daha detaylı çalışmalara gereksinim duyulmaktadır.

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## The Effect of Melatonin on Some Coagulation Parameters in Streptozotocin-induced Diabetic Rats

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to evaluate the possible protective effects of melatonin on hemostatic parameters in diabetic rats. For this purpose, 32 adult, male, healthy Wistar Abino rats were separated into four groups. Control group didn't exposure any trial. Melatonin group was treated with 50 mg/kg melatonin by intraperitoneally during 8 weeks. In diabetes group, diabetes was induced by subcutaneous injections of streptozotocin at dose of 40 mg/kg for two days as a single daily dose. Diabetes+Melatonin group was consist of the animals that treated with 50 mg/kg melatonin by intraperitoneally to streptozotocin induced diabetic during 8 weeks. In diabetic rats, the platelet count and fibrinogen level significantly increased compared to control group ( $p<0.05$ ), whereas melatonin application to the diabetic rats caused to decrease in fibrinogen level when compared to diabetic rats ( $p<0.05$ ). Activated Partial Tromboplastin Time (APTT), Prothrombin Time (PT) and International Normalized Ratio (INR) levels significantly shortened in the experimentally diabetes group compared to the control group ( $p<0.05$ ). PT and INR significantly prolonged in diabetic rats with the melatonin treatment compared to diabetic rats ( $p<0.05$ ). In conclusion, the obtained data indicated that administration of melatonin partly ameliorated procoagulant state caused by diabetes in rats.

**Keywords:** APTT, fibrinogen, diabetes, melatonin, rat

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### Streptozotosin ile Diyabet Oluşturulan Ratlarda Melatonin Uygulamasının Bazı Koagulasyon Parametreleri Üzerindeki Etkisi

### ÖZ

Bu çalışmanın amacı streptozotosin ile diyabet oluşturulan ratlarda hemostatik parametreler üzerine melatoninin muhtemel koruyucu etkilerinin belirlenmesidir. Bu amaçla 32 yetişkin erkek sağlıklı Wistar Abino rat dört gruba ayrıldı. Kontrol grubuna herhangi bir uygulama yapılmadı. Melatonin grubuna 8 hafta boyunca intraperitoneal olarak 50 mg/kg melatonin uygulandı. Diyabet grubunda 40 mg/kg streptozotosinin günlük tek doz olmak üzere iki gün subkutan enjeksiyonuyla diyabet oluşturuldu. Diyabet+Melatonin grubuna streptozotosin uygulanarak diyabet oluşturulduktan sonra 8 hafta boyunca intraperitoneal olarak 50 mg/kg melatonin enjekte edildi. Diyabetik ratlarda platelet sayısı ve fibrinojen seviyesi kontrol grubuna göre önemli oranda artarken ( $p<0.05$ ), diyabetik ratlara melatonin uygulaması diyabet grubuna göre fibrinojen düzeyinde azalmaya neden oldu ( $p<0.05$ ). Deneysel diyabet grubundaki APTT, PT ve INR düzeyleri kontrol grubuna göre önemli bir şekilde azaldı ( $p<0.05$ ). Diyabetik ratlara intraperitoneal olarak melatonin uygulaması ile PT ve INR düzeyleri diyabetik ratlara göre önemli bir şekilde uzadı ( $p<0.05$ ). Sonuç olarak, bu çalışmadan elde edilen veriler melatonin uygulamasının ratlarda diyabetten kaynaklanan prokoagulan durumu kısmen düzelttiğini göstermektedir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** APTT, fibrinojen, diyabet, melatonin, rat

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## INTRODUCTION

In the worldwide, there is an increase in death due to atherothrombotic disorders result from metabolic disorders such as diabetes mellitus (DM), hypertension and obesity (Sanz and Fuster 2011, Korish et al. 2015). Diabetes mellitus caused by either low insulin level or high insulin resistance is characterized with high hyperglycemia and the other metabolic disorders (Yeom et al. 2016). Millions of people are affected by cardiovascular diseases related to diabetes mellitus (Kakouros et al. 2011). In later stages, diabetes mellitus causes abnormal endothelial function, increase of arterial stiffness, platelet hyperreactivity and hemorheological changes (Wilkinson et al. 2000, Schäfer et al. 2007, Cho et al. 2008, Yeom et al. 2016). Another complication of diabetes is hemostatic disorders. Some studies claim that diabetes increases the tendency to coagulation (Takada et al. 1993, Osende et al. 2001, Creager et al. 2003, Ferreira et al. 2010, Ferreira and Angiolillo 2011). These serious disturbances play a crucial role in the etiology of diabetes-related vascular complications including arteriosclerosis and myocardial infarction (Beckman et al. 2002, Loomans et al. 2004, Yeom et al. 2016). Thrombotic disorders and vascular lesions such as microvasculopathy, retinopathy and macroangiopathy, especially in the coronary and cerebral vessels can be life threatening. Rupture of an atherosclerotic plaque promotes platelet activation and locally triggering of the coagulation process that can cause thrombus formation at the region of endothelial damage (Kakouros et al. 2011). It has been stated that cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disorders frequently occurred in diabetes due to micro- and macrovascular complications (American Diabetic Association 2011, Eriksson et al. 2012, Korish et al. 2015).

Many therapeutic approaches have been still studied to alleviate the complications of diabetes. Recently, studies have been focused on melatonin as a therapeutic agent due to its several physiological activities (Carrillo-Vico et al. 2005, Claustrat et al. 2005). In 1958, Lerner's group first isolated melatonin (N-acetyl-5-methoxy-tryptamine) from the bovine pineal gland (Minneman and Wurtman 1976). Melatonin production is regulated by the suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) as known the central circadian pacemaker (Carrillo-Vico et al. 2005). It is synthesized in several organs, including the pineal gland, Harder's glands, gastroenteric mucous membrane, retina, platelets and megakaryocytes (Reiter et al. 1988). Melatonin has high lipid and water solubility features, thus it passes easily across cell membranes (Claustrat et al. 2005). Pineal secretion reaches maximum plasma levels around 03:00–04:00 a.m. During the day, its level is low or

even undetectable (Follenius et al. 1995, Rodella et al. 2013).

Although, there is a limited data about the effects of melatonin on coagulation, there are various findings about the effect of melatonin on cardiovascular incidents, hemorrhage, activities of some coagulation proteins and fibrinolytic systems regarding in subjected to circadian variations (Pinotti et al. 2005, Montagnana et al. 2009). Some studies reported that melatonin may used for hemostasis bu using in a different route, doses and period to animals and human (Tunali et al. 2005, Tai et al. 2010, Kostovski et al. 2011). It was also suggested that there is a dose-dependent relationship between plasma melatonin level and coagulation activity (Wirtz et al. 2008, Pashalieva et al. 2014).

Based upon these acknowledgements we aimed to determine the effects of melatonin on some coagulation parameters in streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats.

## MATERIALS and METHODS

In the study, 32 male, 6 weeks of age, healthy Wistar Abino rats were used. The animals were divided into four groups. All animals were fed with standart rat diet as *ad libitum* during 8 weeks. The Ethical Committee of Selcuk University Experimental Medicine Research and Application Center approved the study protocol (Report no. 2017-15).

- The animals in control group (n=6) didn't exposure any treatment.
- Melatonin group (n=6) was injected with 50 mg/kg melatonin (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA) intraperitoneally during 8 weeks.
- Diabetes group (n=10) was induced by subcutaneously injected with streptozotocin (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA) at dose of 40 mg/kg in 0.1 M citrate buffer (pH 4.5) for two days as a single daily dose.
- Diabetes+Melatonin group (n=10) was injected with 50 mg/kg melatonin intraperitoneally to the diabetic rats during 8 weeks.

In the cases of streptozotocin-induced hypoglycemia, rats were given 5% dextrose solution as a precaution after 6 h of streptozotocin administration during next 3 days. Diabetes was verified by measuring blood glucose level strips using glucometer (PlusMED Accuro, Taiwan) via the tail vein after one week from streptozotocin injections. Animals, which have a blood glucose level higher than 250 mg/dl, were accepted as diabetic and were included in the experiment. During the experiment, one animal from diabetes group were died due to streptozotocin-induced hypoglycemia.

At the end of the 8 weeks, blood samples were taken from all animals. In these blood samples, platelet, fibrinogen, activated partial thromboplastin time (APTT), prothrombin time (PT), international normalized ratio (INR) levels were determined. Platelet, fibrinogen, APTT, PT, INR levels were determined by using Abbott kits in Abbott analyzer (Abbott Architect i2000).

The data obtained from the study were analyzed by one-way ANOVA (SPSS 19). Differences among the groups were determined by Duncan's multiple range test. Differences were considered significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

## RESULTS

The effect of melatonin on coagulation parameters in experimentally induced diabetes in rats were summarized Table 1. In diabetic rats, the platelet count and fibrinogen level significantly increased compared to control group ( $p < 0.05$ , Table 1), whereas intraperitoneally melatonin application to the diabetic rats caused to decrease in both parameters when compared to diabetic rats. The decrease in fibrinogen level was significant ( $p < 0.05$ , Table 1). In this study, APTT, PT and INR levels in the experimentally diabetes group significantly shortened compared to control group ( $p < 0.05$ , Table 1). With the intraperitoneally melatonin application to the diabetic rats, PT and INR significantly prolonged compared to diabetic rats ( $p < 0.05$ , Table 1), while the changes in APTT was not important statistically.

## DISCUSSION

In diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular complications and the other metabolic disorders generally coexist and lead to high morbidity and mortality in worldwide. It is frequently seen that prothrombotic conditions such as platelet hyperreactivity, impaired fibrinolysis, endothelial dysfunction and increased coagulation cause these cardiovascular complications in diabetes. (Takada et al. 1993, Osende et al. 2001, Creager et al. 2003). Some mechanisms caused by metabolic and cellular abnormalities have been accepted as a reason of coagulation tendency in diabetes mellitus. These mechanisms and their etiologies were been categorized as hyperglycemia, insulin deficiency and resistance associated with metabolic conditions and other cellular abnormalities. (Ferreiro et al. 2010, Ferreiro and Angiolillo 2011). In parallel with the knowledge that mentioned above, coagulation parameters were significantly impaired in streptozosin induced diabetic rats in this study. So that, thrombocyte count and fibrinogen level significantly increased in diabetic group compared to control group ( $p < 0.05$ , Table 1), whereas APTT, PT and INR shortened compared to control group ( $p < 0.05$ , Table 1). Ohaeri and Adoga (2006) reported that the increases in platelet count and coagulation factors

amount (factor V, VII, VIII, IX and X) were determined in experimentally diabetic rats compared to control rats. In addition, plasma fibrinogen levels were found to be higher as parallel to hyperglycemic degree in many studies conducted with diabetes (Ceriello et al. 1994, Schalkwijk et al. 1999, Dunn and Ariens 2004). In another study, it has been stated that PT, APTT and coagulation time in diabetic rats were found to be lower than control group, while platelet count and plasma fibrinogen levels in diabetic rats were obtained as higher than control group's level (ElGendy and Abbas 2014). It was suggested that hyperglycemia exposure may induce procoagulant state in diabetes due to hemorheological changes of thrombocytes, platelet aggregation, endothelial dysfunction and increasing levels of tissue factors (Yeom et al. 2016). Another pathway of activation of procoagulant state is that hyperglycemia leads to increasing levels of tissue factor, prothrombin fragments, decreasing factor VII/VIIa and increasing factor VIII (Vaidyula et al. 2006b). In addition, it was reported that hyperglycemia upregulate platelet expression of CD40L and increase monocyte-platelet aggregates as indicative of platelet activation (Vaidyula et al. 2006a, Kakouros et al. 2011).

Melatonin, a signaling molecule for circadian rhythms, plays an important role in many biological processes (Dahm et al. 2006, Kostovski et al. 2011). It was suggested that endogenous melatonin may also produce antithrombotic, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activity (Carrillo-Vico et al. 2005, Claustrat et al. 2005, Dahm et al. 2006, Ashy and Shroff 2016). Depend on its wide effects, melatonin could be expected to regulate hemostatic events and the effects of melatonin on hemostasis are relatively poorly studied (Kostovski et al. 2011). For this reason, we determined some hemostatic parameters in diabetic rats treated with melatonin. Melatonin treatment significantly decreased plasma fibrinogen levels compared to diabetic group, while PT and INR levels significantly increased when compared diabetic group ( $p < 0.05$ , Table 1). The changes in platelet count and APTT with the melatonin treatment to diabetic rats were not important statistically. In the light of our results, it might be said that melatonin has favorable effects on hemostatic parameters in streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats. These effects of melatonin on hemostasis such as inhibiting procoagulant state were attributed to some mechanisms. Kostovski et al. (2011) reported that melatonin increased tissue factor pathway inhibitor (TFPI) in endothelial cells *in vitro*. In contrary, it was suggested that plasma TFPI level is low when plasma melatonin levels peak in darkness, vice versa (Dahm et al. 2006). Protein C anticoagulant pathway is one of important mechanisms of the anticoagulant system. This pathway includes membrane proteins and circulating proteins (such as protein C, thrombomodulin, endothelial protein C receptor

(EPCR) and protein S) (Castellino and Ploplis 2009, Stancheva et al. 2015). Castellino and Ploplis (2009) stated that melatonin significantly reduced activity of protein C anticoagulant pathway in rats. The beneficial effects of melatonin related to procoagulant state might be based on endothelium protective effects (Rodella et al. 2013). In diabetes, increased plasma glucose levels contribute to endothelial dysfunction characterized by proliferating barrier function and adhesion of circulating cells (Ho et al. 2000, Ido et al. 2002, Favaro et al. 2008). Therefore, melatonin with

its antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties is expected to act protectively on endothelial dysfunction arising from diabetes. Thus, melatonin activates antioxidants such as superoxide dismutase, catalase, glutathione peroxidase, glutathione reductase and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (Rezzani et al. 2006, Bharti and Srivastava 2009), protecting cells from oxidative damage and apoptosis (Jou et al. 2007, Rodella et al. 2013).

**Table 1.** Effect of melatonin on coagulation parameters in diabetes (Mean±SE)

	Platelet (K/ $\mu$ l)	Fibrinogen (mg/dl)	APTT (sec)	PT (sec)	INR
Control	690.50±27.65 <sup>b</sup>	227.83±22.39 <sup>b</sup>	35.62±3.30 <sup>a</sup>	11.60±0.21 <sup>ab</sup>	1.05±0.02 <sup>a</sup>
Melatonin	711.83±37.62 <sup>b</sup>	193.67±18.79 <sup>b</sup>	36.78±3.18 <sup>a</sup>	11.80±0.10 <sup>a</sup>	1.06±0.01 <sup>a</sup>
Diabetes	827.56±20.71 <sup>a</sup>	313.56±24.37 <sup>a</sup>	24.21±2.80 <sup>b</sup>	9.79±0.29 <sup>c</sup>	0.90±0.02 <sup>b</sup>
Diabetes+Melatonin	747.20±25.44 <sup>ab</sup>	248.30±18.71 <sup>b</sup>	31.59±2.14 <sup>ab</sup>	10.92±0.24 <sup>b</sup>	1.00±0.02 <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a-c</sup>The difference between mean values with different superscripts in the same column is significant at the p<0.05 level.

## CONCLUSIONS

As a result, the obtained data from this study indicated that administration of melatonin partly improved the procoagulant state caused by diabetes in rats. Nevertheless, further studies are needed to establish with different melatonin doses related to hemostatic state in diabetes in the future.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Ethical Committee of Selcuk University Experimental Medicine Research and Application Center approved the study protocol (Report no. 2017-15).

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## The Presence and Prevalence of Bovine Parainfluenza 3 (BPIV-3), Bovine Papillomaviruses (BPV), Bovine Herpesvirus 1 (BHV-1) in Subclinical Mastitis in Cattle

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### ABSTRACT

In general, bacterial pathogens are the focus of mastitis studies. Symptoms of mastitis may be absent in cases of viral infection, because other clinical symptoms are more dominant. Subclinical mastitis cases cannot be generally diagnosed and as a consequence, they are not investigated very well. This may lead to the inability of viral agents to be predicted in bovine subclinical cases. There are many viral agents associated with bovine mastitis and which may cause subclinical mastitis in dairy cattle. However, since viral infections have not been much investigated in mastitis studies, strategies developed against subclinical mastitis may be inadequate. Bovine Parainfluenza 3 (BPIV-3), Bovine Papillomaviruses (BPV), Bovine Herpesvirus 1 (BHV-1) could cause clinical and subclinical mastitis. The aim of the present study was to investigate the presence and prevalence of BPIV-3, BPV, and BHV-1 viral agents in subclinical mastitis case in Erzurum province. For this purpose, 120 bovine mammary tissues with no macroscopic lesions were collected and these tissues were examined with histopathology and immunofluorescence methods. Thereafter, all viruses were identified with qRT-PCR in mammary tissues. The end of histopathologic process 78 of 120 cases (56 chronic subclinical mastitis, 22 acute mastitis) was found severity of inflammatory changes. According to the results of immunofluorescence staining for all sections. The immunopositive signs for BPIV-3, BPV, and BHV-1 was determined in 50 out of 120 cases. qRT-PCR results which compatible with immunofluorescence results showed that BPIV-3 agent was detected by the qRT-PCR in 26/120 samples, BPV-2 agent in 8/120 samples, BHV-1 agent in 16/120 samples, and BPV-1 agent in 7/120 samples (only by qRT-PCR). Coinfection with BPIV-3 and BHV-1 was detected in 5/120 samples, BPIV-3, and BPV-1 in 3/120 samples, BHV-1, and BPV-2 in 2/120 samples. According to our results, although the role of viral agents in mastitis disease has not been clearly elucidated, we have found that viral agents are common in mammary tissues with subclinical mastitis.

**Keywords:** Subclinical mastitis, Bovine Parainfluenza 3, Bovine Papillomaviruses, Bovine Herpesvirus 1, qRT-PCR, Immunofluorescence.

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### Sığırlarda Subklinik Mastitiste Sığır Parainfluenza 3 (BPIV-3), Sığır Papillomavirüsleri (BPV), Sığır Herpesvirüs 1 (BHV-1) Varlığı ve Prevalansı

#### ÖZ

Genellikle etiyolojik mastitis çalışmaları bakteriyel patojenler üzerine odaklanmıştır. Viral enfeksiyon vakalarında mastit belirtileri, diğer klinik semptomlar daha baskın olduğu için gözden kaçabilmektedir. Subklinik mastitis olguları genellikle teşhis edilemediği için çok iyi araştırılmamıştır. Bu durum sığır subklinik mastitis vakalarında viral ajanların önlenememesine yol açabilmektedir. Sığırlarda mastitis ile ilişkili ve süt sığırlarında subklinik mastite neden olabilecek birçok viral ajan tanımlanmıştır. Bununla birlikte, mastitis çalışmalarında viral enfeksiyonlar çok fazla araştırılmamış olduğundan, subklinik mastitislere karşı geliştirilen stratejiler yetersiz olabilir. Sığır Parainfluenza 3 (BPIV-3), Sığır papillomavirüsleri (BPV), sığır herpes virüsü 1 (BHV-1) klinik ve subklinik mastitlerde rol aldığı düşünülen viral ajanlardır. Bu çalışmada, Erzurum ilindeki subklinik mastitis olgularındaki BPIV-3, BPV ve BHV-1 viral ajanlarının varlığının ve prevalansının araştırılması amaçlanmıştır. Bu amaçla 120 büyükbaş hayvanın makroskopik olarak lezyon izlenmeyen meme doku örnekleri toplandı ve bu dokular histopatoloji ve immüno Floresan yöntemlerle incelendi. Ayrıca, meme dokularında belirlenen viral etkenlerin varlığı qRT-PCR ile araştırıldı. Toplanan 120 örneğe yapılan histopatolojik değerlendirme sonucunda (56 kronik mastit, 22 akut mastit) 78 örnekte yarısal değişikliklere rastlandı. Tüm dokulara uygulanan immüno Floresan boyama sonuçlarına göre 120 olguda kronik mastitis tanısı konan 50 örnekte pozitif reaksiyonlara rastlandı. qRT-PCR sonuçlarına göre immüno Floresan boyama sonuçlarıyla uyumlu olarak toplam 50 (%41.6) örnekte etkenlerin DNA varlıkları tespit edildi. BPIV-3 etkenine 26/120, BPV-2 etkenine 8/120, BHV-1 etkenine 16/120 oranında olduğu tespit edildi. Sadece qRT-PCR yöntemi kullanılarak 7/120 oranında BPV-1 etkenine rastlandı. Ayrıca, 5/120 oranında BPIV3 ve BHV-1, 3/120 oranında BPIV-3 ve BPV-1, 2/120 oranında ise BHV-1 ve BPV-2 etkenlerine birlikte rastlandı. Yapılan çalışmadan elde edilen sonuçlara göre, mastitis hastalığında viral ajanların rolü açık bir şekilde aydınlatılmamış olmakla birlikte, viral ajanların subklinik mastitli meme dokularında yaygın olduğunu tespit edilmiştir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Subklinik mastitis, Sığır Parainfluenza 3, Sığır Papillomavirüsleri, Sığır Herpes virüsü 1, qRT-PCR, İmmüno Floresan.

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## INTRODUCTION

Mastitis is defined as an inflammatory response resulting in the infection of mammary tissue. Mastitis has been reported to occur in many mammals, especially in dairy cattle (Gomes and Henriques 2016). Mastitis in domestic dairy cattle causes economic losses. The economic problems caused by mastitis is related to direct and indirect losses. Direct losses are due to treatment costs, unaccountable milk, staff costs, deaths, and recurrence of mastitis. Indirect losses are caused by lower milk yield, lower milk quality, increased separation, decreased animal welfare and other health problems (Petrovski et al. 2006). The great majority of mastitis cases are bacterial and non-bacterial infections such as mycoplasmas, fungi, yeasts, virus, and chlamydia (Wellenberg et al. 2002). Mastitis is divided into clinical and subclinical form. In clinical mastitis, the risk of contamination can be stopped to separate the animal from the herd, but the subclinical mastitis continues to flock because the animal does not show clinical symptoms, and mastitis causes the other animals to catch up. As a result, the economic losses is getting bigger (Bogni et al. 2011).

Although the bacterial pathogens are the focus of mastitis studies. There are many viral agents associated with bovine mastitis and which may cause or play important role in subclinical mastitis in dairy cattle (Wellenberg et al. 2002, Kalman et al. 2004). However, since viral infections have not been much investigated in mastitis studies, strategies developed against subclinical mastitis may be inadequate.

Bovine Herpesvirus (BHV-1) (Hage JJ et al. 1998), Bovine Parainfluenza 3 (BPIV-3) virus (Kawakami et al. 1966a,b), Bovine Papillomaviruses (Wellenberg et al. 2002) could cause or play a role in clinical and subclinical mastitis. BHV-1, a member of the *Herpesviridae* family, can lead to serious diseases such as infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR), infectious pustular vulvovaginitis (IPV) and infectious pustular balanoposthitis. Diseases caused by the virus include conjunctivitis, rhinotracheitis, abortion, encephalomyelitis, and mastitis (Underwood et al. 2015). Roberts et al. (1974) isolated BHV-1 from a cattle with mastitis in the USA. In addition, BHV-1 was identified in bovine milk with mastitis in combination with *Mycoplasma* species (Espinasse et al. 1974, Gourlay et al. 1974). Bilge (1998) reported that BHV-1 was found in one of the milk samples obtained from 96 cows with mastitis. BHV-1 leads to high milk cell counts even if there is no other pathogens that cause the mastitis (Siegler et al., 1984). In addition, it may cause the mastitis when the udder was infected with BHV1, and was isolated from mammary tissues with mastitis in cattle (Greig and Bannister 1965, Gourlay et al. 1974, Roberts et al. 1974).

BPIV-3 virus, a member of the *Paramyxoviridae* family, was isolated from Japanese cattle with nasal secretions and milk (Kawakami et al. 1966a). Furthermore, this virus was identified in milk of 14 of 58 cattle. Although the cattle which BPIV-3 virus was isolated from its milk did not observe any signs of clinical mastitis, somatic cell counts (SCCs) were increased in milk samples. Another study revealed that BPIV-3 virus was found in milk of cattle with typical aseptic mastitis (Kawakami et al. 1966b).

The Bovine Papilloma viruses (BPV) belong to the *Papillomaviridae* family (Olson 1990). BPV-1, BPV-2, and BPV-13 can infect and cause the development of tumors in cattle (Bocaneti et al. 2016). Different types of BPV have been identified into four genera, including Xipapillomavirus, Deltapapillomavirus, Epsilonpapillomavirus, and Dyoxipapillomavirus (Hamad et al. 2016, Lunardi et al. 2013). Since BPV can cause the fibropapillomas in the ductus papillaris, this virus could show a predisposition in cattle with mastitis (Francis 1984).

When literature review is conducted, it is revealed that there is not enough study which is performed on viral agents and mastitis/subclinical mastitis, and there is not enough information about the effect of viral agents on mastitis. From here, the aim of this study is to determine the presence and distribution of viral agents BPIV-3, BPV-1, BPV-2, and BHV-1, by using Immunofluorescence assay and qRT-PCR methods in the mammary tissue of cattle.

## MATERIAL and METHOD

### Material

The material of this study consisted of 120 mammary tissue samples (average 15 samples collected per week) obtained from slaughterhouses without any selection before slaughtering of animals in Erzurum Province in Turkey. Mammary tissue samples were collected randomly by using lancet without distinction or irrespective of whether it is inflamed or not to determine the presence of agents in cases of subclinical mastitis. Collected samples were brought to the laboratory for routine histopathology, Immunofluorescence assay, and total RNA isolation procedures.

### Routine Histopathology

Each received mammary samples were stored for 1 day to be fixed in a 10% buffered formalin solution for histopathology and immunohistochemistry and half of each sample were stored -20 ° C for PCR. The routine histopathological process was performed in Shandon Citadel 2000 (USA) tissue system. After the routine histopathology process, all samples were poured into paraffin for blocking and prepared microtome sections in 5µm by using rotary microtome (Leica RM 2255). All microtome sections

were stained with hematoxylin-eosin (Presnell and Schreibman 1997).

### **Immunofluorescence Staining Method**

After the routine histopathology process, 4 µm of paraffin sections were taken on to lysine-coated slides. These slides put in the oven for deparaffinization in 57° C for 1 hour. For indirect immunofluorescence staining, paraffin sections in 4 µm were placed on lysine-coated slides after primary antibody (Bovine Parainfluenza Virus Type 3 antibody, aPI116J10, BioX, 1/250 dilution; Anti-Bovine Papilloma Virus E2 antibody, ab77174, abcam, 1/250 dilution; BoHV-1 antibody, aIBR16L12, BioX, 1/250 dilution) application which was performed according the same test protocol of immunohistochemistry, 1\ 50 diluted seconder immunofluorescence antibody (Cat No: Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG H&L (FITC) dropped 12 µl by using micropipette to each slide and waited 45 minutes in the darkness. After standing in the dark, slides were washed with distilled water and covered with mounting medium (glycerol, 9 volumes; PBS 1 volume). All slides were examined in florescence microscope (Carl Zeiss Axio Skop A1 with Calibri 2 led fluorescence attachment).

### **Total RNA Isolation**

Total RNA isolation was realized from the collected mammary tissue samples through the utilization of Trizol (Invitrogen, USA). Total RNA isolation was realized in line with the manufacturer's protocol. Following the total RNA isolation, the RNA concentration was measured by virtue of NanoDrop (Epoch Microplate Spectrophotometer, USA). RNAs were run in a 1.5% agarose gel in 1XTBE solution for one hour at 80 volts with a view to control total RNA quality and visualized by gel the imaging system and their RNA quality was determined.

### **DNase I treatment and cDNA Synthesis**

DNase I (Thermo Scientific, USA) was performed against DNA contamination in isolated RNA samples. DNase I treatment was performed in line with the protocol provided in the kit. Subsequently, 1 µg was taken from these RNAs and cDNA was synthesized through utilization of the miScript Reverse Transcription Kit (Qiagen, Germany) in line with the protocol provided. The purity and quantity of the obtained cDNA was measured by virtue of spectrophotometer (Epoch Microplate Spectrophotometer, USA), and the cDNAs were diluted at the same ratios. Subsequently, the cDNA samples were stored at -20 °C for utilization in Real Time PCR studies.

### **Real time PCR**

qRT-PCR was performed through utilization of the CFX96 BioRad device in order to detect BPIV-3, BHV-1, BPV-1, and BPV-2. The β-actin gene was

employed for internal control. Master mix content created in real time PCR experiments is as follows: Syber Green 2X Rox Dye Master mix (Qiagen Germany), forward and reverse primers designed for genes, cDNAs as template and nuclease-free water. The samples were analyzed in Real-Time device following the preparation of master mixes. Reaction conditions and primer sequences of the genes are shown in Table 1. The primer sequences were received from previously conducted studies (Thonur et al. 2012, Pangty et al. 2010, Kubis et al. 2013).

### **Statistical analysis**

IBM SPSS 20 program was performed for statistical analysis. The Cp values of each virus were evaluated using a linear mixed model (Thonur et al. 2012).

## **RESULTS**

### **Histopathological evaluation**

Histopathologic evaluation showed different character and severity of inflammatory changes in 78 of 120 cases. 56/120 samples were diagnosed with chronic subclinic mastitis and 22/120 cases were diagnosed with acute mastitis. In chronic subclinical cases, mononuclear cell infiltration in interstitial tissue and interalveolar septum thickness due to increased connective tissue were observed (Fig.1A, 1B). In acute cases, the presence of exudates containing neutrophil leukocytes in alveoli of mammary gland was observed. Degeneration and necrosis of alveolar epithelial layer, desquamation of gland epithelium were observed as common findings. Nonspecific chronic inflammatory cells such as lymphocyte and macrophage infiltrations (Fig. 1A, 1B, 1C) were detected in histopathological examination of BPIV-3 and BPV positive samples. Mononuclear cells accumulation, inclusion bodies in the cytoplasm of epithelial cells (Fig. 1C) were observed in BHV-1 positive tissues.

### **Immunofluorescence staining results**

In the immunofluorescence staining, positive reactions for viral agents were observed in mammary gland epithelium, especially in mononuclear cells in the region (Figs. 1D, 1E, 1F). According to the results, the fluorescent positive reactions were detected in totally 50 cases with chronic (subclinical) mastitis (26/120 for BPIV-3, 8/120 for BPV-2 and 16/120 for BHV-1).

### **Integrity of material**

A β-actin signal was observed in all mammary samples tested in the qRT-qPCR indicating no evidence of extraction failure or PCR inhibition. (Fig.2)

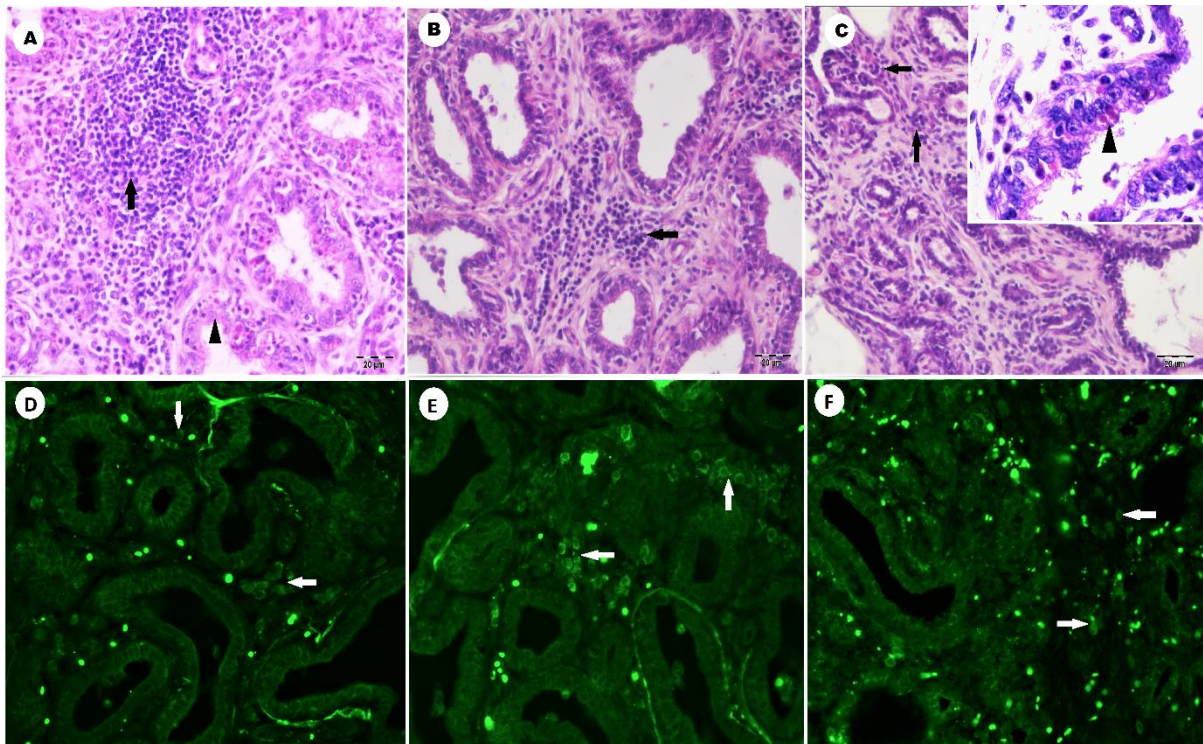
### **Real-Time PCR Results**

A ten-fold serial dilution of each of the in vitro transcribed RNAs of BPIV-3, BHV-1, BPV-1, and

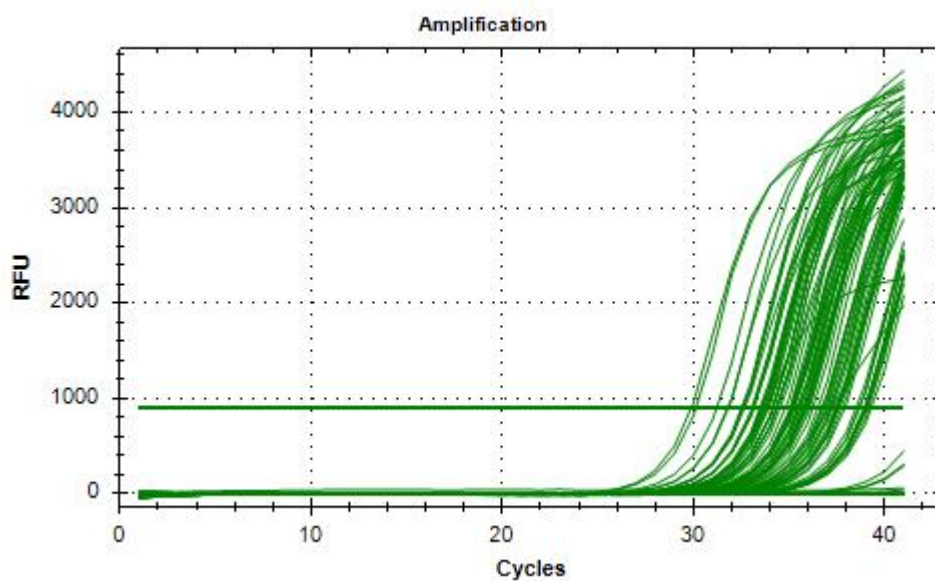


BPV-2 was triplicate analysis. The standard curves identified with qRT-PCR are shown in Figs. 3A, 3B, and 3C. All four targets were analyzed simultaneously and no evidence of cross reactivity between primers was detected. BPIV-3 agent was detected by the qRT-PCR in 26/120 samples, BHV-1 agent in 16/120 samples, BPV-1 agent in 7/120 samples, and BPV-2

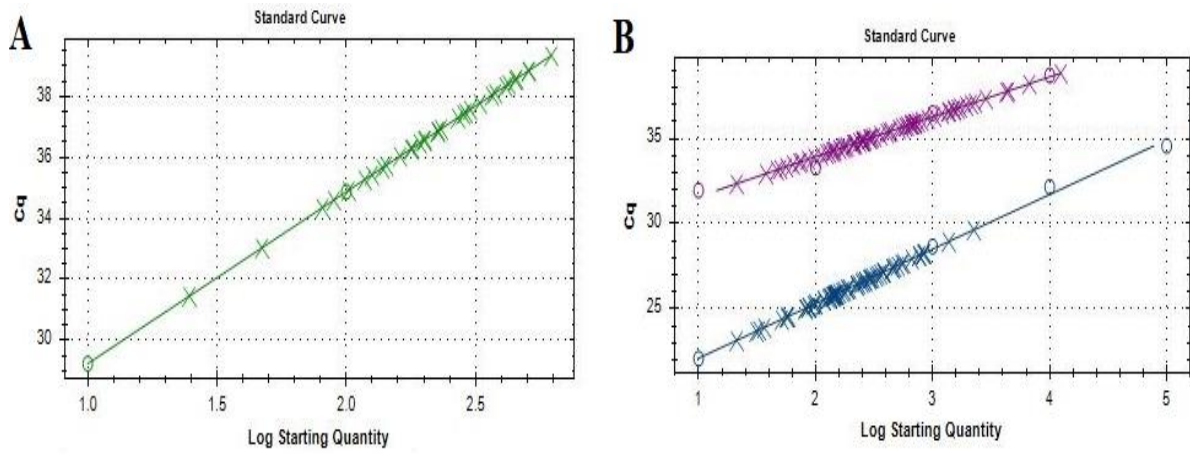
agent in 8/120 samples. Coinfection with BPIV-3 and BHV-1 was detected in 5/120 samples, BPIV-3, and BPV-1 in 3/120 samples, BHV-1 and BPV-1 in 2/120 samples (Table 2). BPIV-3, BHV-1, BPV-1, and BPV-2 nucleic acid signals were shown in Figs. 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D.



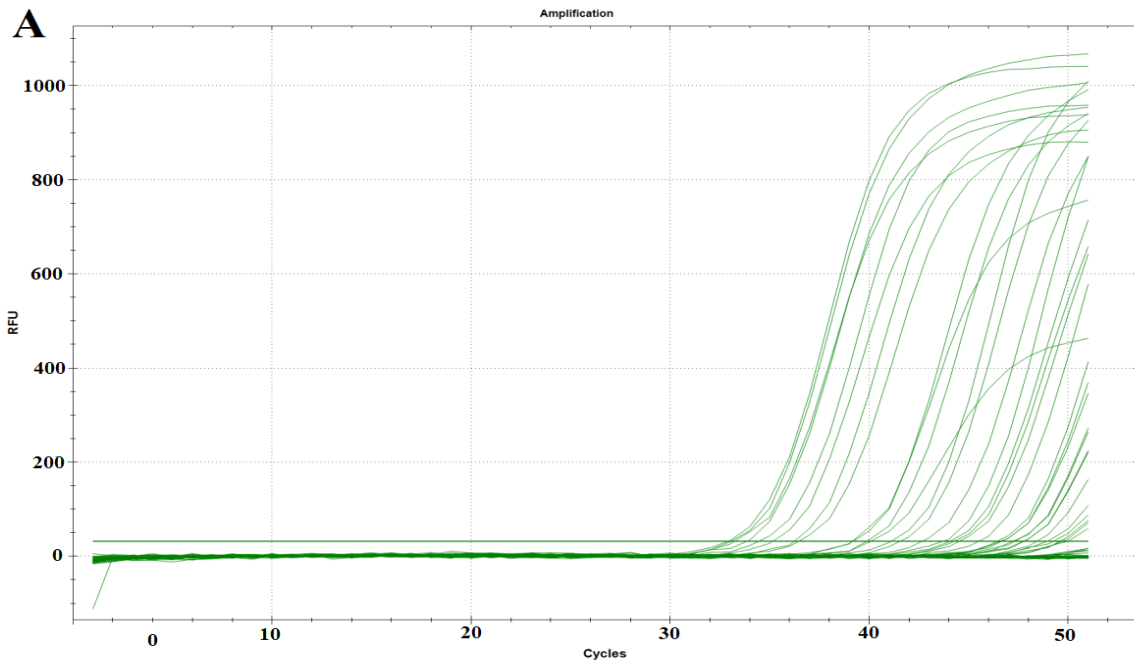
**Figure 1.** Histopathological and Immunofluorescence staining results A) Mononuclear cell infiltrations in the interstitial space (arrow), Degeneration and necrosis in the gland epithelium (arrowhead). BPIV-3. H & E. 20  $\mu$ m. B) Mononuclear cell infiltrations (arrow), BPV-1. H & E. 20  $\mu$ m. C) Plasma cell accumulation (arrows), intracytoplasmic eosinophilic inclusion bodies (arrowhead). BHV-1. H & E. 20  $\mu$ m. D) Positivity in mononuclear cells of BPIV-3 (arrows). IF. 20  $\mu$ m E) Positivity (arrows) in mononuclear cells of BPV-1 agent, IF. 20  $\mu$ m. F) Positive reaction for BHV-1 agent (arrows) in mononuclear cells. IF. 20  $\mu$ m.



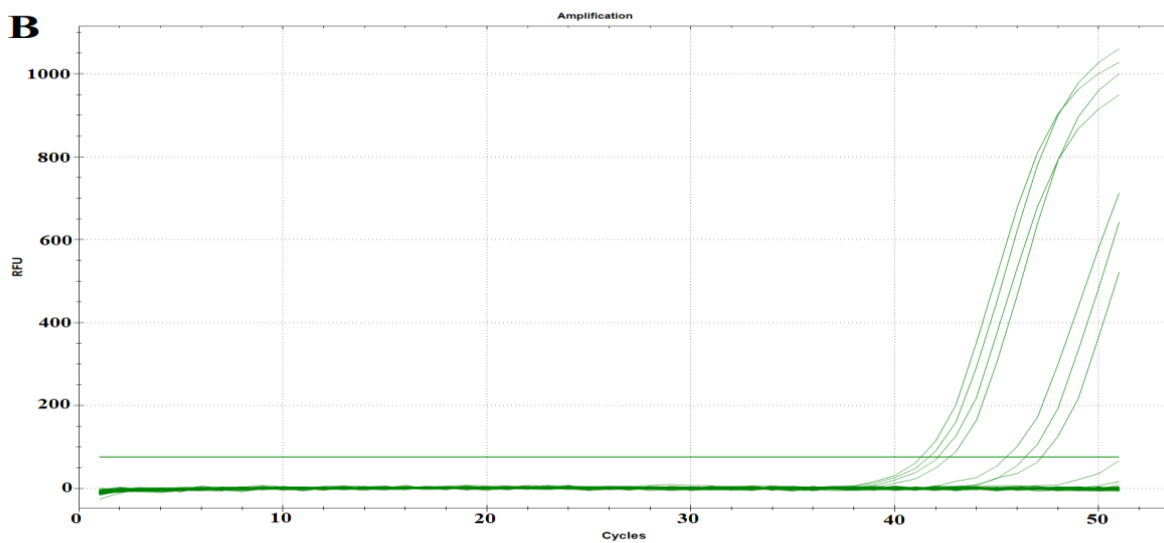
**Figure 2.**  $\beta$ -actin signals for all tissues



**Figure 3.** The standard curves for each virus. A) Standard curves of BPIV-3. B) Standard curves of BHV-1 and BPV-1 (purple; BHV-1, dark blue; BPV-1).



**Figure 4.** BPIV-3, BHV-1, BPV-1 and BPV-2 nucleic acid signals. A) BPIV-3.



**Figure 4.** BPIV-3, BHV-1, BPV-1 and BPV-2 nucleic acid signals. B) BPV-1.

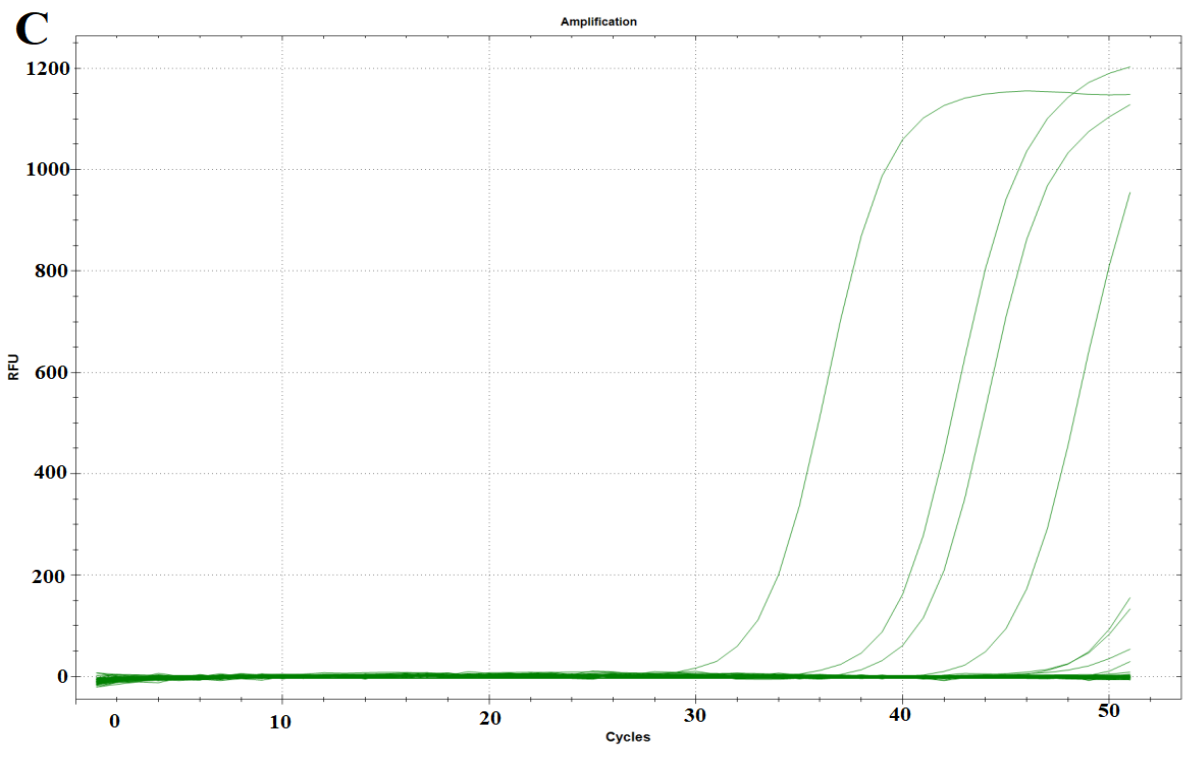


Figure 4. BPIV-3, BHV-1, BPV-1 and BPV-2 nucleic acid signals. C) BPV-2.

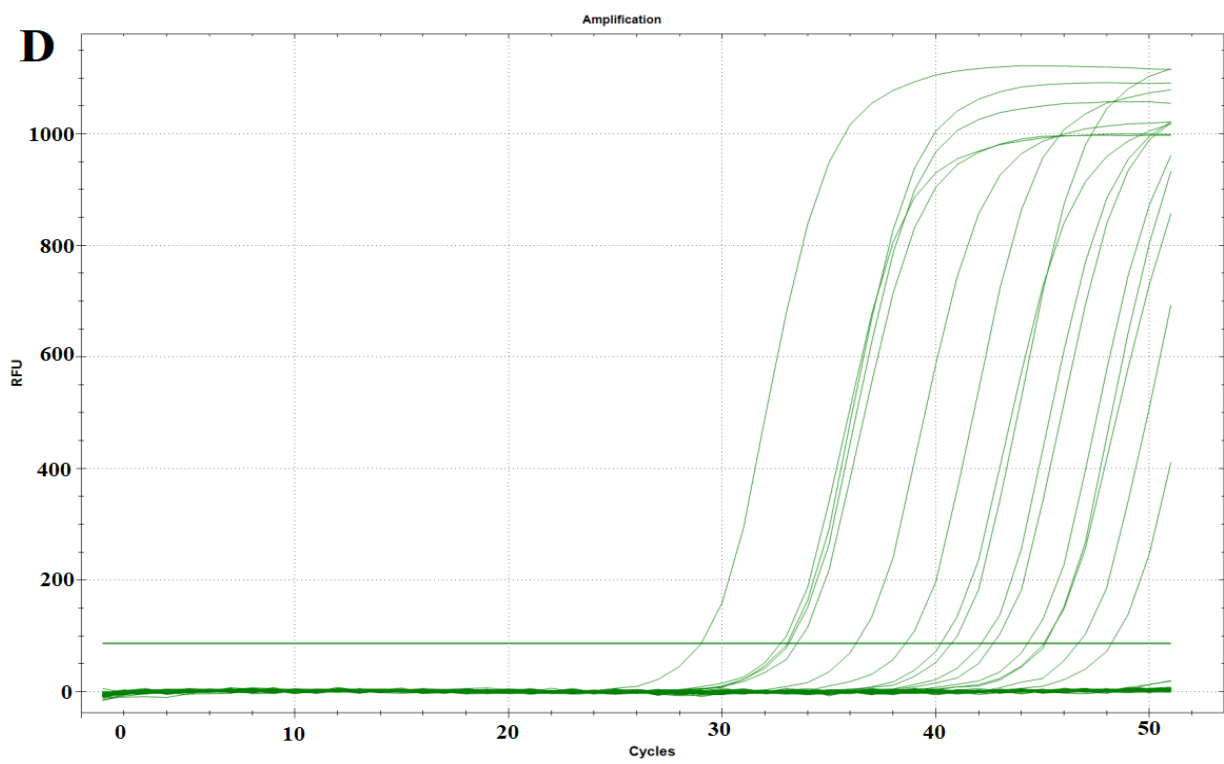


Figure 4. BPIV-3, BHV-1, BPV-1 and BPV-2 nucleic acid signals. D) BHV-1

**Table 1.** Primer sequences of BPIV-3,  $\beta$ -actin, BPV-1, BPV-2, and BHV1

Gen Name	Primer sequences	Reaction Conditions	References
<b>BPIV-3</b>	F: TGATTGGATGTTTCGGGAGTGA R: AGAATCCTTTCCTCAATCCTGATATACT	94 °C for 15 s, 58 °C 30 s / 72 °C 30 s. (40 cycle)	Thonur et al. 2012
<b><math>\beta</math>-actin</b>	F: GACAGGATGCAGAARGAGATCAC R: TCCACATCTGCTGGAAGGTG	94 °C for 15 s, 55 °C 30 s / 72 °C 30 s. (40 cycle)	Thonur et al. 2012
<b>BPV-1</b>	F: GGA GCG CCT GCT AAC TAT AGG A R: ATC TGT TGT TTG GGT GGT GAC	94 °C for 15 s, 57 °C 30 s / 72 °C 30 s. (40 cycle)	Pangty et al. 2010
<b>BPV-2</b>	F: GTT ATA CCA CCC AAA GAA GAC CCT R: CTG GTT GCA ACA GCT CTC TTT CTC	94 °C for 15 s, 57 °C 30 s / 72 °C 30 s. (40 cycle)	Pangty et al. 2010
<b>BHV-1</b>	F: TGTGGACCTAAACCTCACGGT R: GTAGTCGAGCAGACCCGTGTC	94 °C for 15 s, 59 °C 30 s / 72 °C 30 s. (40 cycle)	Thonur et al. 2012

**Table 2.** Real time RT-PCR results for 120 samples

Material	BPIV-3	BHV-1	BPV-1	BPV-2	BPIV-3 and BHV-1	BPIV-3 and BPV-1	BHV-1 and BPV-1
Mammary tissue	26	16	7	8	5	3	2
Percentage (%)	21.6%	13.3%	5.8%	6.6%	4.16%	2.5%	1.6%

## DISCUSSION

Bovine mastitis disease causes important economic losses all over the World. Although, the number of studies on the presence and role of viral agents in mastitis cases is very low. BPIV-3, BHV-1, BPV-1, and BPV-2 are the most important agents among viral pathogens shown to be responsible for mastitis cases. Besides the severity of disease increases by various factors like stress, environmental conditions, immunodeficiency (Wellenberg et al. 2002, Underwood WJ et al. 2015).

Mastitis cases are among the common herd health problems in our country as in all over the world. Mastitis has been reported to occur in many mammalian species, especially in domestic dairy cows (Petrovski et al. 2006, Gomes and Henriques 2016). In the previous studies, the presence and the role of bacterial agents in mastitis cases are emphasized (Bogni et al. 2011, Gomes and Henriques 2016). However, no detailed studies have been found in the presence of viral agents that play an important role in diseases such as other respiratory system diseases.

Foot and Mouth Disease Virus (FMDV), Bovine Herpesvirus 4 (BHV-4), Bovine Herpesvirus 2 (BHV-2), cattle Pox Virus, Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus (BVDV), Vesicular Stomatitis, Bovine Herpes Virus 1 (IBR / IPV), Bovine Herpesvirus-3 (BHV-3), Coryza Gangrenosa Bovum (CGB), Bovine Enterovirus (BEV), Bovine Parainfluenza 3 (BPIV-3), Bovine leukosis were reported as examples of viral infections that cause mastitis in cattle or that are involved in mastitis (Molen et al. 1985, Reid et al. 2006). In our

country, except for some seroprevalence reports (Alkan et al. 1997, Yesilbag and Gungör 2008), no study was found in this scope.

In the previous study by Kawakami et al. (1966a), BPIV-3 was detected in the nasal fluid of Japanese cows with respiratory diseases and milk and mammary tissues of mastitis cows. In cases of mastitis caused by BPIV-3, there is fever and weight loss in cows. In addition, BPIV-3 is seen in both clinical and subclinical mastitis (Kawakami et al. 1966b, Wellenberg et al. 2002). In the studies, it has been shown that this virus causes mastitis in the cows with the bactericidal factors that cause mastitis (William et al. 1992, Wellenberg et al. 2002).

BHV-1 usually infects mammary tissue in young cows during the first lactation period. This infection may be sub-clinical or clinical. BHV-1 infections are particularly damaging to the ductus papillaris and sinus lectoris (Senft and Neudecker 1991). This situation makes the mastitis cases caused by bacteria more harmful. BHV-1 can be found in the milk of cows with mastitis (Wellenberg et al. 2002, Kubis et al. 2013). Intramammary inoculation of BHV-1 induce the signs of clinical mastitis. Besides, a significant decrease in milk production was recorded, and milk samples showed intense consistency after the intramammary inoculation of cows with the BHV-1 (Greig and Bannister 1965).

In an experimental study based on an outbreak of BHV-1 for 98 lactating animals was induced by injecting three seropositive cows with dexamethasone. They have reported that a significant decrease in milk production in initially-seronegative

cows that became infected but not in seropositive cows (Hage JJ et al. 1998)

Turner et al. (1976) reported that they isolated BHV-2 from vesicular fluid and swab samples from the mammary of 31 dairy cows. In herpes mammillitis cases in Canada, it was determined that the samples collected from the lesions were determined by virus isolation and electron microscopy and mastitis rate increased in the herd. As a result, BHV-2 infections are thought to increase the sensitivity of the mammary due to damage to the natural defense mechanism and to increase the sensitivity to bacterial infections (Martin et al. 1987).

In the present study, BPIV-3 agent was detected by the qRT-PCR in 26/120 samples, BHV-1 agent in 16/120 samples, BPV-1 agent in 7/120 samples, and BPV-2 agent in 8/120 samples. Coinfection with BPIV-3 and BHV-1 was detected in 5/120 samples, BPIV-3, and BPV-1 in 3/120 samples, BHV-1 and BPV-1 in 2/120 samples. Degeneration and necrosis of alveolar epithelial layer, desquamation of gland epithelium were observed as common findings. Nonspecific chronic inflammatory cells such as lymphocyte and macrophage infiltrations were detected in histopathological examination of BPIV-3 and BPV positive samples. infiltration of mononuclear cells, inclusion bodies in the cytoplasm of epithelial cells were observed in BHV-1 positive tissues. In the immunofluorescence staining, positive reactions for viral agents were observed in mammary gland epithelium, especially in mononuclear cells in the region. According to the results, the fluorescent positive reactions were detected 26/120 for BPIV-3, 16/120 for BHV-1 and 8/120 for BPV-2.

In accordance with the information in the literature, similar to the findings of nonspecific histopathological examinations observed in other tissues and organs infected with viral agents, histopathological examination of the mammary tissues revealed no specific findings other than the infiltration of chronic inflammatory cell formation. Especially the subclinical form of mastitis is high in clinical mastitis form, subclinical mastitis cannot be noticed by the breeders, the disease is a herd problem, the disease resistance to drug treatment reveals the importance of the disease (Sharma et al. 2006, Sandev et al. 2004).

According the literature, viruses induce reduction of the natural defense mechanisms of the udder and immune system deficiency like by causing teat lesions (Francis 1984, Wellenberg et al. 2002, Underwood WJ et al. 2015). Our results demonstrate that BPIV-3, BPV, and BHV-1 neither cause mastitis directly nor play a pivotal role in clinical mastitis, because of isolation of bacterial agent was not performed. But obtained findings like intracytoplasmic inclusion

bodies in epithelial cells enfectet with BHV-1 and positive immune signs of viral agents in the cytoplasm of the inflammatory cells in mammary tissues, made us think that viral agents may be responsible for clinical mastitis turn into subclinical mastitis or prolonged the inflammation after or before of the bacterial infection of the mammary glands occurred.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our findings demonstrate a high prevalence of viral agents in cattle mammary tissue in the east of Turkey. Suitable environment conditions for the animals waiting to be able to create an infectious disease in the normal flora and subclinical infected cows of the factors shows that the continuity of this threat. There is a critical need for preventative strategies in the farm for viral pathogens like rapid elimination of subclinically virus carrier animals from herd via periodically screening for viral disease in terms of subclinical mastitis.

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## Antibiotic Resistance To *Campylobacter* spp. Isolated from The Livers of Slaughtered Ruminants and Aborted Ovine Fetuses

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### ABSTRACT

The presence of *Campylobacter* spp. obtained from clinically healthy 50 sheep, goats and cattle slaughtered in slaughterhouses in Afyonkarahisar and Kutahya provinces and 44 aborted ovine fetuses obtained from the same region was investigated in this study. The subtypes were isolated by culture methods and identified by API Campy (Biomerieux, France) test kits. *Campylobacter* spp. was isolated from 7 samples (15.91%) out of 44 aborted ovine fetuses. After identification of *Campylobacter* spp., it was determined that 5 samples (71.43%) out of 7 were *C. fetus subsp. fetus* (71.43%) and 2 samples were *C. jejuni* (28.57%). Out of the 50 liver samples, *Campylobacter* spp. was isolated from 3 ovine livers (6%) and 1 goat liver (2%). Three of the isolates were identified as *C. jejuni* (75%) and 1 isolate as *C. coli* (25%). *Campylobacter* spp. was not isolated from cattle livers. Resistance rates for ciprofloxacin and tetracycline were 45.5% and 27.3% for erythromycin and 9.1% for ampicillin. No resistance was determined against gentamycin, chloramphenicol and streptomycin. The rate of susceptibility to antibiotics used was 72.7% for ampicillin, 54.5% for erythromycin, 90.9% for gentamycin, 100% for chloramphenicol, 72.7% for streptomycin and 27.3 % for ciprofloxacin and tetracycline.

**Keywords:** Antibiotic resistance, *Campylobacter* spp., Ovine fetus, Ruminant liver.

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### Mezbahalarda Kesilen Ruminant Karaciğerlerinden ve Koyun Abortuslarından İzole Edilen *Campylobacter* Türlerine Karşı Antibiyotik Dirençliliği

#### ÖZ

Bu çalışmada, Afyonkarahisar ve Kütahya illerinden mezbahalarda sağlıklı olarak kesilen koyun, keçi ve sığırlardan alınan 50'şer adet karaciğer örneği ile yine aynı bölgeden temin edilen 44 aborte koyun fetüsünde, *Campylobacter* spp. varlığı arandı. Kültür tekniğiyle izole edilen suşlar, API Campy (Biomerieux, France) test kitleleriyle tanımlandı. İncelenen 44 aborte koyun fetüsünden, 7 adet (%15,91) *Campylobacter* spp. izole edildi. İdentifikasyonları yapıldığında, örneklerin 5'inin *C. fetus subsp. fetus* (%71,43), 2'sinin *C. jejuni* (%28,57) olduğu tespit edildi. Ellişer karaciğer örneğinden, 3 koyun karaciğerinde (%6) ve 1 keçi karaciğerinde (%2) *Campylobacter* spp. izole edildi. İzolatların 3'ünün *C. jejuni* (%75), 1'inin *C. coli* (%25) olduğu tespit edildi. Sığır karaciğerlerinden ise *Campylobacter* spp. izole edilemedi. Elde edilen 11 adet *Campylobacter* izolatının analizinde siprofloksasin ve tetrasikline %45,5, eritromisine %27,3, ampisiline %9,1 oranında dirençlilik tespit edildi. Gentamisin, kloramfenikol ve streptomisine karşı ise dirençlilik gözlenmedi. Kullanılan antibiyotikler için tespit edilen duyarlılık oranları, ampisiline %72,7, eritromisine %54,5, gentamisine %90,9, kloramfenikole %100, streptomisine %72,7, siprofloksasin ve tetrasikline %27,3 olarak bulundu.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Antibiyotik direnci, *Campylobacter* spp., Koyun fetüs, Ruminant karaciğer

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## INTRODUCTION

*Campylobacter* species are pathogenic microorganisms for animals and humans which can be commensal in the intestinal flora of various domestic and wild animals and can cause gastrointestinal and genital infections (Songer and Post, 2005).

Generally, the optimal growing temperature is 37°C. However, while thermophilic ones reproduce optimally at 42-43°C, they can also reproduce at 37°C. *C. jejuni*, *C. coli*, *C. lari* species are defined as thermophilic species. *Campylobacter* species are microaerophilic. Media containing 5% O<sub>2</sub>, 10% CO<sub>2</sub> and 85% N<sub>2</sub> (Moore et al. 2005) is required for optimal reproduction.

Heat-sensitive *Campylobacter* species are inactivated at 60°C in solid and liquid foods in a short time. It has been reported that the *Campylobacter* species is inactivated under standard conditions in chlorinated drinking water and pasteurized milk (Obiri-Danso et al. 2001).

It was observed that *C. jejuni* which has been in the water for a long time passes into the coccoid form and enters into the stagnation phase and that it was not possible to cultivate it by using non-selective media in this phase. It was reported that during this time it is alive but transposed into the coccoid form that cannot be cultured and this form is described as viable but non-culturable (VBNC) (Rolling and Colwell, 1986, Jones et al. 1991, Purdy et al. 1999).

All domestic animals, humans and mammals as well as poultry are hosts. They have no specificity according to animal species. The most common form of a *Campylobacter* infection is enteritis. The course of the disease may range from a mild short course of enteritis to bloody ulcerative colitis. (Aydin et al. 2006).

*Campylobacter* species are generally susceptible to macrolides and quinolone group antibiotics and have been reported to be resistant to trimethoprim with cephalosporin group antibiotics such as cephalothin, cefoperazone, cefazolin. *C. lari* strains are resistant to nalidixic acid and are used to diagnose and differentiate it from other thermophilic species (Winn et al. 2006).

The antibiotic resistance observed in *Campylobacter* species develops through mutations in chromosomes and from other bacteria through plasmid or transposon transfer (Taylor and Courvalin, 1988).

*Campylobacter* species is a zoonosis and therefore it is epidemiologically closely related to food and public health and animal health. *Campylobacter fetus subsp. fetus* is epidemic in sheep abortus, causes sporadic abortion in cattle and sporadic infections in other

animals. The agent can be active in up to 50% of the intestines and gall bladders of healthy cattle and sheep. During abortion cases, the rate of the agent in stool increases. Feces of infected animals spread into the environment through aborted fetuses and genital discharge (Aydin et al. 2006). Venereal infection is observed in cattle. Following the infection, sheep gain immunity that lasts 2-3 years. Epidemics show a recurrent periodic temporal distribution every 2-3 years (Ülgen 2002).

*Campylobacter fetus subsp. venerealis* causes abortion and infertility with venereal infection specific to cattle. The agent can be isolated from the distal urethra and glans penis of infected bulls. Accumulation in the female genital tract results in the ascending colonization towards the fallopian tubes. This usually occurs in the form of infertility and abortus occurs in less than 10% of infected cows (Songer and Post, 2005).

Infectious diseases causing abortion in sheep; Brucellosis, Campylobacteriosis, Salmonellosis, Chlamydiosis, Listeriosis, Leptospirosis, Toxoplasmosis and Aspergillosis (Kenar et al. 1990).

Ovine campylobacteriosis is a disease, which can cause severe economic losses due to abortions (Diker and Istanbuluoglu, 1986). The Epidemiology of sheep abortion due to *Campylobacter* species is similar to other sheep abortion infections (Ülgen 2002, Aydin et al. 2006, Batmaz 2013).

More precise and faster techniques have been developed in order to identify and determine the genetic characteristics of the *Campylobacter* species. In addition to biochemical tests, techniques such as Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR), Immunomagnetic Separation (IMS), API Campy Test Kit, Polymorphic DNA (RAPD), Pulsed-Field Gel Electrophoresis (PFGE) are being used. Thus, in addition to time savings, identifications can be made more precisely (Lamoureux et al. 1997, Shih 2000, Madigan et al. 2003).

The objective of this study was to investigate the presence of *Campylobacter* species which is an important pathogen in terms of animal and public health, in aborted fetuses and sheep, goat and bovine livers and determine the antibiotic resistance of the obtained strains.

## MATERIAL and METHOD

The study was carried out on the livers of sheep, goats, cattle slaughtered in slaughterhouses in Afyonkarahisar and Kütahya provinces in Midwest Anatolia and the fetuses from aborted sheep. 10 ml of the abomasum content of 44 sheep fetuses freshly supplied from abortus cases incurring in April 2015 -



May 2016 in the said environment was obtained by means of a sterile injector from each fetus. In the period of January 2016 - May 2016, 50 sheep, goat and bovine livers from healthy animals slaughtered in slaughterhouses were collected by transferring them to sterile specimen containers with the help of a sterile scalpel and scissors. The samples were transferred to the laboratory under a cold chain. Forty-four fetuses were collected from 38 sheep farms and a total of 194 samples including 50 liver samples from sheep, goats and cattle were used.

The isolation of *Campylobacter* species was carried out by using the following media and supplements: Nutrient Broth No. 2 (Oxoid CM 0067), Selective Supplement (Oxoid SR 048), Charcoal Cefaperazone Deoxycholate Agar (CCDA), (Oxoid CM 0739), CCDA Selective Supplement (Oxoid SR0155E).

The identification of *Campylobacter* species was carried out by using the following tests: Oxidase Test, Oxidase Identification Sticks (Oxoid BR 064), Catalase Test, 3% hydrogen peroxide (Merck 8597) and hippurate hydrolysis test (Merck-8.20648.0025), API Campy Test.

The tests were carried out according to the manufacturer's instructions. Isolated *Campylobacter* spp were cultivated on 5-7% sheep blood Mueller – Hinton Agar (Oxoid CM0337) media and disks with Ampicillin (Oxoid CT003B) 10 µg, Erythromycin (Oxoid CT0020B) 15 µg, Gentamicin (Oxoid CT0024B) 10 µg, Chloramphenicol (Oxoid CT0013B) 30 µg, Streptomycin (Oxoid CT0047B) 10 µg, Ciprofloxacin (Oxoid CT0425B) 5 µg, Tetracycline (Oxoid CT0054B) 30 µg were placed on the agar (Arda et al. 1987).

The samples were taken in sterile containers to the laboratory under a cold chain and isolation and identification procedures were started on their delivery date. The medium containing 5% O<sub>2</sub>, 10% CO<sub>2</sub> and 85% N<sub>2</sub> was kept at 37°C for 3-7 days. Their proliferation was checked. The *Campylobacter*

species were left to incubate at 37°C for 48-72 hours in a microaerophilic medium.

Antibiotic susceptibility was assessed according to Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) Performance standards for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (2012).

## RESULTS

*Campylobacter* spp. was determined in 11 (5.67%) out of the total 194 samples. *Campylobacter* spp. was determined in 7 of the examined 44 lamb abomasum (15.91%), in 3 of the examined 50 sheep livers (6%) and 1 (2%) of the 50 goat livers. No isolation was made from bovine livers.

63.64% (7) of the samples which revealed the presence of *Campylobacter* spp. were isolated from sheep fetuses, 27.27% (3) from sheep livers and 9.09% (1) from goat liver samples.

5 out of the 11 isolates were identified as *Campylobacter fetus ssp. fetus* (45.45%), 5 were identified as *Campylobacter jejuni* (45.45%) and 1 was identified as *Campylobacter coli* (9.09%).

5 out of the 7 fetus samples found positive were identified with *Campylobacter fetus ssp. fetus* (71.43%), 2 samples with (28.57%) *Campylobacter jejuni*, 2 out of 3 sheep liver samples revealed (66.67%) *Campylobacter jejuni*, 1 had *Campylobacter coli* while 1 goat liver sample was identified with *Campylobacter jejuni*. The distribution of the identified *Campylobacter* species according to the samples is shown in Table 1.

Resistance to 7 different antibiotics for the identified 11 isolates was determined by the disc diffusion method. According to the test results the highest resistance was manifested against ciprofloxacin and tetracycline (45.45%) while the highest sensitivity was against gentamicin (90.91%) and chloramphenicol (100%). Resistance and sensitivity data against determined antibiotics and strains is shown in Table 2.

**Table 1.** Distribution of the identified *Campylobacter* species according to the samples

Agent	Sheep				Goat liver		Bovine liver		Total samples	
	Fetus n=44		Liver n=50		n=50		n=50		194	%
	x	%	x	%	x	%	x	%		
<i>C. fetus subsp. fetus</i>	5	11.36	-	0.00	-	-	-	-	5	2.58
<i>C. jejuni</i>	2	4.55	2	4.00	1	2.00	-	-	5	2.58
<i>C. coli</i>	-	-	1	2.00	-	-	-	-	1	0.52
Total	7	15.91	3	6.00	1	2.00	0	0	11	5.67

(x: number of positive samples, n: number of examined samples)

**Table 2.** *Campylobacter* spp. Antibigram Results

Antibiotic	S		I		R	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Ampicillin	8	72.73	2	18.18	1	9.09
Erythromycin	6	54.55	2	18.18	3	27.27
Gentamicin	10	90.91	1	9.09	-	-
Chloramphenicol	11	100.00	-	-	-	-
Streptomycin	8	72.73	3	27.27	-	-
Ciprofloxacin	3	27.27	3	27.27	5	45.45
Tetracycline	3	27.27	3	27.27	5	45.45

(n: Number of strains, S: sensitive, I: medium sensitive, R: resistant)

## DISCUSSION

The study revealed that 11 (5.67%) samples were positive for *Campylobacter* spp. Resistance was manifested against ciprofloxacin and tetracycline in the identified isolates while sensitivity to gentamicin and chloramphenicol was determined. *Campylobacteriosis* is a common zoonotic disease throughout the world and observed in Latin America, Asia, Africa, North America, Europe and New Zealand (Gard 2016). The incidence of infections caused by *Campylobacter* spp. is constantly increasing. *Campylobacteriosis* is a zoonosis infection. *Campylobacter* spp. causes hundreds of millions of infections around the world every year (Kashoma et al 2015). The disease is also common in our country. Kenar and Erganiş (1994) carried out a study in Samsun and its periphery regarding *Campylobacter* induced abortions and reported that they had isolated *Campylobacter* subsp in 8 out of 35 aborted lamb fetuses (22.9%) and 5 of them were identified as *C. fetus subsp. fetus* (62.5%), 2 as (25.0%) *C. jejuni* and 1 as Aerotolerant campylobacter. Similarly, in a study carried out by Kenar et al. (1990) in the region of Konya they reported that they had isolated *Campylobacter* spp. at a rate of 7.5% in aborted fetuses. Küçükayan et al. (2003-2007) carried out a study and reported that they had isolated 6 of the examined 463 fetuses (1.29%) with *Campylobacter* spp. and all of them were diagnosed with *C. fetus subsp. fetus*. In a study carried out by Sağlam et al. (1998) in Northeast Anatolia they reported that 5 out of 119 (4.2%) aborted sheep fetuses were identified with *C. fetus subsp. fetus* spp. In a previous study in the same region (Aydın et al. 1994), the isolation rate was reported as 31.25%. Likewise, in a study carried out by Arda et al. (1987) in the Central Anatolian Region, they reported that they had isolated and identified *C. fetus subsp. fetus* in 13 out of 173 aborted fetuses (7.5%). In this study, *Campylobacter* spp. was isolated in 7 (15.91%) out of 44 aborted sheep fetuses. The values were evaluated as compatible with other studies.

In a study carried out with sheep and goat liver surface swabs (Lazou et al. 2014a) it was reported that

44 (44%) of 100 samples were isolated with *Campylobacter* spp. In another study (Lazou et al. 2014b) by the same researchers they reported that 78,2% of the liver surfaces collected from lambs, sheep, goats and kids slaughtered in slaughterhouses had been determined as contaminated with *Campylobacter* agents. *Campylobacter* spp. was isolated in 3 (6%) sheep livers and 1 (2%) goat liver in the current study. The researchers think that the difference between the results of this study and the results of the others can be attributed to the difference in the course of the disease in the regions where the studies were carried out, the fact that the samples were collected when the infection was peaking or the difference in diagnostic techniques. Furthermore, the difference in the results could be attributed to the fact that the reported studies had used lambs and kids while we used sheep and goats in our study. *Campylobacter* spp. agents are more common in young animals. *Campylobacter* spp. could not be isolated from the bovine liver samples in the present study. In our country, Elmalı (2004) has reported isolation of 8% in liver samples taken from cattle and Açık (2006) has reported isolation of 6.5%. Enokimoto et al. (2007) reported that 5% of 108 cattle liver samples revealed *Campylobacter* spp., yet the isolation was 45% from bile samples taken from the same cattle. Matsumoto et al. (2008) reported that they had isolated *C. jejuni* at a rate of 1.4% in their study. Unlike the reported studies, the fact that *Campylobacter* could not be isolated in the current study can be attributed to the good hygienic conditions of the slaughterhouses where the samples were taken. This can be attributed to the influence of the more effective inspection of the production of food of animal origin initiated in our country by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock in recent years, the noticeable increase of technical and hygienic standards in the abattoirs during the study as well as the reduction of cross contamination of the

carcass and internal organs caused by bile and stool contamination.

It was observed that the *Campylobacter* species isolated in our study were susceptible to chloramphenicol, gentamicin, ampicillin and streptomycin and less sensitive to erythromycin. The isolated *Campylobacter* species were resistant to ciprofloxacin and tetracycline. Hakkinen et al. (2007) reported resistance to ampicillin and tetracycline, but no resistance to erythromycin in their study. In their study on *Campylobacter* species isolated from cattle livers, Aneesa and Fakr (2013) reported sensitivity against erythromycin, gentamicin, chloramphenicol, streptomycin and medium level sensitivity against ampicillin, ciprofloxacin and tetracycline. Karikari et al. (2017) reported that the *Campylobacter* species they had isolated from cattle carcasses were resistant to erythromycin, ampicillin, chloramphenicol, sensitive to gentamicin and moderately sensitive to ciprofloxacin and tetracycline. The reason for the differences between the results of the studies mentioned above and the results presented in this study can be attributed to the differences in the usage rate and duration of the antibiotics in the investigated countries.

It has been concluded that the isolation rates of *Campylobacter* species may vary according to the regions where the study is conducted and that the antibiotic sensitivities may be different according to the regions and furthermore, that the improvement in the technical and hygienic conditions in slaughterhouses in our country in recent years may be effective in the isolation of *Campylobacter*.

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AFYON KOCATEPE UNIVERSITY, ANIMAL TESTS ETHICS COMMITTEE (AKUHADYЕК)

The research project AKUHADYЕК-438-15-Reference with the date of 26/03/2015 Date and Number 27 has been approved and approved according to the AKUHADYЕК regulation and universal ethical principles.

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## Investigation of The Microbiological Quality of Sea Breeding (*Sparus aurata*) and Sea Bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) Fishes in Afyonkarahisar Province

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to determine the microbiological quality levels of fish (*Sparus aurata* and *Dicentrarchus labrax*) sold in fishermen in Afyonkarahisar. In this study, 82 fish samples randomly selected and purchased from 14 different retail points were microbiologically analyzed. According to this; the microorganism ranges isolated from 43 *Sparus aurata* and 39 *Dicentrarchus labrax* were; 5.0-7.88/4.90-7.34 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> TVBC; 3.30-7.17/ 3.90-7.54 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> psychrophilic microorganism; 1.30-5.89/ 1.30-4.53 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> staphylococcus / micrococcus, only in *Sparus aurata* 2.30-4.14 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> *S. aureus*; 1.30-6.49/1.30-6.11 log<sub>10</sub> m<sup>-1</sup> lactic acid bacteria (LAB); 1.30-6.55/ 1.30-7.14 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> enterobacteria, 1.30-6.62/1.30-6.60 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> total coliform and 1.30-4.30/1.30-4.47 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> levels *E. coli* and 1.2% of the samples (from *Sparus aurata*) *Salmonella* spp., were identified respectively.

**Keywords:** Fish, Microbial contamination, Microbiological quality, Seafood

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### Afyonkarahisar İli'nde Satışa Sunulan Çupra (*Sparus aurata*) ve Levrek (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) Balıklarının Mikrobiyolojik Kalitelerinin Araştırılması

### ÖZ

Bu çalışmanın amacı, Afyonkarahisar'da balıkçılarda satışa sunulan balıkların (çupra ve levrek) mikrobiyolojik kalite düzeylerinin belirlenmesidir. Çalışmada, 14 farklı balıkçıdan rastgele seçilen 82 adet (43 çupra, 39 levrek) balık satın alınarak, mikrobiyolojik analizleri yapılmıştır. Buna göre; çupra ve levrek balıklarından izole edilen mikroorganizma aralıkları sırasıyla; 5.0-7.88/4.90-7.34 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> AMGC; 3.30-7.17/3.90-7.54 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> psikrofil mikroorganizma; 1.30-5.89/1.30-4.53 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> stafilokok/mikrokok; sadece çupra balığında 2.30-4.14 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> *S. aureus*; 1.30-6.49/1.30-6.11 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> laktik asit bakterisi (LAB); 1.30-6.55/1.30-7.14 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> enterobakteri, 1.30-6.62/1.30-6.60 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> total koliform ve 1.30-4.30/1.30-4.47 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> düzeylerinde *E. coli* izole edilmiştir. Örneklerin %1.2'sinden (çupra balığı) *Salmonella* spp. identifiye edilmiştir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Balık, Deniz ürünü, Mikrobiyal kontaminasyon, Mikrobiyolojik kalite

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## GİRİŞ

Balık, denize kıyısı olan ülkelerde toplam hayvansal protein alımının %30-80'ini karşılayan önemli bir hayvansal gıdadır (Adenike 2014). Balık eti, yüksek oranda doymamış yağ asidi, vitamin, mineral, oldukça az miktarda doymuş yağ asidi ile karbonhidrat içermekte ve beslenmede önemli yer tutmaktadır (Boulares ve ark. 2011, Nelson 2016). Bununla birlikte, deniz ürünleri avlandıktan sonra, transport sırasında ya da satışa sunuldukları yerlerde (Budiatı ve ark. 2015, Mol ve Tosun 2011) kontamine olabilmekte ve mikroorganizma gelişimiyle birlikte bozulma süreci başlamaktadır (Goja 2013). Bu sürecin sonunda, mikrobiyel aktivite nedeniyle balıkların %30'u bozulmaktadır (Ghaly ve ark. 2010). Balıkların mikroorganizma ile kontamine olması ya avlandıkları akuatik ortamın kirli olduğunu ya da avlandıktan sonraki sürecin doğru işlemediğini işaret etmektedir (Adeyemo 2003). Taze balığın bozulma sürecine, balığın yakalandığı suyun bakteriyolojik kalitesi, deniz suyu sıcaklığı, suyun tuz oranı gibi çeşitli çevresel faktörler etkili olmaktadır (Boulares ve ark. 2013). İlk mikrobiyal düzey (Boulares ve ark. 2011, Ligia ve ark. 2008, Tripathy ve ark. 2007), avlanmanın nerede yapıldığına, yerleşim bölgelerine yakınlığına, mevsime (Bojanic ve ark. 2009), işleme prosedürlerine (örn., baş ayırma, iç çıkarma, kesme) hasata, (Attouchi ve Sadok 2010, Özden ve ark. 2007, Poli ve ark. 2001) ve depolama sıcaklığına (Gram ve Dalgaard 2002, Hernandez ve ark. 2009, Koutsoumanis ve ark. 2002) bağlıdır. Bu nedenle, soğuk muhafaza sıcaklığında aerob ortamda depolanan taze balık ve deniz ürünlerinin ana bozulma florasını, *Pseudomonas*, *Photobacterium*, *Flavobacterium* (Chytiri ve ark. 2004, Diop ve ark. 2010, Gram ve Huss 2000, Matamoros ve ark. 2006) dahil olmak üzere ağırlıklı olarak psikrotrofik Gram negatif türler olan *Aeromonas*, *Shewanella*, *Acinetobacter* ve *Moraxella*'nın (Cardinal ve ark. 2004, Franzetti ve ark. 2003, Joffraud ve ark. 2001, Lyhs ve ark. 2001) yer aldığı bildirilmiştir. Bu psikrotrofik bakteriler, kokusuz ve tatsız metabolitleri üretmek için balıktaki çeşitli maddelere hücum ederler (Diop ve ark. 2010, Galvez ve ark. 2010, Ligia ve ark. 2008). Özellikle salamura fermente balık ürünlerinde histamin birikiminin başlıca sorumlularından biri olan ve yüksek ozmotik basınç şartlarında canlı kalabilen halofilik laktik asit bakterileri balıklardan sıklıkla izole edilen bakterilerdir (Satomi 2018). Bozulma sürecinin, balıkların başlangıçta sahip olduğu toplam mikroorganizma sayısı ile direkt ilişkisi bulunmaktadır (Gram ve Huss 1996).

Dünyanın farklı bölgelerinde deniz ürünlerinin güvenliği ve kalitesinin araştırıldığı çalışmalar mevcut olmakla birlikte, bu çalışmalar sağlık risklerinin bilinmesi açısından da önem teşkil etmektedir (Begum ve ark. 2010, Boulares ve ark. 2011, Boulares ve ark. 2013, Goja 2013, Kapute ve ark. 2012, Odu ve Imaku 2013, Popovic ve ark. 2010, Rahal ve ark. 1981). Bir

yarımadada olan Türkiye, birçok iç su kaynağına da sahiptir. Resmi verilere göre; 2017 yılında su ürünleri üretimi 630.820 ton, iç tüketim miktarı 441.573 ton, çipura ve levrek üretim miktarı ise 61.090 ile 99.971 ton olarak bildirilmiştir (Anon 2018).

Bu çalışmanın amacı, balıkçı tezgahlarında satışa sunulan çupra ve levrek balıklarının kalite ve gıda güvenliği ile doğrudan ilişkili olan mikrobiyolojik kalitelerinin araştırılmasıdır.

## MATERYAL ve METOT

Çalışmada, 2018 yılının Ekim-Kasım ve Ocak aylarında 10 farklı balıkçıdan satın alınan 43 adet çupra ve 39 adet levrek balığı mikrobiyolojik açıdan değerlendirildi. İncelenen toplam 82 adet balık örneği Aerob Mezofil Genel Canlı (AMGC), psikrofil mikroorganizma (PM), mikrokok/stafilokok (M/S), enterobakteri, total koliform, *E. coli* ve *Salmonella* spp. ve laktik asit bakterileri (LAB) yönünden analiz edildi. İşletmelerden satın alınan balık örnekleri soğuk zincir altında laboratuvara getirilerek 1-2 saat içerisinde analize alındı. Balıkların örneklenmesinde; her bir balık steril poşetlere alınarak, 225 ml Buffer Pepton Water (BPW, CM 0509) ile 2 dk. yıkandıktan sonra seri dilüsyonları yapılarak ilgili besi yerlerine yapıldı.

### *Mikrobiyolojik Analizler*

#### *Aerob Mezofil Genel Canlı (AMGC)*

AMGC sayısının belirlenmesinde Plate Count Agar (PCA-Oxoid CM0325) kullanıldı. Petriler 30±1°C 48 saat inkübasyona bırakıldı. İnkübasyon sonunda gelişen tüm koloniler sayılarak düzeyleri belirlendi (ISO 2003).

#### *Psikrofil Mikroorganizma (PM)*

PM sayısını belirlemek için Plate Count Agar (PCA-Oxoid CM0325) kullanılarak, petriler 4°C 72 saat inkübasyona bırakılarak beyaz renkli koloniler sayıldı (Cousin ve ark. 2001, ISO 2001).

#### *Mikrokok/Stafilokok (M/S)*

Örneklerinin M/S sayısı, BP Agar-Base (Oxoid CM0275, Egg Yolk Tellurite Emulsion Oxoid: SR0054) besi yerine ekim yapılarak 37°C 'de 24-48 saat inkübasyondan sonra üreyen siyah kolonilerin sayılmasıyla belirlendi (Bennett and Lancette 1992). Baird-Parker besi yerinde üreyen tipik ve atipik koloniler koagülaz test kiti kullanılarak doğrulandı (Staphytest test kit OXOID).

#### *Enterobakteri, Total koliform ve E. coli*

Bu bakteri türlerini tespit etmek amacıyla, Chromocult Coliform Agar (Merck, 1.10426) kullanılarak, 35-37°C'de 24 saat inkübasyon sonucunda tipik somon-kırmızı renk koloniler koliform grubu bakteri, koyu mavi-mor menekşe renginde olan koloniler *E. coli* ve renksiz koloniler ise

enterobakter olarak değerlendirildi (Blood ve Curtis 1995, De Boer 1998).

*Salmonella* spp.

*Salmonella* spp. izolasyonu için, ISO 6579 (ISO 2002) yöntemi uygulandı. Buffer Pepton Water'da (BPW, CM 0509), 2 dk. süreyle yıkanan balıkların, yıkama sıvıları 37°C'de 18±2 saat ön zenginleştirmeye kaldırıldı.

İnkübasyonun ardından herbir zenginleştirme sıvısından 0.1 mL alınarak, içerisinde 10 mL of Rappaport Vassiliadis (RV) enrichment broth (CM 0866), bulunan tüplere geçilerek 41.5°C'de 24 saat inkübasyona kaldırıldı. Daha sonra, herbir kültür Xylose Lysine Deoxycholate (XLD, CM 0469) Agar'a çizme plak yöntemiyle ekilerek 37°C'de 48 saat inkübe edildi (ISO, 2002). İnkübasyonun ardından, siyah merkezli beş şüpheli koloni seçilerek, Nutrient Agar'a (CM 0003) subkültüre edildi. Kolonilere, Gram boyamanın ardından standart biyokimyasal testler uygulandı (triple sugar iron agar-CM 277; lysine iron agar-CM 381; urease test-CM 53; Simmons citrate-CM 155, ONPG-disc- DD13 ONPG, MR-VP test- CM 0043). Doğrulama testi, *Salmonella* antiserumu (O and H-Vi polyvalent antiserum, Difco 2264-47-2) (Flowers ve ark. 1992) ile gerçekleştirildi.

*Laktik Asit Bakterileri*

LAB için, MRS Agar'a (Oxoid CM0361) ekim yapılarak, petriyer 37°C'de 72 saat anaerob (AnaeroGen Oxoid ANOO35A) ortamda inkübasyona kaldırıldı. İnkübasyonun ardından boz/beyaz renkte üreyen kolonilerin sayımları yapıldı (ISO 1998).

## BULGULAR

Balık örneklerinin tamamında (%100) aerob mezofil genel canlı ve psikrofil mikroorganizma, 39'unda (%47.5) M/S ve 33'ünde (%40.2) LAB izole edilirken, 66'sında (%80.4) enterobakteri, 58'inde (%70.7) koliform, 6'sında (%7.31) *E. coli* ve 10'unda (%12.1) *S. aureus* tespit edilmiştir. Sadece bir çupra balığı örneğinden (%1.2) *Salmonella* spp. identifiye edilmiştir. Balık türlerine göre; çupra balıklarının 32'sinden >6 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%74.4) AMGC, 42'sinden >2 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%97.6) psikrofil mikroorganizma, 20'sinden >2 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%46.5) S/M, 24'ünden >2 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%55.8) LAB; levrek balıklarının ise; 26'sından >6 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%66.6) AMGC, 38'inden >2 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%97.4) psikrofil mikroorganizma, 15'inden >2 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%38.4) S/M ve 15'inden >2 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%38.4) düzeylerinde LAB izole edilmiştir (Tablo 1). Enterobakteri, total koliform, *E. coli* ve *S. aureus* oranları ise çupra balıklarının sırasıyla; 37'sinde >4 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%86), 28'inde >4 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%65.1), 2'sinde >4 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%4.65), 9'undan >2 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%20.9) olarak; levrek balıklarında ise sırasıyla; 36'sından >4 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%92.3), 28'inde >4 log<sub>10</sub>

mL<sup>-1</sup> (%71.7), 1'inde >4 log<sub>10</sub> mL<sup>-1</sup> (%2.56) düzeylerinde seyrederken, levrek balıklarından *S. aureus* identifiye edilmemiştir (Tablo 2).

## TARTIŞMA

Yetiştiricilikle balık üretimi küresel boyutta 2008 yılında 52.5 milyon tona ulaşarak, dünya gıda balık tüketiminin% 45.6'sından sorumlu sektör durumuna gelmiştir (FAO 2012). Üretimi bu derece fazla olan bu gıdanın, avlanmadan sonraki aşamalarda uygun olmayan şartlarda muhafazası ve işlenmesi sebebiyle, gıda kaynaklı salgınların büyük bölümünden sorumlu olduğu belirtilmiştir (Fagan ve ark. 2011, Jain ve ark. 2008, Piérard ve ark. 1999, Shao ve ark. 2011). *Vibrio* spp., *Salmonella* spp., *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Clostridium perfringens*, *Listeria monocytogenes* ve *Shigella* spp. gibi gıda patojenleri; gıda üretim zinciri sırasındaki kontaminasyon neticesinde balık dokusunda bulunabilmektedir (Roberts ve ark. 2005). Söz konusu patojenler, çevre şartlarında varlıklarını sürdürmekte ve balık tüketime hazır olana kadar dokularında canlı kalabilmektedir (Pillay 1992, Suhailima ve ark. 2008). Kirilenmiş balık havuzları (örn. dölleme, insan ve hayvan atık suları nedeniyle yüksek bakteriyel yük içeren) patojenlerin balık dokusuna (örn. sindirim sistemi, solungaçlar, kaslar, böbrekler ve karaciğer) nüfuz etmesini sağlamaktadır (Junior ve ark. 2014).

Birçok çalışmada, *E. coli*, *Salmonella* spp. ve *S. aureus*'un sudaki konsantrasyonunun, balık organ ve dokusundan elde edilen bakteri konsantrasyonu ile orantılı olduğu saptamıştır (Buras ve ark. 1987, El-Guzmán ve ark. 2004, Pal ve Gupta 1992, Shafai ve ark. 2004). Bu organizmalar, balıkların doğal mikrobiyotaları olmamakla birlikte, varlıkları balık besin ağı, konak-mikrobiyota etkileşimleri ve çevre belirleyicileri ile ilişkilendirilmektedir (Kostic ve ark. 2013). Örneğin, gıda kaynaklı hastalıkların nedenleri olarak rapor edilen *Salmonella* ve *S. aureus* gibi yaygın gıda kaynaklı patojenler, tipik çevresel kirleticiler olmamakla birlikte, genellikle gıda hazırlama veya işleme süreçlerinde gıdaları kontamine etmektedirler (Kasai ve ark. 2010, Vollaard ve ark. 2004). Nitekim; Kocatepe ve ark. (2011), balık tezgahlarının mikrobiyolojik kalitesini inceledikleri çalışmada, koliform sayısını 1.8x10<sup>2</sup>-2.2x10<sup>2</sup> kob/cm<sup>2</sup>, AMGC sayısını 8.5x10<sup>2</sup>-0.6x10<sup>2</sup> kob/cm<sup>2</sup>, Rahal ve ark. (1981) ise; tezgahlardan AMGC ve *S. aureus* düzeylerini sırasıyla 4.39±0.17, 1.69±0.12 log kob/g aralığında saptadıklarını bildirilmişlerdir.

Ülkemizde farklı deniz ürünlerinde yapılan çalışmalarda, AMGC ve psikrofil sayısı sırasıyla; 2.30±1.30 ile 3.36±0.87 log kob/g (İnanlı ve ark. 2011), AMGC, psikrotrofik mikroorganizma, *Enterobacteriaceae* sayıları 5.65±1.70 log kob/g, 6.90±1.60 log kob/g, 4.24±1.30 log kob/g, 3.61±0.72 log kob/g (Alak ve ark. 2010), AMGC, psikrotrofik

mikroorganizma, koliform sayıları 2.8-4.3 log kob/g, 2.6-4.1 log kob/g, <3-3.8 EMS/mL (Alparlan ve ark. 2017), AMGC, total koliform ve fekal koliform sayıları  $3.25 \pm 1.26$ - $5.42 \pm 0.91$  log kob/g,  $0.68 \pm 0.48$ - $2.08 \pm 1.34$  log kob/g,  $0.54 \pm 0.16$ -  $0.49 \pm 0.4$  log kob/g (Mol ve Tosun 2011) düzeylerinde bulunmuştur. Benzer şekilde farklı balık türlerinde yapılan bir başka çalışmada, 50'şer adet sazan ve tirsi balığındaki *S. aureus*, *V. parahaemolyticus* ve *E. coli* oranları sırasıyla; %12, %4, %8 ve %4, %8, %4 olarak belirlenmiştir (Tavakoli ve ark. 2012). Junior ve ark. (2014), 40 balık örneğinden >1100 MPN/g termotolerant koliform ve  $<1.0 \times 10^2$ - $1.2 \times 10^6$  kob/g düzeylerinde *Staphylococcus* spp. saptadıklarını ve örneklerin %55'inin termotolerant koliform ile kontamine olduğunu bildirmişlerdir Nilla ve ark. (2012), balık örneklerindeki AMGC, toplam koliform, *E. coli* düzeylerini sırasıyla;  $1.8 \pm 0.25$ -  $6.5 \pm 0.75$  log kob/g,  $8.0 \pm 0.55$ - $6.1 \pm 0.40$  log kob/g,  $1.4 \pm 0.10$ - $4.8 \pm 0.45$  log kob/g olarak belirlediklerini ve örneklerin %83'ünün *Staphylococcus* spp. ile kontamine olduğunu vurgulamışlardır. Yapılan diğer çalışmalarda, balıklardan  $2.8 \times 10^3$ - $9.8 \times 10^4$  kob/g stafilokok (Goja 2013), <100 kob/g *S. aureus* (Popovic ve ark. 2010),  $4.4 \times 10^3$ - $9.7 \times 10^7$  kob/g stafilokok,  $5.9 \times 10^4$ - $1.5 \times 10^8$  kob/g mikrokok, örneklerin (n=18) %46'sından *S. aureus* (Odu ve Imaku 2013) belirlenmiştir. Ayrıca, 15-120/3-95 MPN/100 g fekal koliform ve %13 oranında *Enterobacteriaceae* (Goja 2013), 0.9-240 MPN/g total koliform, 110 MPN/g fekal koliform (Begum ve ark. 2010), <10 kob/g *E. coli*, >10<sup>2</sup> kob/g *Enterobacteriaceae* (Popovic ve ark. 2010), 5.02-5.51 log kob/g koliform,  $2.2 \times 10^4$ - $9.5 \times 10^7$  kob/g *E. coli*, örneklerin (n=18) %13.3'ünden *E. coli* (Odu ve Imaku 2013), 2.52-3.73 log kob/g koliform, 0.94-1.11 log kob/g fekal koliform (Budiatı ve ark. 2015) izole edilmiştir. AMGC düzeyleri ise;  $1.9 \times 10^8$ - $2.0 \times 10^4$  kob/g,  $1.2 \times 10^6$ - $5.0 \times 10^6$  kob/g ile 6.29-6.78 log kob/g, örneklerin (n=15) %26.6'sında >10<sup>5</sup> kob/g (Odu ve Imaku 2013), 5.30-6.84 log kob/g (Budiatı ve ark. 2015) olarak belirlenirken, örneklerin (n=15) %6'sında >10<sup>3</sup> kob/g psikrofil mikroorganizma, 5.07-6.15 log kob/g psikrotrofik mikroorganizma (Odu ve Imaku 2013) izole edilmiştir. LAB ise; 4.51-5.28 log kob/g düzeylerinde saptanmıştır (Odu ve Imaku 2013). Bu çalışmada elde edilen veriler literatürle uyumlu bulunmuştur.

Türk Gıda Kodeksi Mikrobiyolojik Kriterler Tebliği'nde (Anon 2011) taze soğutulmuş balıkların mikrobiyolojik değerlerine ilişkin herhangi bir limit değere rastlanmamakla birlikte, sadece histamin düzeyine ilişkin limit değer verilmiştir.

Balıkların yüksek oranda koliform ve *E. coli* ile kontamine olması, çoğunlukla suyun kontaminasyon derecesi, balıkların beslenmesi gibi balık yetiştiriciliği ile ilgili çevresel faktörlerle ilişkilendirilmektedir. Koliformların sayısı ve gelişimi ortam sıcaklığına da bağlıdır (Del Rio-Rodriguez ve ark. 1997).

Balık derisi oldukça yüksek konsantrasyonda mikroorganizma içerebilmektedir. Bu durum, işleme, balıkların muhafaza edildiği buzun kalitesi ile ilişkili olup, balık ve deniz ürünlerinin soğutulmasında kullanılan buz, halk sağlığı için potansiyel bir tehlikeye dönüşebilmektedir (Gerokomou ve ark. 2011). Falcao ve ark. (2002), balık marketlerinde kullanılan buzun  $4.0 \times 10^2$ - $5.3 \times 10^2$  MPN/100 mL düzeyinde koliform, ayrıca *E. coli*'nin farklı serotipleri ile de kontamine olduğunu belirlemiştir.

Bu çalışmanın aksine, Fattal ve ark. (1992), Hejkal et al. (1983), Suhalima ve ark. (2008) ve El-Shafai ve ark. (2004), derideki koliform düzeyinin oldukça düşük olduğunu rapor etmişlerdir. Bu durum balıkların sudan alındıktan sonra oldukça hızlı bir şekilde analize alınması ile açıklanmaktadır. Balık derisi, birçok hayati fonksiyona sahip olmakla birlikte, patojen ve çevresel ksenobiyotiklere karşı savunma sisteminin ilk basamağıdır. *Staphylococcus* ve *E. coli*'ye karşı (Kasai ve ark. 2010) antibakteriyel aktivite gösteren pek çok antibiyotik ve biyoaktif madde (peptid, lizozim, lektin ve proteaz) balık deri mukusundan identifiye edilmiştir (Alvarez-Pellitero 2008, Long ve ark. 2013, Rakers ve ark. 2010). Ayrıca, koliform ve stafilokokların düşük düzeyleri, balık kesim işlemi ve raflardaki yerini alana kadar geçen süredeki oldukça düşük muhafaza sıcaklıkları ile açıklanabilir (Junior ve ark. 2014). Aerob mezofil ve psikrofil bakteriler, *Enterobacteriaceae*, sülfid indirgeyen clostridialar, *L. monocytogenes*, *Vibrio cholerae* ve *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* gibi bakteriler balık kalitesi hakkında fikir veren önemli gruplardır. Popovic ve ark. (2010) tarafından Hırvatistan'da yapılan bir çalışmada taze balık örneklerinin %66'sının mikrobiyolojik kriterler bakımından yasal limitlere uymadığını ve örneklerin %40'unda *Enterobacteriaceae* düzeylerinin kabul edilebilir sınırlar içerisinde bulunmadığı belirlenmiştir. Balıklardaki mikrobiyal bulaşmanın, çoğunlukla fileto işlemi sırasında, özellikle termostabil toksin üretimi nedeniyle gastroenterit vakaların en çok bilinen etkeni olan *S. aureus*'un rezervuarı olan insan tarafından çapraz kontaminasyona uğraması sonucu şekillendiği bildirilmektedir

Balıklardaki mikrobiyal bulaşmanın, çoğunlukla fileto işlemi sırasında, özellikle termostabil toksin üretimi nedeniyle gastroenterit vakaların en çok bilinen etkeni olan *S. aureus*'un rezervuarı olan insan tarafından çapraz olarak kontamine edilmesi sonucu şekillendiği bildirilmektedir (Junior ve ark. 2014). Deniz ürünü ve balıklardan enteretoksijenik *E. coli* ve *S. aureus* (Ayulo ve ark. 1994), çalışanların ellerinden ve nazal mukozalarından izole edildiği bildirilmektedir (Acco ve ark. 2003). Almanya'da bir gıda çalışanının, balık hazırlama aşamasında ürünü *E. coli* (STEC) O104:H4 ile kontamine etmesi sonucu, 23 kişinin infeksiyonundan sorumlu olduğu rapor edilmiştir (Diercke ve ark. 2014).



Amerika Birleşik Devletleri'nde (ABD) shigellozis vakalarının %23'ünün infekte gıda çalışanlarından, %24'ünün ise çiğ gıda tüketilmesi sonucu şekillendiği kaydedilmiştir (Nygren ve ark. 2013). Mikroorganizmalar balıklara birçok yoldan bulaşmakla birlikte, uygun olmayan, sağlıksız işlem ve muhafaza

şartları ve çapraz kontaminasyon öne çıkan etkenlerdir (Huang ve ark. 2001, Jablonski ve Bohach 2001). Tüketicilerin yetersiz hijyen alışkanlıkları da gıda hazırlama aşamasında meydana gelen çapraz kontaminasyon ve mikrobiyal gelişim ile direkt ilişkilidir (Redmond ve Griffith 2009).

**Tablo 1.** Balık Örneklerindeki AMGC, PS, M/S ve LAB Düzeyleri

**Table 1.** Levels of AMGC, PS, M/S and LAB in Fish Samples

Örnek	AMGC		PM		M/S		LAB	
	(>6 log kob/g)		(>2 log kob/g)		(>2 log kob/g)		(>2 log kob/g)	
	n	(%) b	n	(%) b	n	(%) b	n	(%) b
Çupra	32	74.4	42	97.6	20	46.5	24	55.8
Levrek	26	66.6	38	97.4	15	38.4	15	38.4

n: >6 log kob/g b: pozitif örnek oranı (%)

**Tablo 2.** Balık Örneklerindeki Enterobakteri, Total Koliform, *E. coli* ve *Salmonella* spp. Düzeyleri

**Table 2.** Levels of Enterobacter, Total of Coliforms, *E. coli* and *Salmonella* spp. in Fish Samples

Örnek	Enterobakteri		Total koliform		<i>E. coli</i>		<i>S. aureus</i>		<i>Salmonella</i> spp.	
	(>4 log kob/g)		(>4 log kob/g)		(>4 log kob/g)		(>2 log kob/g)			
	n	(%) b	n	(%) b	n	(%) b	n	(%) b	n	(%) b
Çupra	37	86	28	65.1	2	4.65	9	20.9	1	1.2
Levrek	36	92.3	28	71.7	1	2.56	-	-	-	-

n: pozitif örnek sayısı b: pozitif örnek oranı (%)

## SONUÇ

Avrupa Birliği'nde (AB) 2010 yılından itibaren, balıkların toptan alımı ve depolanması aşamasında mikrobiyolojik tehlikeleri kontrol etmeye yönelik olarak, alım aşamasında hammadde için "menşee belgesi" ve "sertifika alma" olarak adlandırılan yeni bir AB düzenlemesi uygulanmaktadır (EC, 2008; EC, 2010). Kalite kontrol/güvenlik personeli veya alımdan sorumlu diğer personeller hammaddenin (balık) güvenli bir alandan (çiftlik veya toplama alanı) gelmediğini kontrol etmekle yükümlüdür. Balık ve diğer malzemelerle birlikte paketlenen malzemeleri için de benzer bir tutum uygulanmaktadır. Gelen materyal güvenilir olmayan bir kaynaktan temin edildiye, personel ürünü reddetme hakkına sahiptir. Her ne kadar gelen materyaller için gıda güvenliği açısından gerekli sertifikaları kontrol etmek önleyici tedbirler için yeterli olsa da, HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point-Tehlike Analizi Kritik Kontrol Noktası) planının bir parçası olan doğrulama prosedürleri için zaman zaman numunelerin akredite bir laboratuvara gönderilmesi önerilmektedir.

Balık, üretimden ya da avlanmadan itibaren tüketim noktalarına ulaşana kadar dağıtım, işleme ve muhafaza aşamalarında oldukça hızlı ve kolay bozulabilen bir gıdadır. Taze balığın ve deniz ürünlerinin bozulmasında kompleks bir mikroflora rol oynamaktadır. Taze balıkların, balıkçılarda işlem

öncesi faaliyetlere bağlı olarak bozulmaya başladığı ve bu balıkların dondurulduktan sonraki aşamalarda yetersiz ve uygun olmayan satış koşullarında bulunması, bozulma sürecini hızlandıran önemli faktörler arasında değerlendirilmektedir. Balıkların genel mikrobiyolojik kalitesi ve raf ömrü üzerine etkili olan aerob mezofil ve psikrofil mikroorganizmalar saprofit nitelikte olduklarından balıklardaki düzeyleri bozulma sürecine direkt etki etmektedir. Spesifik patojenler ile indikatör mikroorganizmaların ürünlerdeki varlığı, özellikle az pişmiş ya da çiğ tüketim durumlarında ciddi halk sağlığı tehlikeleri ile ilişkilendirilmektedir. Yerel balıkçılarda, sağlıksız depolama tesisleri ve uygun olmayan muhafaza sıcaklıklarına bağlı olarak şekillenen hızlı bakteriyel çoğalma, özellikle Afyonkarahisar gibi deniz balıklarının uzun transport süreçlerinden sonra geldiği şehirlerde, önemli bir sorun olarak karşımıza çıkmaktadır.

Bu çalışmanın sonuçlarına dayanarak, tüm taze balık satış noktalarında (örn., taze balık satıcılar, toptancılar, marketler) düzenli denetimlerin yapılmasının, kontaminasyon kaynaklarının en aza indirilebilmesi için hijyen eğitimlerinin verilmesinin, taze balığa ilişkin mikrobiyal limit değerlerin belirlenmesinin halk sağlığının korunması noktasında gerekli olduğu düşünülmektedir.

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## Comparative Examination of Commonly Used Some Fixatives with Routine Histochemical Staining's for The Optimal Histological Appearance in The Gill Tissue of Zebrafish

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### ABSTRACT

Histopathological studies related to Zebrafish which are used as a model organism in researching the pathogenesis of many diseases increase day by day. Because of the increasing importance of zebrafish research, experiments on this animal model are more prominent and gill tissue is frequently examined in various disease models using zebrafish. As it is known, at the end of the experimental animal model studies, if the histopathological examination is to be done, the tissues should be fixed. The purpose of fixation is to keep cellular and extracellular components in vivo as much as possible. Therefore, the choice of fixation methods and fixatives has a significant effect on tissue processing. In this study, we aimed to optimize fixation techniques and staining protocols for producing ideal slides and histological images of gill tissue in zebrafish. In our study, to determine the optimal histology in the zebrafish-gill tissue, the tissues were fixed with Bouin's, Carnoy's, 10% neutral buffered formalin (NBF), Davidson's, and Dietrich's solutions. Following the routine tissue processing, the sections were stained with Hematoxylin and Eosin (H&E) and Masson's Trichrome (MT) stains. Consequently, tissue morphology was best preserved with Bouin's and NBF solutions. The best results in H&E stain were obtained from tissues fixed with NBF solution, while Dietrich's solution fixation was found to be ideal for MT staining.

**Keywords:** Fixatives, Hematoxylin and Eosin, Masson's Trichrome, Zebrafish, Gill

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### Zebra Balığı Solungaç Dokusunda Optimal Histolojik Görünüm için Rutin Histokimyasal Boyama ile Sık Kullanılan Fiksatiflerin Karşılaştırmalı Olarak İncelenmesi

### ÖZ

Birçok hastalığın patogenezinin araştırılmasında model bir organizma olarak kullanılan Zebra balığı ile ilgili histopatolojik çalışmalar gün geçtikçe artmaktadır. Zebra balığı araştırmalarının artan önemi nedeniyle, bu hayvan modelindeki deneyler daha önemlidir ve solungaç dokusu zebra balığı kullanılan çeşitli hastalık modellerinde sıklıkla incelenir. Bilindiği üzere, deneysel hayvan modeli çalışmalarının sonunda, eğer histopatolojik inceleme yapılacaksa, dokular fikse edilmelidir. Fiksasyonun amacı, hücresel ve hücre dışı bileşenleri mümkün olduğunca in vivo halde korumaktır. Bu nedenle, fiksasyon yöntemlerinin ve fiksatiflerin seçiminin doku takibi üzerinde önemli bir etkisi vardır. Bu çalışmada, zebra balığı solungaç dokusundan ideal preparatlar ve histolojik görüntüler elde etmek için fiksasyon tekniklerini ve boyama protokollerini optimize etmek amaçlanmıştır. Çalışmamızda, zebra balığı-solungaç dokusundaki ideal histolojiyi belirlemek için, dokular, Bouin, Carnoy, %10'luk nötral tamponlu formaldehit, Davidson ve Dietrich solüsyonları ile fikse edilmiştir. Rutin doku işleminin ardından, kesitler Hematoksilen ve Eosin (H&E) ve Masson Trikrom (MT) boya ile boyandı. Sonuç olarak, doku morfolojisi en iyi Bouin ve NBF solüsyonları ile korunmuştur. H&E boyamasında en iyi sonuçlar NBF çözeltisi ile fikse edilmiş dokulardan elde edilirken, Dietrich solüsyonu fiksasyonunun MT boyaması için ideal olduğu bulundu.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Fiksatifler, Hematoxylin ve Eosin, Masson Trikrom, Zebra balığı, Solungaç

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## INTRODUCTION

The importance of histological and pathological examinations is unquestionable when evaluating the results of screening studies with fish models (disease research, environmental pollutants, toxicological-carcinogenic-teratogenic research, etc.) (Pikarsky et al. 2004, Flores-Lopes and Thomaz 2011, Strzyzewska et al. 2016, Hadi and Alwan 2012, Huiting et al. 2015). In today's scientific studies, zebrafish is an important model organism in terms of having some advantages. These advantages are similar genomic structures, metabolic activities, embryonic developmental characteristics, immune systems, and histological structures in some tissues (Mohseny and Hogendoorn 2014, Morris 2009). In addition, features such as easy breeding, feeding, short generation, durability, and high fecundity have increased the importance of zebrafish in experimental researches (Muto and Kawakami 2013, Newman et al. 2014).

Gill tissue is examined in most of the toxic and infectious disease models made with zebrafish (Brundo and Salvaggio 2018, Souza et al. 2017, Progatzy et al. 2016, Chandrarathna et al. 2018, Christoffersen et al. 2017). Most of the teleosts use the gills as the main respiratory surface. Teleosts have four pairs of gill arches extending from the floor to the roof of the buccal cavity. Each gill arch contains a plurality of gill filaments, each consisting of two halves called hemibranchs. Each hemibranch has many thin subdivisions called gill lamellae. The purpose of these structures is to provide a large surface area that supports respiratory and excretory functions. Gill filaments have central cartilaginous support, afferent and efferent arterioles, and other anastomosing vessels comprising the central venous sinus. They are covered with a thin epithelium continuation of the covering the gill arches and the oral mucosa of the buccal cavity. Each lamella is best regarded as a thin cell envelope. The spaces between the pillar cells called lacunae connect afferent and efferent arterioles. The contractile pillar cells control the lacunar diameter, thereby regulating blood flow (Genten et al. 2010, Roberts 2012).

The aim of fixation is to keep cellular and extracellular components as close as possible to the tissue structure *in vivo*. In the fixation process with many fixatives, the existing microorganisms in the tissues die, autolysis stops and the macromolecular structure of the tissue is balanced by forming cross-links between the tissue components. Fixation without specimen distortion is difficult because all fixation methods produce artifacts such as shrinkage, swelling, hardening, and color change. Moreover, fixation and fixative selection may be of great importance in the tissue processing stages, mainly in

cross-sectional sampling and staining procedures (Bancroft and Gamble 2019).

In this study is intended to be a resource for scientists interested in human and model organism histology, quality, consistency, sectioning, staining, and histological visualization. We aim to optimize fixation techniques and staining protocols to produce ideal slides and images to explain common difficulties associated with various aspects of zebrafish histology. In our study, the effect of fixation with Bouin's, Carnoy's, 10% neutral buffered formaldehyde (NBF), Davidson's and Dietrich's solutions on the zebrafish gill tissue histology as a result of hematoxylin and eosin (H & E) and Masson's Trichrome (MT) staining were examined. Also, we tried to develop the fixation methods with compared of Bouin's, Carnoy's, NBF, Davidson's and Dietrich's solutions and, adapted staining procedures with H&E and MT stains for gill tissue of fish.

Bouin's solution is suitable for a variety of tissue types and is frequently recommended for small biopsy samples. It is known that Bouin's solution lyses erythrocytes in part or completely. It has been reported that it causes swelling in collagen with the dissolution of iron and calcium stores, but it protects the glycogen and connective tissue well. It creates bright staining with cytoplasmic dyes and protects the nucleus extremely well with chromosomes. Since the basophilic character of the cytoplasm is neutralized with the picric acid in the content of Bouin's solution, it allows clear staining of the nucleus and cytoplasm (Carson and Hladik 1996, Culling 1983, Singhal et al. 2016, Roberts 2012, Bancroft and Gamble 2019).

Carnoy's solution is used in cases where fast and effective fixation is required and suitable for the fixation of all types of tissue. It is good advice for glycogen and plasma cells. Since it is a good nuclear fixative, it is also used in cases where nucleic acids need to be examined. It is also preferred for histochemical and specific staining of fibrous proteins and carbohydrate complexes. After fixation, the lysis of erythrocytes and soluble cell granules in acid can cause loss of pigments in tissues. It has been reported that it cannot protect the collagen tissue and does not stain the acid-fast bacilli well. The Carnoy's solution is expensive and also has the disadvantage of fixative, such as shrinkage in tissues (Ahmed et al. 2011, Pereira et al. 2015, Roberts 2012).

NBF is a buffered form of 10% formalin solution to pH  $7.0 \pm 0.2$  with various phosphate salts. This buffering process eliminates the various disadvantages of formaldehyde, such as the lysis of erythrocytes and the formation of formalin pigment (especially blood vessels and bloody tissues), and provides longer-term use. In NBF fixation, aldehyde bonds are formed between proteins and therefore the *in vivo* relationships of tissue components remain

constant. Various tissue samples (surgical samples and biopsies) are routinely fixed in formaldehyde (Gnanaprasam 2010). Formalin fixation paralyzes cell metabolism and preserves tissue structures for accurate histopathological diagnosis (Nechifor-Boilă et al. 2015). Formaldehyde in the NBF form is the most commonly used fixative because it preserves a large range of tissues and tissue components and is also quite inexpensive (Maraschin et al. 2017). This fixative is useful in many special dyes and even immunohistochemical applications (Ahmed et al. 2011, Spaniol et al., 2016, Stefanović et al. 2017, Roberts 2012).

Davidson's solution is a good choice for the fixation of various tissues, such as bone marrow samples, gynecological materials, breast tissue, tumors, especially eyes and testicular tissues, lymph nodes, and biopsy materials. It provides fast and effective penetration to the tissues, so the morphological details are well preserved. One of the most important advantages of fixative is that does not cause shrinkage in tissues and minimal formalin pigmentation. This fixative can quickly penetrate into tissues and is easily removed from the tissues, so there is no need to rinse after long-term fixation. But, it may also lead to lysis of erythrocytes. Immunohistochemical staining results were also successful in fixation with this solution (Eltoum et al. 2001, Howard et al. 2004, Latendresse et al. 2002, Sahota et al. 2013, Telser, 2006).

Dietrich's solution is used in most experimental research, using many aquatic animals, zebrafish and small animal samples such as copepods (zooplankton), and one of the aquatic vertebrates like amphipods. The fixative has a synergistic interaction with the decalcification process. It breaks down electrostatic and hydrogen bonds and may lead to denaturation and degradation of nucleic acids with proteins in tissue samples. It is more effective in the fixation of nucleoproteins than cytoplasmic proteins (Dietrich and Krieger 2009, Feist et al. 2004, Berzins et al. 2011, Peterson et al. 2013, Khan and Thulin 1991, Uslu et al. 2017).

It has been reported that histochemical dyes such as H&E, MT, Periodic Acid Schiff (PAS), Paraldehyde Fuchsin (PAF), Toluidine blue, Alcian blue, Alizarin red, Oil red, Bodian Protargol and Von Kossa stains have been used in studies performed in zebrafish (Bensimon-Brito et al. 2012, Çakıcı and Üçüncü 2007, Nusslein-Volhard and Dahm 2002, Ung et al. 2010). In our study, H&E and MT stains, the most common histological staining methods used in routine histopathology, were preferred. Hematoxylin stains nucleic acids in the nucleus and Eosin stains cytoplasm and extracellular proteinous structures. H&E provides light microscopic observation of tissues and intercellular structures; therefore, in a

well-made tissue, intranuclear details can be distinguished. H&E staining is also used to provide adequate general information about cells and tissues and to diagnose major histopathological changes. It has advantages such as easy application, reliable and low cost (Kumar and Kiernan 2010, Bancroft and Gamble 2019).

Compared to H&E staining, it is preferred for a more specific diagnosis by demonstrating increased connective tissue and collagen fibers with MT staining. It allows the cells to be distinguished from collagen fibers around them. Through Wiegert's ferrous hematoxylin in MT, various granules and fibrillar structures, myelin sheath, muscle epithelium, and even spirochetes and cytoplasmic details are more clearly displayed. In MT staining, ponceau and acid fuchsin, together with aniline blue or methyl green, help to stain the connective tissue prominently in bluish or light green. With MT staining, the diagnosis of disorders such as collagen growth, tumors (especially muscle tissue and fibroblast origin), hematopathological, neuromuscular, and dermatological disorders and liver cirrhosis and kidney (pyelonephritis) diseases can be diagnosed. Bouin's, Zenker's, Helly, Formal sublimate, Formalin-zinc, and Picro-mercuric alcohol fixatives have been reported to be the other ideal fixatives for this staining method (Martinello et al. 2015, Carson and Hladik 1996, Mao et al. 2016, Cima et al. 2017, Rahunen et al. 2016).

## MATERIALS and METHODS

In this study, 30 zebrafish (*Danio rerio*, wild type, 1-year-old) were divided into five groups with 6 fish in each group (n = 6). The study materials were taken from our earlier work (The specified study was carried out at Bingol University Animal Research Center with the permission of Bingol University Animal Experiments Local Ethics Committee dated 26.09.2014 and numbered 2014.09.02 and this study was partially supported by The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) with 215Z467 numbered project.

**Zebrafish care and maintenance:** Established protocols for zebrafish care and feeding were applied (Westerfield 2000).

**Preparation and application of fixatives:** Fixatives used in the study (Bouin's, NBF, Carnoy's, Davidson's and Dietrich's fixatives), fixation times and post-fixation applications are given in Table 1. In addition, the chemicals and their amounts used in the preparation of fixatives are shown in the table state for each fixative (Table 2). Fixation was performed at room temperature (21°C) for all samples. After fixation, decalcification was performed for 5 days according to Versanate EDTA method (Mueller et al.

2017) and then tissue samples were taken for routine histopathological examination (Bancroft and Gamble 2019). We do not prefer to acidic decalcification because this destroys DNA and causes pale H&E staining.

**Anesthesia, necropsy and histopathological examination:** Euthanasia was performed by adding with 160 mg/L Tricaine-S pH 7.0 (tricaine methanesulfonate, Syndel, USA) in system water. It should be noted that the relative merits of Tricaine-S and/or hypothermal shock through immersion in ice water (2–4°C) have been recently debated (Matthews and Varga 2012, Wilson et al. 2009). To ensure fast euthanasia in fish, both methods (cold, Tricaine) were combined, allowing the fish do not react to the following immersion in fixatives steps. After the routine tissue processing, 5 micron thick sections were taken from the paraffin blocks with rotary microtome. The used fixative may influence staining method. For this reason, we have optimized staining procedures for both the fixative the tissues we are stained. In the present study, we preferred the H&E staining protocol, in which the study by Cooper et al. 2018 achieved optimal results for zebrafish (Cooper et al. 2018). The samples were stained with MT according to previous studies (Carson and Hladik 1996, Alturkistani et al. 2016, Bancroft and Layton 2019) and MT kit (with aniline blue) was purchased commercially (Masson trichrome kit, Catalog number 04-010802; Bio-Optica, Italy).

Subsequently, the slides were evaluated under a light microscope and the results were scored. In the evaluation, general staining character of tissues with H&E and staining of collagen fibrils with MT were taken into consideration. According to this; the staining levels of tissues were classified as, no staining (0), mild staining (+1), moderate staining (+2) and severe staining (+3). In this evaluation, the scores of the group averages of samples prepared with different fixatives and stained with H&E and MT were presented graphically (Figures 1, 2).

### Findings

Microscopic examination of gill tissues taken from fish in the experimental groups showed different staining densities in both H&E and MT staining. H&E and MT staining reaction scores of experimental groups obtained by histopathological examination of gill tissues are given in Figures 1 and 2.

**Bouin's solution fixed tissue findings:** In H&E staining, common lysis of erythrocytes, well preserved primary and secondary lamellar structure morphology and clearly differentiated pillar cells were observed.

Eosinophilic and basophilic cellular structures were found to be adequately stained in a differential manner. Although collagen fibers were seen to be swollen, MT staining revealed adequate staining (Figure 3A-3B).

**Carnoy's solution fixed tissue findings:** In H&E staining, it was observed that widespread lysis in erythrocytes, primary and secondary lamellar structure morphology were not well protected, the lamellar epithelium was swollen and irregular, and pillar cells could not be clearly identified. Eosinophilic and basophilic cellular structures were not stained in a sufficient differential and generally, excessive staining was formed. However, it was revealed that the collagen fiber morphology was well preserved and sufficient staining was achieved with MT stain (Figure 3C-D).

**NBF fixed tissue findings:** In H&E staining, it was observed that the erythrocytes did not lyse and had normal histological morphology, the secondary and primary lamellar structure morphology was adequately protected, but there was a slight shrinkage in the lamellar epithelium and the pillar cells could be clearly selected. Eosinophilic and basophilic cellular structures were clearly stained in a differential manner and generally, there is ideal staining. The morphology of collagen fibers was well preserved and partially weakened by MT staining (Figure 3E-F).

**Davidson's solution fixed tissue findings:** In H&E staining, the presence of lysis in the erythrocytes, limited preservation of the primary and secondary lamellar structure morphology, and significant swelling and irregularity in the lamellar epithelium were detected. However, the pillar cells could be clearly selected. Eosinophilic and basophilic cellular structures were clearly stained in a differential manner and generally, there is ideal staining. It was observed that the collagen fiber morphology was well preserved and sufficient staining was achieved with MT stain (Figure 3G-H).

**Dietrich's solution fixed tissue findings:** In H&E staining, the presence of partial lysis of erythrocytes, primary and secondary lamellar structure morphology was partly preserved, the lamellar epithelium was slightly swollen, and the pillar cells were clearly distinguishable. Eosinophilic and basophilic cellular structures were stained differentially and in general, weak staining was determined. The morphology of the collagen fibers is well preserved and optimal staining is achieved with MT stain (Figure 3I-J).

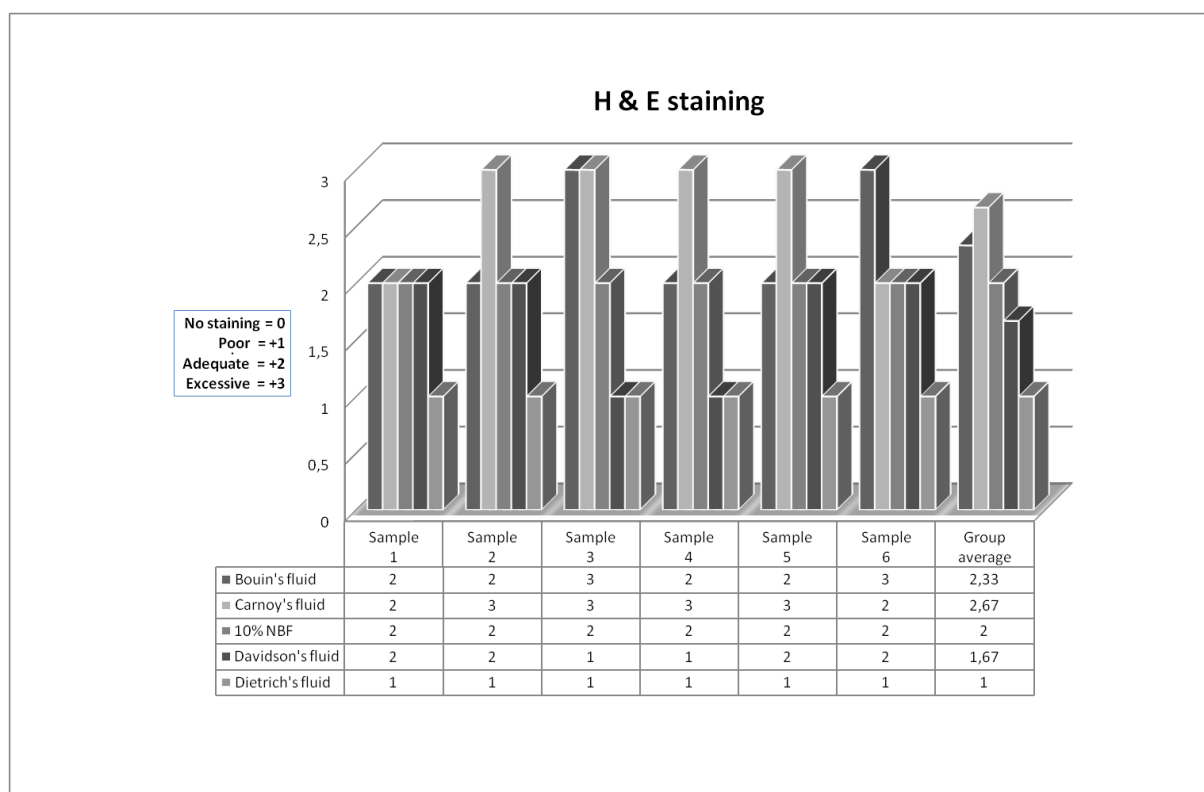


**Table 1.** Fixatives, application times and post-fixation procedures.

		Fixatives				
		Bouin's	Carnoy's	NBF	Davidson's	Dietrich's
<b>Fixation &amp; other application times</b>		12 h	2 h	48 h	24 h	24 h
	50% Ethanol	3 changes in 12 h	-----	-----	-----	-----
<b>Post-fixation applications</b>	70% Ethanol	3 changes in 12 h	-----	-----	-----	-----
	100% Ethanol	-----	12 h	-----	-----	-----

**Table 2.** Fixatives and their contents.

Contents	Fixatives				
	Bouin's	Carnoy's	NBF	Davidson's	Dietrich's
Formaldehyde	250 ml	-----	100 ml	250 ml	100 ml
Acetic acid	750 ml	100 ml	-----	125 ml	20 ml
Picric acid	50 ml	-----	-----	-----	-----
Chloroform	-----	30 ml	-----	-----	-----
Ethanol (95%)	-----	600 ml	-----	375 ml	300 ml
Distilled water	-----	-----	900 ml	375 ml	580 ml
Sodium dihydrogen phosphate, monohydrate (NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> * H <sub>2</sub> O)	-----	-----	4 g	-----	-----
Disodium hydrogen phosphate, anhydrous (Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub> )	-----	-----	6,5 g	-----	-----



**Figure 1.** H&E staining scores with used different fixatives.

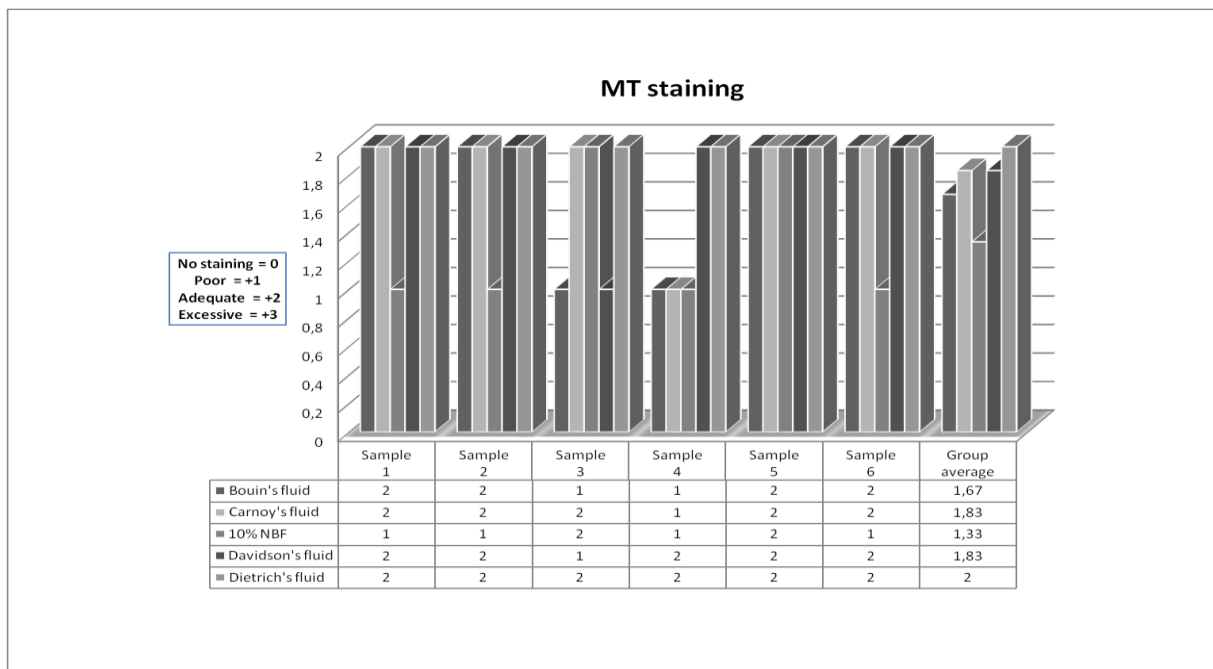


Figure 2. MT staining scores with used different fixatives.

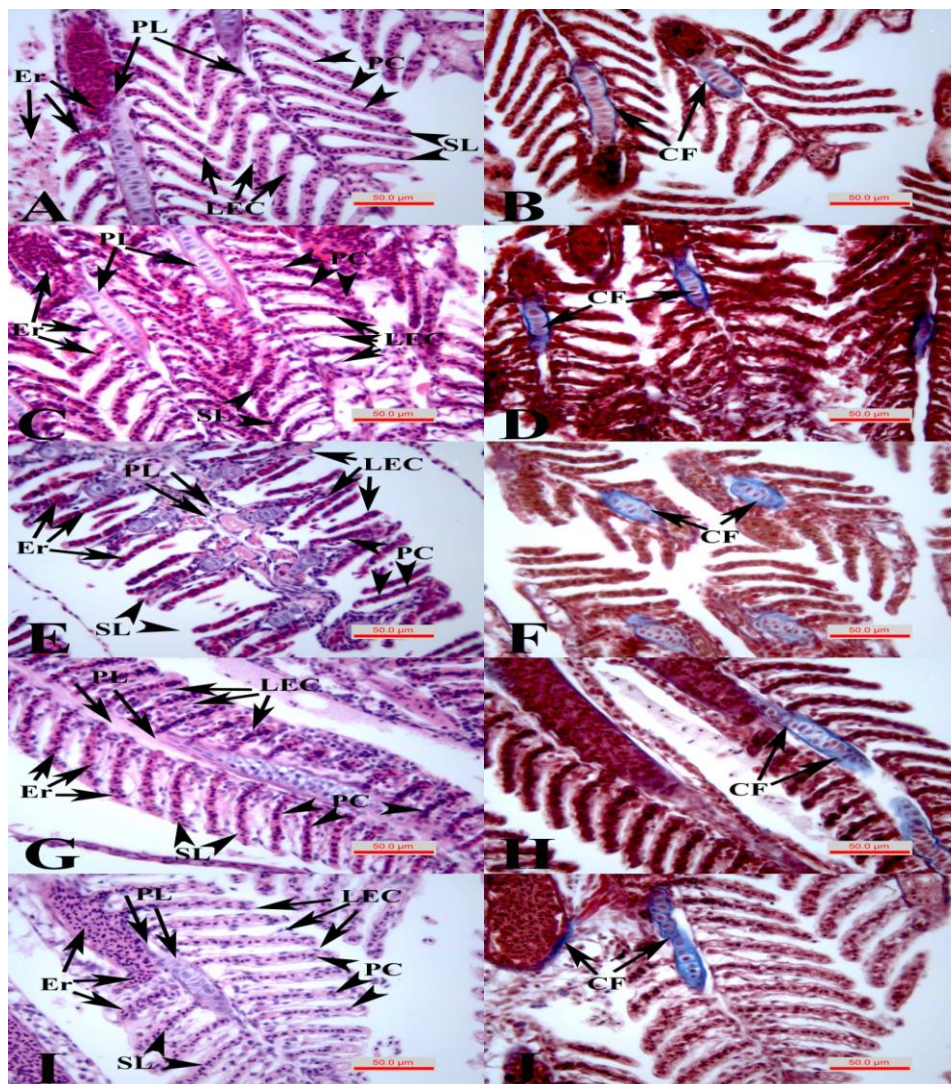


Figure 3. Histology of zebrafish gill tissues, X400 magnification. Bouin's solution fixed and H&E (A) and MT (B) stained tissue sections. Carnoy's solution fixed and H&E (C) and MT (D) stained tissue sections. NBF fixed and H&E (E) and MT (F) stained tissue sections. Davidson's solution fixed and H&E (G) and MT (H) stained tissue sections. Dietrich's solution fixed and H&E (I) and MT (J) stained tissue sections. **Er**: Er: erythrocytes, **PL**: primary gill lamellae, **SL**: secondary gill lamellae, **LEC**: Lamellar epithelial cells, **PC**: Pillar cells, **CF**: Collagen fibers.

## DISCUSSION

Tissue and cellular structures can be examined anywhere on the entire slide. Ideally, any methods used to achieve this would minimize the occurrence of an artifact. Any artifact that may be formed in the tissues, by accidental or during tissue processing will lead to deviations in the histological appearance and inaccurate evaluations (Copper et al. 2018). For example, many investigators have reported similar histological findings in fish organs exposed to environmental pollutants or in fish exposed to waterborne diseases (Miki et al. 2018). In this sense, it can be more useful to use appropriate fixation and staining techniques to facilitate differential diagnosis. For this reason, it is necessary to idealize the staining quality by standardizing the fixation techniques with the tissue staining methods.

Histological preparation of gill tissue samples forms a fixed specimen that will slightly reduce over time and can be examined under the microscope and captured images. With this ideal in opinion, we aimed to improve and compare methods used in histological preparation of zebrafish gill tissue samples. In this study, it was observed satisfactory procedures for fixation and staining of gill tissues.

In large fishes, organ or tissues are dissected separately and immerses into the fixative. But, in small fishes such as himedaka or zebrafish, whole bodies of fish immersed directly into the fixative. It is well known that fish tissues are quickly reduced with autolysis after death, and therefore, the key to successful fixation is how rapidly they can inactivate endogenous enzymes than governs autolysis. Researchers (Speilberg et al. 1993, Doaa and Hanan 2013) have observed defective fixation of tissues such as the liver, intestine, and brain when whole bodies of fish are immersed in 10% formalin. Therefore, they recommended the use of rapidly permeable fixatives, such as NBF and Davidson's solutions, for fish fixation. Beyond the zebrafish researchers, we have observed a number of findings for the purpose of experiments that will extend to common model system researchers. Thus, as a result of the use of Bouin's, NBF, Carnoy's, Davidson's and Dietrich's fixatives, gill tissue morphology and histological staining findings were evaluated comparatively. All fixatives used in this study provided successful fixation, but showed different effects on histomorphological structure and H&E and MT staining reactions.

It has been reported that gill filaments and gill lamellae with well-preserved structures were observed in fish fixed with only 20% formalin solution. On the other hand, it was observed that detached of the epithelium from the capillary, and artifactual spaces formed in the gill lamellae in fish fixed with the

Bouin's or Davidson's solution only for 6 h. Also, it was noticed that the gill structure poorly separated and the gill filaments and lamellae were not seen so clearly in the tissue samples which were fixed only with Davidson's solution. It has been determined in the fish tissues fixed with Bouin's solution for 5 h after 20% formalin solution fixation for 1 h at 4°C, gill filaments and gill lamellae with almost well-preserved structures. Also, epithelium lifting has been prevented in fish fixed with Davidson's solution for 5 h after 20% formalin solution fixation for 1 h at 4°C, the gill filaments and lamellae was poorly separated (Miki et al. 2018).

It has been reported that various fixatives such as Bouin's, NBF, Carnoy's, Dietrich's, Davidson's, Zenker and Alcohol derivatives are used in the fixation of some tissues of zebrafish and it was determined that different fixation applications resulted in different staining results in histological examinations (Bird et al. 2012, Fournie et al. 2000, Peterson et al. 2013, Grunow et al. 2015, Copper et al. 2018). Fixatives containing acetic acids such as Bouin's, Carnoy's, Davidson's, and Dietrich's have been reported to cause erythrocyte lysis but NBF inhibits the lysis of erythrocytes. Fixatives other than NBF have been reported to cause denaturation and clotting of proteins and nucleic acids in tissues due to dehydration and hydrogen bonding due to acetic acid and alcohol (chloroform in Carnoy's) (Peterson et al. 2013). It was reported that Davidson's solution penetrates rapidly and effectively, while Dietrich's solution leads to less shrinkage and deterioration (Dietrich and Krieger 2009, Peterson et al. 2013). In our study, except for NBF, there was lysis in erythrocytes in all of the fixatives used, and furthermore, this supported the well-preserved morphology in Bouin's solution and NBF-fixed gills. In a research, some problems have been identified in the preparation of histological samples of zebrafish tissues. The first is the differential tissue shrinkage that follows the gaps between tissues that cannot be obtained in live fish. It was proposed that shrinkage may be associated with differences between the solution and tissue osmolality and the required experiments. In addition, in some juvenile and adult fish, it was observed that the internal organs were inadequate fixed and resulted in tissue degeneration (Copper et al. 2018). In our study, depending on the used fixative types, H&E and MT staining reaction scores showed some differences in samples in the same experimental groups. It can be said that these differences may be due to manual staining technique in histopathological examination of gill tissues. In H&E staining, Carnoy's solution has been found to provide a more severe nuclear staining, which is thought to be due to the agglutination of nucleic acids. In addition, it was found that the most ideal H&E staining was with NBF and the other fixatives produced different intensities. Bouin's, Carnoy's and

Davidson's solutions showed strong cytoplasmic staining with eosin. Dietrich's solution was inadequate for H&E staining and was generally weaker than other fixatives.

Although similar good staining results were obtained in the MT staining of tissues fixed with NBF and Carnoy's solution (Peterson et al. 2013), in our study, the most ideal MT staining density was observed in Dietrich's solution. Carnoy's and Davidson's solutions have been shown to provide an even density in MT staining. Bouin's solution has been reported to be the ideal fixative for MT staining (Singhal et al. 2016). However, in our study, Bouin's solution did not give the ideal results for MT staining in zebrafish gill tissue.

## CONCLUSIONS

As a result, fixation applications using different fixatives made various effects on H&E and MT staining techniques in gill tissue of zebrafish. Gill tissue morphology was optimally protected by Bouin's solution and NBF solution, whereas H&E staining showed optimal results with NBF, also MT staining showed ideal results with Dietrich's solution fixation. Bouin fixative did not allow the shrinkage of the gill tissue, minimal formalin pigment formation, and enabled cellular morphological details to be seen even in the gill with complex morphology. Eosinophilic and basophilic cellular structures were clearly stained in a differential manner and generally ideal H&E staining was identified in NBF fixation. Furthermore, the structure of collagen fibers is well preserved and optimal staining is achieved by MT staining technique in Dietrich's solution fixation. Considering the preservation of gill tissue morphology and H & E and MT staining methods, other fixative solutions have several disadvantages.

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## Prenatal and Neonatal Exposure to Glyphosate-Based Herbicide Reduces The Primordial to Primary Follicle Transition in The Newborn Rat Ovary: A Preliminary Study

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### ABSTRACT

This study investigated how a glyphosate-based herbicide (GBH) affects the proportional distribution of ovarian follicles that develop from the 18<sup>th</sup> day of the embryo period (E18) to the 7<sup>th</sup> postnatal day (PND7) in newborn female rats. A total of 6 pregnant rats that were used in the study were divided into two groups so that there would be 3 pregnant rats in the control group and 3 pregnant rats in the GBH group. Starting from E21 to E18 the pregnant rats in the experimental group were administered at 50 mg/kg/day GBH subcutaneously (s.c.) and the physiological saline was administered as vehicle to the control group. Subsequently, female pups received vehicle or 2 mg/kg GBH from PND1 to PND7. On PND8, all female offspring (neonatal period, 6 newborn female rats from each group) were sacrificed by light ether anesthesia. For the histological examination of the dissected ovaries, the primordial, primary, secondary and preantral follicle numbers were determined using Crossman's modified triple staining method and Periodic Acid-Shiff (PAS) staining methods. The percentage of primordial follicles was significantly higher in the ovaries of female rats in GBH exposed group compare to the control group. However, the percentage of primary, secondary and preantral follicles was lower. Thus, it was observed that prenatal and neonatal GBH exposure decreased the transition of primordial follicle to primary follicle.

**Keywords:** Endocrine disruptors, follicle composition, glyphosate-based herbicide, newborn rat, ovary

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### Glifosat-Bazlı Herbisite Prenatal ve Neonatal Dönemde Maruziyet Yenidoğan Rat Ovaryumunda Primordiyalden Primer Foliküle Geçişi Azaltır: Bir Ön Çalışma

### ÖZ

Yapılan bu çalışmada glifosat bazlı herbisit (GBH)'in yenidoğan dişi sıçanlarda embriyo döneminin 18. gününden (E18) doğum sonrası 7.gün (PND7) arasında gelişmekte olan ovaryum foliküllerinin oransal dağılımını nasıl etkilediği araştırılmıştır. Çalışmada kullanılan toplam 6 gebe sıçan; 3 gebe sıçan kontrol grubunda, 3 gebe sıçan GBH grubunda olacak şekilde 2 gruba ayrıldı. Gebe sıçanlara E18'den başlayarak E21. güne kadar günlük subkutan olarak (s.c.) deney grubuna 50 mg/kg/gün GBH ve kontrol grubuna ise taşıt madde FTS (fizyolojik tuzlu su) uygulandı. Daha sonra yenidoğan dişi yavru sıçanlara PND1'den PND7'ye kadar 2 mg/kg dozunda GBH ve taşıt madde uygulamasına devam edildi. Son ilaç uygulamadan bir gün sonra PND8'de (neonatal periyot, 6 dişi yavru/her grupta) yavru dişi sıçanlar hafif eter anestezi ile sakrifiye edildi. Diseke edilen ovaryumların histolojik incelemesi için Crossman'ın modifiye üçlü boyama yöntemi ve Periodic Acid-Shiff (PAS) boyama yöntemleri kullanılarak primordial, primer, sekonder ve preantral folikül sayıları belirlendi. GBH'ye maruz kalan dişi yavru sıçanların ovaryumları kontrol grubuna göre karşılaştırıldığında primordial foliküllerin yüzdesi önemli derecede fazla bulundu. Bununla birlikte primer, sekonder ve preantral folikül yüzdesinin ise azlığı dikkat çekti. Sonuç olarak prenatal ve neonatal GBH maruziyetinin primordial-primer folikül geçişini azalttığı gözlenmiştir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Endokrin bozucular, folikül kompozisyonu, glifosat-bazlı herbisit, yenidoğan sıçan, ovaryum

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## INTRODUCTION

Endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) are a heterogeneous class of environmental pollutants that interfere with the endocrine system by mimicking natural hormones, working antagonistically with natural hormones or by blocking the metabolic pathways of natural hormones that might result temporary or permanent damage to endocrine system (Scognamiglio et al. 2016). Nowadays, it is suspected that more than 800 chemicals interfere with hormone receptors or hormone metabolism and pesticides constitute an important group of these toxic chemicals (Scognamiglio et al. 2016). The term pesticide covers a wide range of chemicals including insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, rodenticides, molluscicides, nematocides, plant growth regulators and others (Aktar et al. 2009). Among these, herbicides, particularly glyphosate-based herbicides (GBHs), have a wide range of use to destroy the weeds in both agricultural and non-agricultural areas (eg, horticulture). After the first introduction to the consumers in 1974, the use of the compound has increased dramatically in parallel to the prevalence of glyphosate-resistant genetically modified crops (Gillezeau et al. 2019). River and surface waters are polluted due to their excessive and unconscious use in agriculture, horticulture, and turfs and hence, humans and other mammals are exposed to this pollutant with food and water (Acquavella et al. 2004). Parvez et al. (2018) found that most of the pregnant women (93%) had glyphosate in their urine. In a recent study, the presence of glyphosate in maternal and umbilical cord serum of pregnant women in three regions of Thailand has been demonstrated (Kongtip et al. 2017). The authors showed that pregnant women working or living with families who are working in agriculture have higher rates of exposure to the herbicide glyphosate compared to pregnant women who are not working in agriculture or non-farmers.

For many years, the use of glyphosate is thought to play a role only in plant metabolic pathways. The herbicidal effect of glyphosate is attributed to the cleavage of the Shikimate pathway by inhibiting the 5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase (EPSPS) enzyme, which is responsible for the biosynthesis of essential aromatic amino acids, thereby destroying the protein synthesis and ultimately leading the plant death (Mesnage et al. 2015). The Shikimate pathway is not present in humans but is found in bacteria living in human gut (Ratia et al. 2014). Many studies have shown that glyphosate-induced imbalances in intestinal bacteria may be associated with the emergence of different chronic diseases such as celiac disease (Samsel and Seneff 2013), diabetes (Samsel et al. 2013), and neurological disorder (Seneff et al. 2015). Similarly, the endocrine disrupting effects of glyphosate and GBHs are demonstrated in *in vitro*

studies with the human cells (Gasnier et al. 2009) and different model species (Richard et al. 2005, Benachour et al. 2007, Benachour and Seralini 2009, Mesnage et al. 2013, Defarge et al. 2016).

Ovary is one of the most important organs for female fertility due to the production of gamete and biosynthesis of hormones. The development and maturation of ovarian follicles is called folliculogenesis (Cox and Takov 2018). The development of ovaries in rats begins before birth and the first and main change is the formation of follicles (Malekinejad et al. 2011). In the early stage of ovarian development, the oocytes are paused in the meiosis-I stage and wait for two key developmental processes: (1) primordial follicle formation, (2) transition from primordial to primary follicle (McGee and Hsueh 2000). This process involves (i) embryonic days of 18 through 21 (E18-21) in which the majority of the oocytes in the rats were in the oocyte places and the apoptosis was observed, (ii) peak days 0 to 3 (PND0-3) in which the apoptosis and primordial follicle formation is present, and (iii) the final PND4-7 stage where no oocytes are observed in ovarian sections since all oocyte cavities have been demolished and shaped as primordial follicles and primary follicle transition is present in ovarian sections (Hirshfield and DeSanti 1995, Pepling and Spradling 2001, Kezele and Skinner 2003). In the neonatal period (PND0-7), ovarian follicle development is independent of the pituitary gonadotropins (Luteinizing Hormone (LH) or Follicle Stimulating Hormone (FSH) and the follicles remain as a preantral follicle (Picut et al. 2015).

Various investigators have reported that GBHs cause ovarian damage and dysfunction in pregnant mice (Ren et al. 2018) and rats (Hamdaoui et al. 2018). However, it is not known whether embryonic and neonatal exposure to endocrine disrupters such as GBHs has an effect on ovarian follicle development in juvenile rats. In this study, we aimed to determine the effect of commercial endocrine disrupting chemical GBH on the proportional distribution of developing ovarian follicles from embryonic day 18 (E18) to postnatal 7<sup>th</sup> day (PND7) in newborn female rats.

## MATERIALS and METHODS

### Chemical substance

The glyphosate formulation used in this study was Knockdown 48 SL marketed by Safa Agriculture Inc. in Turkey. The active ingredient is a liquid-water soluble formulation containing 48% isopropylamine salt as excipients and inert ingredients. This GBH was selected based on the fact that it is one of the most widely used herbicide against weeds in Turkey and it is a representative of high glyphosate content



formulation that targets the weeds with difficult eradication.

### **Animals, Experimental Design and Treatment**

This study was approved by Afyon Kocatepe University Animal Experiments Local Ethics Committee (No: 67; Date: 03 May, 2017). A total of six female Wistar Albino two months old rats obtained from the Experimental Animals Unit of Afyon Kocatepe University were used in the study. The rats were kept in propylene cages, in 12-hour dark/light cycle,  $22\pm 2$  °C temperature and humidity (30-70%) was checked in the rooms. Clean tap water and standard rat feed ad libitum was given. The estrous cycle was followed by vaginal cytology of the rats. Three female rats determined to be in the proestus period and one male rat were placed in the same cage. The next day, rats with sperms in the vaginal smear were found to be pregnant and were recorded as 0 days (E0) of pregnancy. The estrus cycles were monitored for seven days and the pregnancy of the rats which were observed in the period of diestrous was confirmed. The experiment consisted of two parts. In the first part of the experiment, six pregnant rats were divided into the experimental and control groups, each including three pregnant rats. Pregnant rats were given 50 mg/kg/day GBH subcutaneously (s.c.) and control group received physiological saline as vehicle on E18 days. GBH was prepared by dissolving it in saline solution. Both vehicle and GBH were administered daily by subcutaneous injections until delivery. In the second part of the experiment, a total of twelve newborn female rats were divided into two groups of six, the experimental and control groups. After birth, an amount of 2 mg/kg/day vehicle (physiological saline) and GBH were administered to the newborn female rats every 48 hours of from PND1 to PND7 subcutaneously. The doses of GBH administered to pregnant and juvenile rats were selected based on the US Environmental Protection Agency, with reference to the level of no side effect of GBH (NOAEL) (USEPA 1993). After the last drug administration in PND8, the female offspring of both groups were sacrificed by light ether anesthesia and the ovarian-uterus-oviduct triad was collectively removed.

### **Histological Evaluation and Follicle Count**

The ovaries from the organs were dissected under the stereo-microscope. The dissected ovaries were stained in Bouin solution for 3 hours at room temperature. After washing in 50% alcohol, dehydration was performed subsequently in 70%, 80%, 95%, and 100% alcohol. In order to clarify the samples prior to paraffin embedding, they were washed in xylene two times. Paraffin-embedded ovarian tissues were cut at 4-5  $\mu\text{m}$  thickness with a microtome and taken on slides. The number and developmental stages of the follicles were determined using samples stained with Crossman's modified triple staining method and

Periodic Acid Schiff (PAS). Two consecutive sections covering the largest cross-sectional area of the medulla and cortex sides of both the right and the left ovaries of the experimental and control groups were examined under light microscope to determine the number of follicles. The follicles classified as described in Pedersen and Peters (2007) and were averaged as reported by Nilsson et al. (2007). In this classification, granulosa cell shape and cell layer count are considered. According to this, the follicle that contains the flat single-row granulosa cells surrounding the oocyte is classified as the Primordial follicle (A), the follicle surrounded by single-row cubic granulosa cells as the primary follicle (B), the follicle surrounded by two or more ordered cubic granulosa cells was considered as secondary follicle (C). The follicle that has a diameter considerably larger than that of the other follicles along with small gaps between the granulosa cells and more than 3 granulosa cell lines was called the preantral follicle (D) (Table 1).

### **Statistical analysis**

Chi-square test was used to compare the primordial, primary, secondary and preantral numbers between the two groups. All the analyses were performed with SPSS 22.0 program and  $p < 0.05$  was considered as statistically significant throughout the study.

## **RESULTS**

### **The effect of GBH on the follicle composition**

The difference of the primordial, primary, secondary, and preantral counts obtained from the two study groups were statistically significant. The percentage of primordial follicles was higher in the glyphosate applied group compared to the control group ( $***p < 0.01$ ) whereas the percentage of primary, secondary, and preantral follicles were lower ( $*p < 0.05$ ) (Table 2., Figure 1.)

### **The effects of GBH on follicle types and numbers**

All follicle types were evaluated in both GBH and control group preparations. The general state of ovaries of the control group and in the experimental group were first compared. The size of ovary follicles in the experimental group exposed to GBH was smaller than the control group and the number of primordial follicles was higher (Figure 2.)

The ovarian sections of the control and GBH groups were stained with Crossman's modified triple staining method and Periodic Acid Schiff (PAS) staining. Primordial, primary, secondary and preantral follicle counts were performed in the preparations of the medulla and cortex regions of ovarian sections. It was observed that most of the follicles remained in the primordial follicle stage in the GBH group implying a significantly reduced transition from the primordial

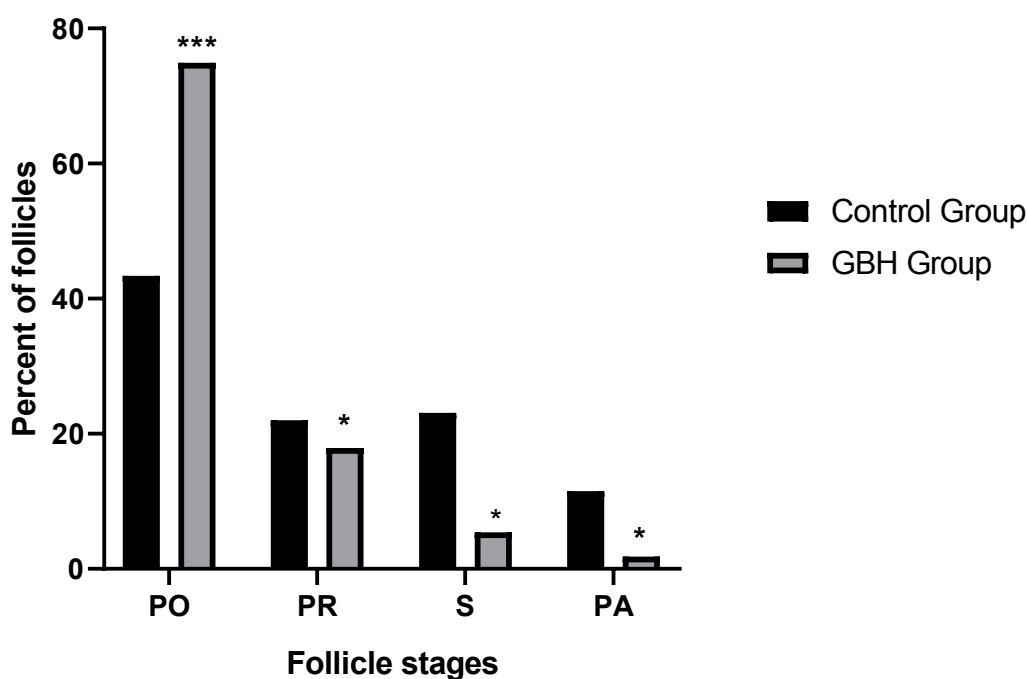
follicle to the primary, secondary and preantral follicle (Figures 3, 4, 5, and 6).

**Table 1.** Classification of follicles

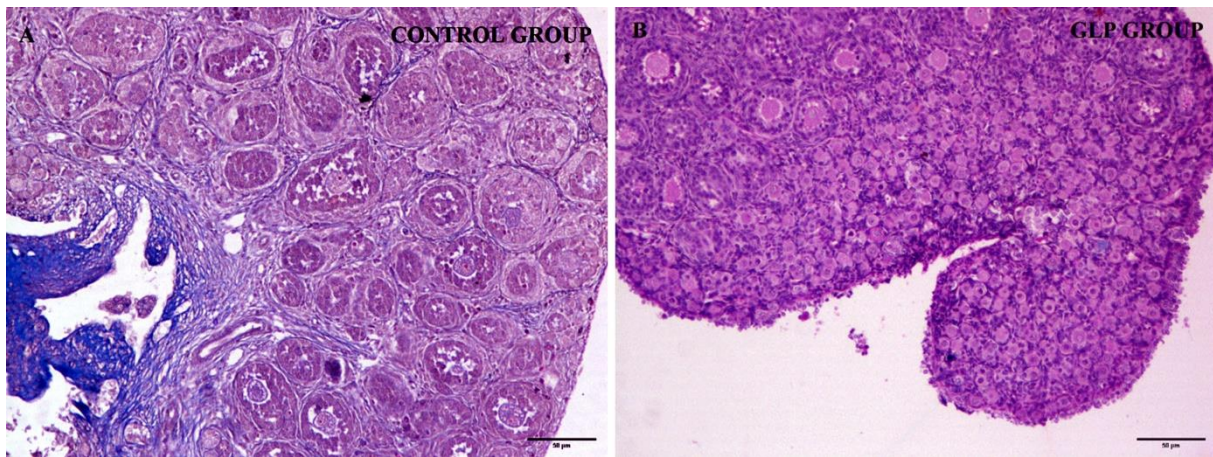
Follicle Classes	Name	Definition
A	Primordial	single layer flat granulosa cell (GC) layer
B	Primary	single layer cubic (GC) layer
C	Secondary	2-3 rows of cubic (GC) layers
D	Preantral	3 ≤ rows of GC with wide antral clearance, distinct monolayer

**Table 2.** Comparison of follicle numbers between GBH and control group

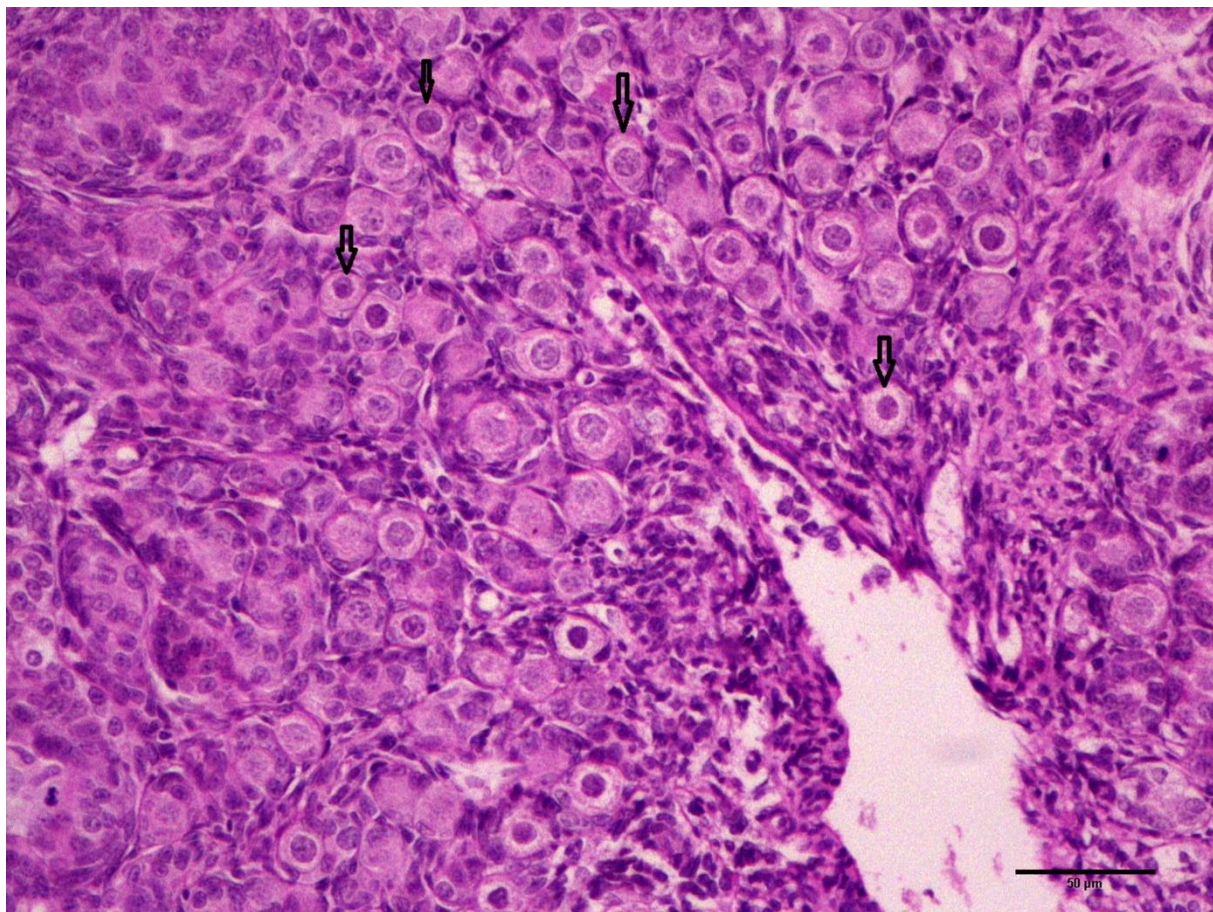
Variable		Variable				Total	$\chi^2$	p
		primordial	primary	secondary	preantral			
GBH	Number (f)	376	90	27	9	502	91.470	0.001
	Percentage(%)	74.9%	17.9%	5.4%	1.8%	100.0%		
Control	Number (f)	79	40	42	21	182		
	Percentage(%)	43.4%	22.0%	23.1%	11.5%	100.0%		
Total	Number (f)	455	130	69	30	684		
	Percentage(%)	66.5%	19.0%	10.1%	4.4%	100.0%		



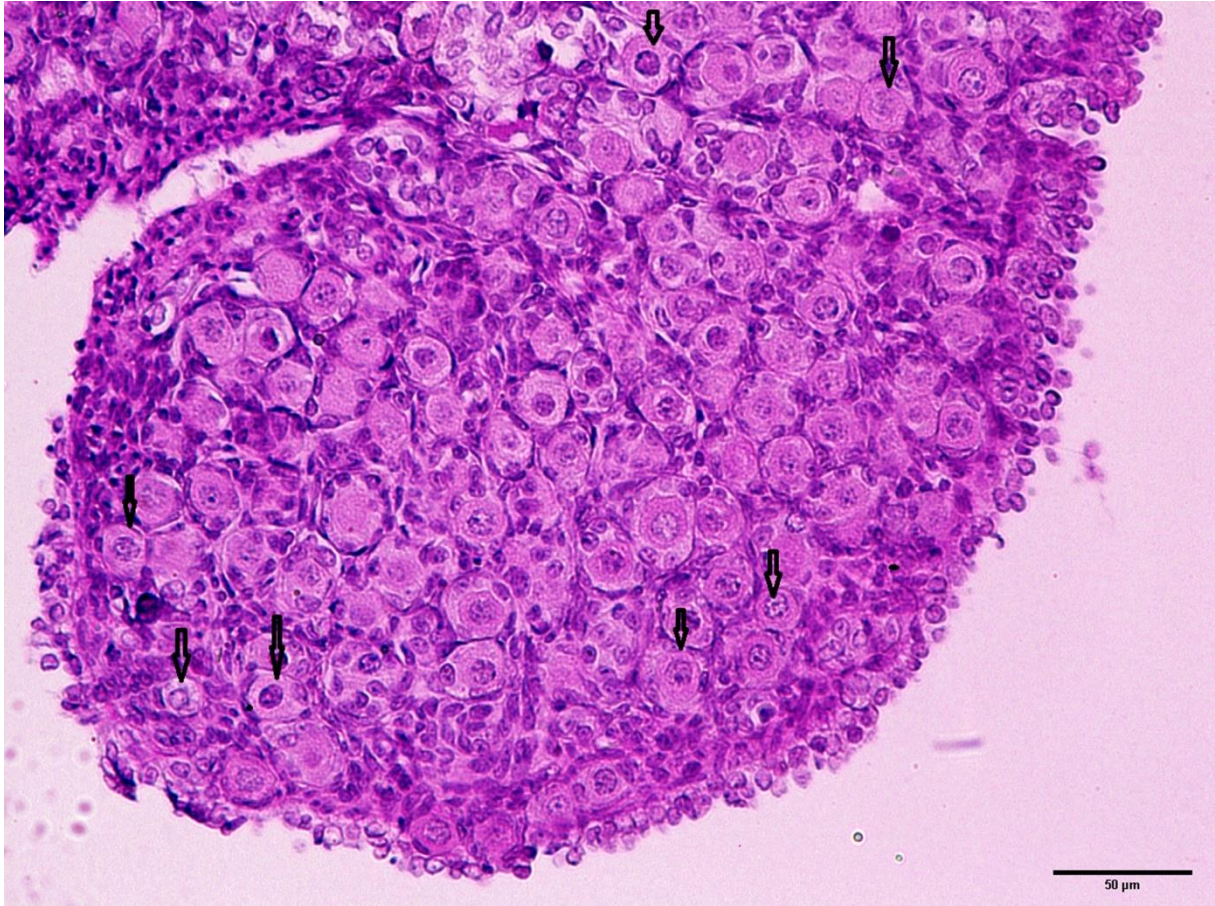
**Figure 1.** Effects of prenatal and neonatal exposure to GBH on follicle composition in newborn rat ovaries. The percentage of primordial follicles increased in GBH treated ovaries, while percentage of primary, secondary and preantral follicles decreased compared to controls. PO, primordial follicles; PR, primary follicles; S, secondary follicles; PA, preantral follicles. \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.001, n = 6.



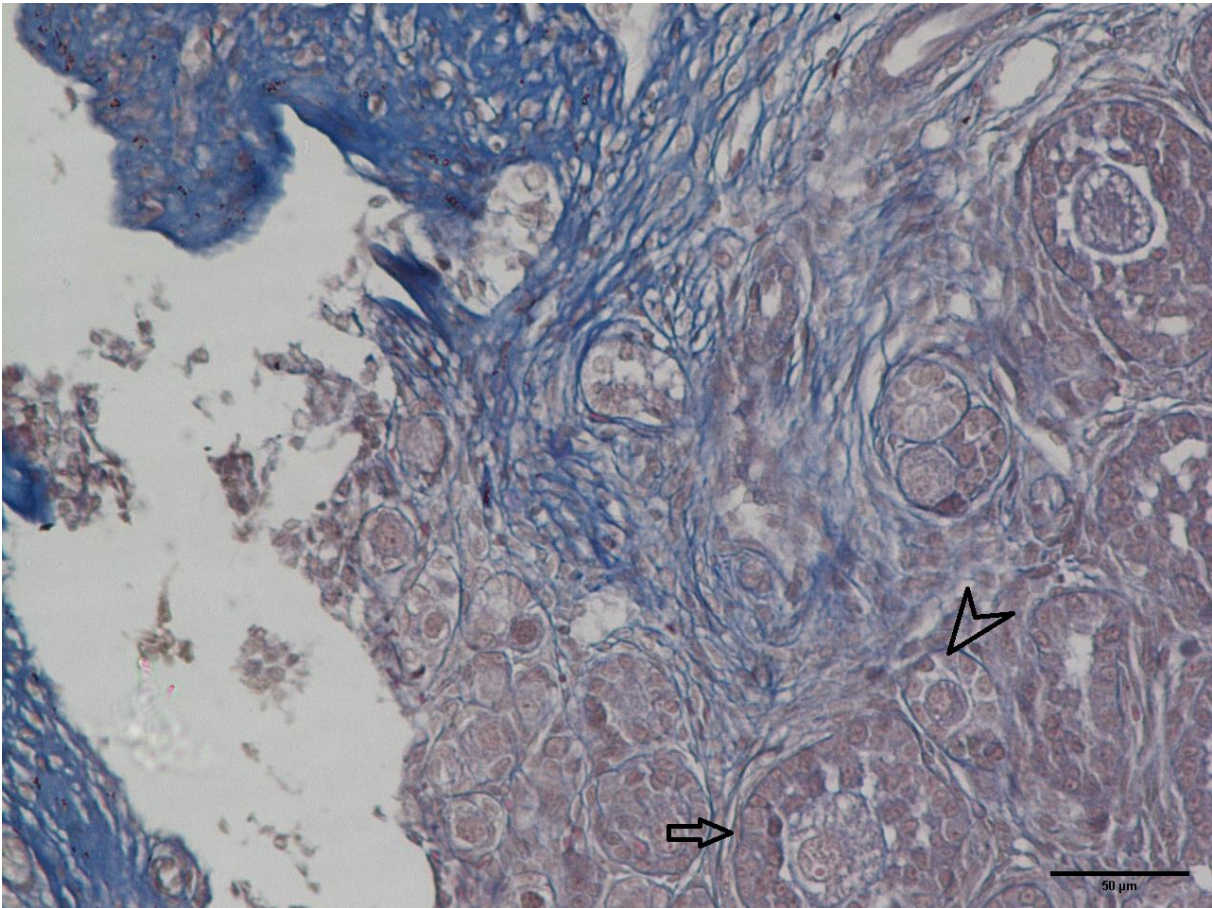
**Figure 2.** Representative photomicrograph of Crossman Modified Triple and Periodic acid–Schiff (PAS)-stained sections of ovary of control and GBH groups of rats. A. Control group, Crossman Modified Triple (20x), B. GBH group, PAS (20x), Bar = 50 µm.



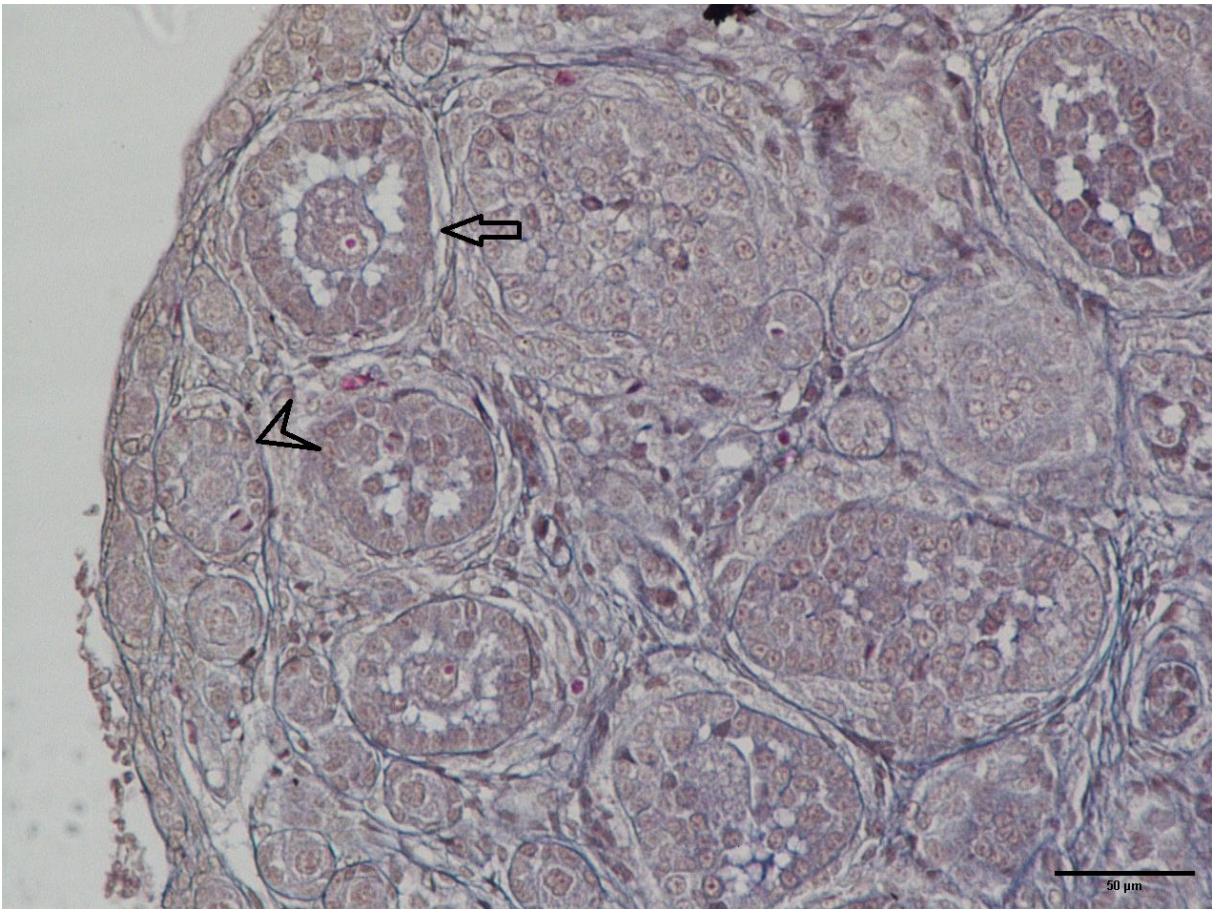
**Figure 3.** Primordial follicles in GBH group ovarian medulla. Arrow: primordial follicles. PAS (20x), Bar = 50 µm.



**Figure 4.** Primordial follicles in ovarian cortex of GBH group. Arrow: primordial follicles. PAS (20x), Bar = 50 μm.



**Figure 5.** Primary and secondary follicle in the control group ovarian medulla. Arrowhead: primer follicle; Arrow: secondary follicle. Crossman Modified Triple (20x), Bar = 50 μm.



**Figure 6.** Primary and preantral follicles in the ovarian cortex of the control group. Arrowhead: primer follicle; Arrow: preantral follicle. Crossman Modified Triple (20x), Bar = 50 μm.

## DISCUSSION

In contemporary agriculture, many technological advances are employed to increase the productivity of crops. Weeds in particular can cause large scale crop losses and consequently to a reduction in yield. Nowadays, herbicides are the most commonly used pesticide class in the fight against weeds. Today, commercial glyphosate product is used in over 140 countries in various chemical forms such as isopropylamine salt, ammonium salt, diammonium salt, dimethylammonium salt, and potassium salt (Landrigan and Belpoggi 2018). In Turkey, a total of 3208 products containing the active ingredient glyphosate has received a license from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (T.C. Tarım ve Orman Bakanlığı 2019). It is still debatable whether glyphosate is harmful to human health, especially in relation to exposure levels. Albeit controversial, cancer is the forefront of concern regarding the glyphosate exposure. However, most regulatory authorities consider that glyphosate is not carcinogenic, as highlighted in a recent article by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) (USEPA 2017). Other claimed health problems include kidney diseases, pregnancy complications and reproductive dysfunction, but none have been empirically confirmed (Bai and Ogbourne 2016, Myers et al. 2016, Van Bruggen et al. 2018).

Many contaminants used in both agricultural and non-agricultural activities are known to have endocrine disrupting effects, and glyphosate-based herbicides are one of the most prominent contaminant (Drašar et al. 2018). In particular, a fetus may be exposed to glyphosate in the uterus by contamination of the mother. Regarding the effect of glyphosate on fetus in the uterus, Richard et al. (2005) and Benachour et al. (2007) reported that glyphosate has a toxic effect on human placental cells. Benachour et al. (2007) investigated the effects of glyphosate on human embryonic and placental cells and addressed how these effects are increased with the dose and exposure time and strongly concluded that exposure to glyphosate affect fetal development. Benachour and Séralini (Benachour and Séralini 2009) also show that even in low concentrations, GBH can induce apoptosis and necrosis (hence toxic effects) in human embryonic, navel and placenta cells. Since glyphosate can pass through the placenta as indicated by Poulsen et al. (2009), the baby may be exposed to glyphosate even in the uterus. This may lead to deterioration of the estrogen balance with endocrine disrupting activity of glyphosate that affects the development of testicular cells and testosterone production (Richard et al. 2005, Haverfield et al. 2011, Clair et al. 2012). In addition, the endocrine disrupting effects of GBHs in males were documented in several experimental studies

(Dallegrave et al. 2007, Romano et al. 2012, Cassault-Meyer et al. 2014, Avdatek et al. 2018a, 2018b). The ovary is a female reproductive gland and is the main source of the female hormones estrogen and progesterone, as it shows a cyclic rhythm of germ cell maturation, including the proliferation, synthesis and accumulation of egg yolk in oocytes (Stefansdottir et al. 2014). Hamdaoui et al. (2018) reported that GBH caused ovarian damage and induced a decrease in absolute and relative ovarian organ weight. Although there are some studies examining the effects of GBH on female reproductive system, to date no studies have examined the effects on the ovarian follicular composition of the newborn female rats. Considering the fact that the ovarian follicles are formed in fetal and neonatal periods in rats, the nature of the effects of GBH exposure at E18 and PN7 days on the follicular activation (transition from primordial to primary follicle) in female ovary rat ovary was presented for the first time in this study.

In the present study, we found that GBH administration changed the follicular composition in the ovary. We also found that the transition from primordial follicle to primary follicle in the ovary of animals decreased with the GBH and therefore the number of secondary and preantral follicles was low. Ren et al. (2018) applied pure glyphosate and the trademark Roundup to pregnant mice from day 1 to day 19 (E1-E19) of the pregnancy and did not detect any change in primary and secondary follicle numbers compared to the control group. This may be attributed to the difference in dose and duration of glyphosate administration or the animals used in the study. Wistar race rats were used in our study were previously shown to be more sensitive to endocrine disruptors (Diel et al. 2004). Furthermore, GBH was applied between E18 and PND7 days including primordial and primary follicle development stages in embryonic and neonatal period in our study. In a study designed in a similar way to our study, an organic chlorinated insecticide, methoxychlor, was applied to Wistar breed rats and the results revealed that methoxychlorine reduced the number of primordial and primary follicles in the ovaries and increased the number of secondary follicles (Ozden-Akkaya et al. 2017). The findings of Ozden-Akkaya et al. (2017) are not in congruence with our results. This may be due to the fact that methoxychlor had prevented the formation of the primordial follicle in the fetal period by destroying the oocyte bases and induction of primary and secondary follicle from the primordial follicle. In addition, Ozden-Akkaya et al. (2017) collected ovaries between PND 50-60 days in their study whereas we collected and analyzed ovaries PND8 where follicle development reached to preantral follicle stage

## CONCLUSION

The critical stage in ovarian biology is the transition from primordial follicle where development stopped to primary follicle where development persists. With the results of our study, changes the female rats' ovarian follicle composition and reduction of primary follicle transition from primordial follicle due to the exposure to GBH at the fetal and neonatal periods were reported for the first time in the literature. However, more specific advanced studies are needed to demonstrate the role of GBH in the ovarian follicles development processes. The findings will shed light on future research and more effective approaches.

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*Rubi Turkmen and Turkan Turkmen contributed equally to this work.*

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*This study was approved by Afyon Kocatepe University Animal Experiments Local Ethics Committee (No: 67; Date: 03 May, 2017).*

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## Causes of Culling and Disease Incidences At First Production Year of Imported Brown Swiss and Simmental Cows From Austria

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to determine the disease incidences and the causes of culling of Brown Swiss and Simmental cows before and after calving. The study material was consisted of 70 Brown Swiss and 282 Simmental pregnant heifers. 8.57% and 9.57% of Brown Swiss and Simmental cows had various diseases before calving, and the treatment success rates were 16.67% and 81.48%. After calving, the disease incidences of Brown Swiss cows was 75.39%, and the disease incidences of Simmental cows was 64.26%. While digestion and Genital diseases were more common before calving, Genital and udder problems were more common after calving. Simmental cows had a higher rate of treatment success before calving ( $P<0.05$ ). Both breeds had similar rates of treatment success after calving. 7.14% of Brown Swiss cows were culled before calving, and 23.08% were culled after calving due to various reasons. For Simmental cows, the culling rate was 1.77% before calving and 14.08% after calving. Simmental cows were more disease-resistant, responded more positively to treatment and had a lower culling rate than Brown Swiss cows.

**Keywords:** Simmental, Brown Swiss, Disease, Culling, Adaptation

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### Avusturya'dan İthal Edilen İsviçre Esmeri ve Simmental İneklerin İlk Üretim Yılındaki Hastalık İnsidensleri ve Ayıklama Sebepleri

#### ÖZ

Çalışmanın amacı, İsviçre Esmeri ve Simmental ırkı gebe düvelerin buzağılama öncesi ve sonrası dönemde karşılaştıkları hastalıkların insidenslerini ve ineklerin sürü dışı edilme sebeplerini belirlemektir. Araştırmanın materyalini Avusturya'nın Innsbruck bölgesinden Türkiye'nin batısında bulunan Manisa iline getirilen 70 baş İsviçre Esmeri ve 282 baş Simmental ırklarından inekler oluşmuştur. İsviçre Esmeri ve Simmental inekler doğum öncesinde %8,57 ve %9,57 oranlarında değişik hastalıklar ile karşılaşmışlar, %16,67 ve %81,48 oranlarında tedavi başarıları elde edilmiştir. Buzağılama sonrası dönemde İsviçre Esmerlerinin hastalanma oranı %75,39 olurken, Simmental ineklerin oranı %64,26 olarak tespit edilmiştir. Sindirim ve genital sistem problemleri buzağılama öncesinde, genital sistem ve meme problemleri buzağılama sonrasında daha yoğun olarak ortaya çıkmıştır. Buzağılama öncesi dönemde Simmental ineklerin tedavi başarıları daha yüksek olurken ( $P<0,05$ ), buzağılama sonrasında her iki ırktan ineklerin tedavi başarı oranları birbirine yakın bulunmuştur. İsviçre Esmeri ineklerin %7,14'ü buzağılama öncesinde, %23,08'i buzağılama sonrasında değişik sebeplere bağlı olarak sürü dışı edilmiştir. Simmentallerde ayıklama oranı buzağılama öncesinde %1,77 ve buzağılama sonrasında %14,08 olarak tespit edilmiştir. Genel olarak, Simmental ineklerin hastalıklara karşı daha dirençli olmuşlar, uygulanan tedaviye daha yüksek oranda pozitif yanıt vermişler ve daha az oranda ayıklamaya tabi tutulmuşlardır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Sığır, Simmental, İsviçre Esmeri, Hastalık, Adaptasyon

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## INTRODUCTION

In cattle enterprises, sustaining productivity in the following years depends on improving cattle's genetic capacity, and also optimizing the enterprise's environmental conditions, completing the cattle's adaptation to geographical, climatic and vegetative environment in a short period of time. It is reported that animals that are moved regionally or imported from abroad suffer from stress factors, and the negative conditions in terms of animal welfare and stress depress animal's immune system, increase disease incidence and prevalence and result in decreased productivity (Broom 2005).

The incidence of various health problems and treatment failures in dairy cattle cause extended periods of open days, delayed gestation, and extended periods between two calving. Those disorders in estrous cycle might lead to extended lactation periods in cows and decreases in lifetime milk yield and economic losses.

Various diseases affecting animals might also affect each other or trigger one another. A study found that there was a positive relation between cows' Genital insufficiencies and clinical mastitis cases, and since foot and leg problems prevent the visibility of heat symptoms, they postpone the insemination time and thus gestation (Maizon et al. 2004).

In dairy cattle enterprises, the disease incidences for per production year are considered as normal 2% for clinic mastitis per month and <3% for retentio secundarium, 5-25% for metritis, <10% for cystic ovarian, <3% for abomasum displacement and <25% for lameness per year (Dinç 2016). One of the most important indicators of whether the herd management programs are successful in dairy cattle enterprises is the level of annual culling rates and the frequency of culling reasons. It is reported that the culling rate of enterprises per year is around 21-36% (Maher et al. 2008; Pinedo et al. 2010; Stojic et al. 2013), and while 12-18% is considered normal in terms of indicating heard health, this rate might reach 25% with the addition of voluntary culling (Dinç 2016).

The culling rates in herds change depending on the breed differences, disease incidences and frequency in herd, cows' age, lactation order, Genital and lactation performance and unexpected economic situations of enterprise. While Genital diseases are the most common causes of culling for cows in the herds, they are followed by mastitis, foot and hoof diseases and metabolism diseases respectively (Seegers et al. 1998, Fetrow et al. 2006, Pinedo et al. 2010, Stojic et al. 2013).

The study made by Pinedo et al. (2010) on 2054 Holstein herds found that the culling and mortality rates per year were 25.1% and 6.6% respectively. It reported that 20.6% of all of culling reasons were atypical deaths; this was followed by Genital problems (17.7%), injuries (14.3%) and low productivity and mastitis (12.1%). In this research, among all culled and dead cows; the culling rate of young cows at their first calving year was 20%. Stojic et al. (2013) found that, in herds with high yield, 32.5% of young cows that calved for the first time were culled for foot and hoof diseases, 19.9% were culled for Genital problems, and 11% were culled for metabolic diseases. They reported that the culling rate due to Genital problems were lower in herds with low milk yield than high productive herds.

The aim of this study is to determine the disease incidences and treatment success rates of pregnant Simmental and Brown Swiss cows, which were imported from Austria to a private breeding dairy cattle enterprise in Manisa, before and after calving, to identify the culling reasons at the first production year. According to diseases and treatment incidences and culling rates of Simmental and Brown Swiss cows, it is possible to make scientific comments about importation success and adaptation ability in the West Anatolia location and compare between Simmental and Brown Swiss breeds at their first production year.

## MATERIAL and METHODS

### Material Definition

The study was conducted in a private dairy cattle enterprise, which was located in Manisa and which has recently started livestock operations. Manisa is located in Western Anatolia Region between 27 08' and 29 05' eastern longitudes and 38 04' and 39 58' northern latitudes. It has Mediterranean continental climate. Precipitation generally occurs in winter, and summer is dry. The temperature is below zero for an average of 26 days per year (Municipality of Manisa 2017).

The first animal materials of the enterprise were contained 352 pregnant, disease free (such as tuberculosis, blue tongue, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, foot and mouth disease) heifers imported from Innsbruck/Austria. Also their body weights were between 400 kg and 550 kg. Of those cows, 70 were Brown Swiss and 282 were Simmental. The pregnant cows calved in the enterprise between June and December.

### Material Care and Feeding

The cattle barns were constructed in a free range and semi-open system. When the cows were transported to the enterprise, they were first taken into quarantine, and then were placed in paddocks. The

cows were vaccinated with IBR, BVD, Clostridium, Pasteurella vaccines and feed to special feeding with forage (Net energy maintenance-NE<sub>m</sub>:1,37 Mcal/kg, NE<sub>g</sub>:0,8 Mcal/kg, CP: 12,5%DM, ADF: 31,4%DM, NDF: 48,9%DM) at this period.

The cows which were lactation period had three different rations, namely fresh ration, lactation and dry-period rations. After calving, cows were subjected to post-calving feeding for 3 weeks, and then lactation feeding. First period ration, nutrient information was NEL (Net energy lactation): 1,62 Mcal/kg, CP (crude protein): 17,2%DM (dry matter), ADF (acid detergent fiber): 20,22%DM, NDF (neutral detergent fiber): 34,68%DM, starch: 24,4%DM. The ration consisted of: 14% alfalfa, 48% corn silage, 3% oat-barley hay, 11% seasonal pulp, 24% factory lactation feed mix. In the lactation period, NEL: 1,61 Mcal/kg, CP: 16,89 % DM, ADF: 22,67 % DM, NDF: 37,33 % DM, starch: 23 % DM and 11% alfalfa, 50% corn silage, 4% oat-barley hay, 12% seasonal pulp, 23% factory lactation feed mix was given. Lactation feed was prepared according to the cows with high and low milk yields in the progressing milking periods. The dry-period feed consisted of: 19% alfalfa, 38% corn silage, 30% oat-barley hay, 4% seasonal pulp, 9% dry-period factory feed mix and NEL: 1,3 Mcal/kg, CP: 14,5 %DM, ADF: 31 %DM, NDF: 49 %DM, anion cation balance: 21,34, Ca/P: 1,9.

### Disease Incidences

The diseases detected in 352 cows (70 Brown Swiss, 282 Simmental) were divided into two as before calving (after transport) and after calving. The period after transport covered the period between the day when the cows were brought to the enterprise and the first calving; the period after calving covered the period between the 1<sup>st</sup> calving and 2<sup>nd</sup> one. The incidence and treatment success of diseases detected in those two periods were expressed proportionately. The culling and mortality causes of cows at the first production year were assessed according to breeds and diseases.

All cows were observed in point of behavior differences, body conditions and disease symptoms every day. The diseases were diagnosed by the enterprise's veterinarian by using the cow's body temperature, auscultation, palpation, urine and feces examination, various observation data, blood samples and ultrasound data.

The disease definitions were as follows:

A. Digestive problems: Ketosis, abomasum displacement, diarrhea, tympany and constipation;

B. Respiratory problems: Pneumonia cases presenting with mucous or sera-mucous nasal flow and , abdominal panting;

C. Genital Diseases: Uterine prolapsed, metritis, ovarian cysts, dystocia, chronic infertility cases;

D. Foot problem: Lameness or being unable to stand on a foot condition in one foot or more, swelling in joints, bleeding, fractures or cracks in extremities;

E. Udder problems: Traumatic udder injuries, udder edema, udder blindness and acute or chronic mastitis cases;

F. Other disorders: Cachexia, ketosis, idiopathic/atypical cases that occur due to the mistakes (contraindication after wrong treatment protocols, unexpected secondary infections, short-term care and feeding mistakes, late observation of health problems etc.) of veterinarian, technician or caregiver or unknown reasons.

### Statistical analysis

When calculating the disease incidences of cows, sub-groups were made such as before calving, after calving, disease incidence, treatment success and mortality cause; the conditions of cases were addressed; and the results were presented by using values expressed in percentages. "Pearson Chi-Square Test" and "Fisher's Exact Test" were used for comparisons between groups. SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) program package was used for all statistical analysis (SPSS 1999).

## RESULTS

The disease incidences of Brown Swiss and Simmental cows were addressed separately for the before calving (after transport) and after calving periods.

The diseases in the period before calving covered the diseases that the pregnant cows had since their arrival in the enterprise until their first calving or abort, and these are shown in Table 1. The detailed results of diseases are shown in Table 2. In the after transport/before calving period, 8.57% of Brown Swiss and 9.57% of Simmental cows were diagnosed various diseases. While there was no statistically significant difference between Brown Swiss and Simmental cows in terms of disease incidence, the positive response of sick cows to treatment was higher in Simmental cows (81.48%) and this was statistically significant ( $P < 0,05$ ). The overall treatment success rate was 16.67% for Brown Swiss.

In the period before calving, the cows had cases of diarrhea, constipation, pneumonia, lameness. In this period, the treatment of diseases such as cachexia, lameness, diarrhea, constipation and pneumonia had a success rate between 75% and 100%. It was seen that 12 cows, which were imported to the enterprise, were not pregnant or had early abort, and the cows were taken into treatment and re-insemination process. For the treatment of idiopathic infertility problems with unknown origins, treatment success rate was 71.43% for Simmental cows ( $P < 0,05$ ). However, the

treatments for Brown Swiss failed, and the cows were culled.

After calving, diseases of various origins were detected in 75.39% of Brown Swiss and 64.26% of Simmental cows. According to the disease incidence and treatment success rates of Brown Swiss and Simmental cows between their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> calving, the distribution of other diseases (except for other disorders) was statistically insignificant according to breed. While digestive and respiratory system diseases were more common in Simmental cows, Genital diseases, foot diseases and udder diseases were more common in Brown Swiss. However, the differences between breeds were statistically insignificant ( $P>0.05$ ).

After calving, the most common cases were metritis, ovarian cysts, mastitis and cachexia. The rate of cachexia was 13.85% in Brown Swiss and 3.25% in Simmental, which was statistically significant ( $P<0.05$ ). When treatment success rates were evaluated in general, uterine prolapse and uterus abscess cases had the lowest treatment success. Higher treatment success was obtained in treating metritis in Simmental cows ( $P<0.05$ ).

Table 3 indicates the causes of cow mortality and culling before and after calving in the first production year. 10 cows died or were culled before calving, and 54 cows died or were culled after calving due to various reasons. Brown Swiss had more losses before and after calving. Before calving, Brown Swiss cows died or were culled only due to idiopathic infertility, while Simmental cows died or were culled due to diarrhea, constipation, pneumonia, lameness and idiopathic infertility etc. After calving, retentio secundinarium was the only condition that did not cause mortality/culling. For Brown Swiss, mortality/culling due to cachexia had a higher rate compared to Simmental ( $P<0.05$ ). Cachexia is including anorexia in this research. It is looking as a consequence of the loss of appetite metabolic disorders in dairy farm. In postpartum period, some

cows have shown anorexia and debility due to difficult birth. This status can cause the cows to weaken over time.

## DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION

The imported Brown Swiss and Simmental cows had a disease ratio of 9.38% before calving, and the treatment success rate was 70%. Before calving, Simmental mostly had digestive problems, and Brown Swiss had genital diseases. Simmental cows had a higher treatment success rate in this period. This can be explained by the less group number of Brown Swiss cows in the enterprise and to be more resistant of Simmental cows to changing environmental conditions and transportation.

The most common diseases encountered by both breeds after 1<sup>st</sup> calving were: Genital diseases (33.33%), udder diseases (12.86%), digestive system problem (5.55%), foot diseases (5.26%), and respiratory system problem (4.09%) respectively. These results were consistent with the findings in literature, which reports that Genital and udder diseases were more common in dairy cattle enterprises (Seegers et al. 1998, Fetrow et al. 2006, Pinedo et al. 2010, Stojic et al. 2013). According to the incidence of specific diseases; the incidence of metritis (13.16%), mastitis (9.06%), ovarian cyst (8.18%), and retentio secundinarium (4.09%) were higher than other diseases.

The annual rates were considered normal for diseases in breeding dairy cattle enterprises are: <3% for retentio secundinarium, 5-25% for metritis, <10% ovarian cysts, 2% for clinic mastitis, <3% for abomasum displacement, <25% for lameness, and <35% for culling (Dinç 2016). Accordingly, while the incidences of metritis and ovarian cysts were reasonable in the enterprise, the incidences of mastitis and retentio secundinarium were above normal.

**Table 1.** Incidence and treatment success of system diseases in Brown Swiss and Simmental cows before and after calving (%)

DISEASES	BEFORE CALVING								AFTER CALVING							
	INCIDENCE				TREATMENT SUCCESS				INCIDENCE				TREATMENT SUCCESS			
	Brown Swiss (N:70)		Simmental (N:282)		Brown Swiss (N:70)		Simmental (N:282)		Brown Swiss (N:65)		Simmental (N:277)		Brown Swiss (N:65)		Simmental (N:277)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Digestive system diseases	0	0	14	4.96	0	0	13	92.86	1	1.54	18	6.50	1	100.00	17	94.44
Respiratory system diseases	1	1.43	4	1.42	1	100.00	3	75.00	1	1.54	13	4.69	1	100.00	9	69.23
Genital system diseases	5	7.14	7	2.48	0	0.00 <sup>b</sup>	5	71.43 <sup>a</sup>	25	38.46	89	32.13	18	72.00	72	80.89
Foot diseases	0	0	1	0.35	0	0	1	100.00	4	6.15	14	5.02	4	100.00	9	64.29
Udder diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	13.85	35	12.64	6	66.67	24	68.57
Other disorders	0	0	1	0.35	0	0	0	0	9	13.85 <sup>a</sup>	9	3.25 <sup>b</sup>	5	55.56	8	88.89
<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8.57</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9.57</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16.67<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>22</b>	<b>81.48<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>49</b>	<b>75.39</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>64.26</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>71.43</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>78.09</b>

**a, b :** Differences between the rates with different letters in the same lines are significant ( $P<0,05$ ).

**Table 2.** Incidence and treatment success of specific diseases in Brown Swiss and Simmental cows before and after calving (%)

DISEASES	BEFORE CALVING								AFTER CALVING							
	INCIDENCE				TREATMENT SUCCESS				INCIDENCE				TREATMENT SUCCESS			
	Brown Swiss		Simmental		Brown Swiss		Simmental		Brown Swiss		Simmental		Brown Swiss		Simmental	
	(N:70)		(N:282)		(N:70)		(N:282)		(N:65)		(N:277)		(N:65)		(N:279)	
n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	
Ketosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	2.53	0	0	7	100.00
Abomasum Displacement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.72	0	0	2	100.00
Diarrhea, Constipation	0	0	14	4.96	0	0	13	92.86	1	1.54	9	3.25	1	100.00	8	88.89
Pneumonia	1	1.43	4	1.42	1	100.00	3	75.00	1	1.54	13	4.69	1	100.00	9	69.23
Uterine prolapse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1.81	0	0	3	60.00
Metritis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	15.38	35	12.63	7	70.00 <sup>b</sup>	34	97.14 <sup>a</sup>
Retentio secundinarium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	6.15	13	4.69	4	100.00	13	100.00
Abscess adherence in uterus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.54	13	4.69	0	0	8	61.54
Ovarian cysts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	13.85	19	6.86	7	77.78	14	73.68
Idiopathic infertility	5	7.14	7	2.48	0	0.00 <sup>b</sup>	5	71.43 <sup>a</sup>	0	0	3	1.08	0	0	0	0
Dystocia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.54	1	0.36	0	0	0	0
Mastitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	10.77	24	8.66	5	71.43	19	79.17
Traumatic injury of udder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.54	5	1.81	1	100.00	5	100.00
Low milk yield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.54	5	1.81	0	0	0	0
Udder Blindness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.36	0	0	0	0
Lameness	0	0	1	0.35	0	0	1	100.00	4	6.15	14	5.05	4	100.00	9	64.29
Cachexia	0	0	1	0.35	0	0	1	100.00	9	13.85 <sup>a</sup>	9	3.25 <sup>b</sup>	5	55.56	8	88.89

a, b : Differences between the rates with different letters in the same lines are significant (P<0,05).

**Table 3.** Causes of culling in Brown Swiss and Simmental cows before and after calving (%)

DISEASES	BEFORE CALVING						AFTER CALVING					
	Brown Swiss		Simmental		Overall		Brown Swiss		Simmental		Overall	
	(N:70)		(N:282)		(N:352)		(N:65)		(N:277)		(N:342)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Diarrhea, constipation	0	0	1	20.10	1	10.00	0	0	1	2.56	1	1.85
Pneumonia	0	0	1	20.00	1	10.00	0	0	4	10.26	4	7.41
Uterine prolapse	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5.13	2	3.70
Metritis	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	20.00	1	2.56	4	7.41
Retentio secundinarium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abscess adherence in uterus	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6.67	5	12.82	6	11.11
Ovarian cysts	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	13.33	5	12.82	7	12.96
Idiopathic infertility	5	100.00	2	40.00	7	70.00	0	0	3	7.69	3	5.56
Dystocia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6.67	1	2.56	2	3.70
Mastitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	13.33	5	12.82	7	12.96
Low milk yield	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6.67	5	12.82	6	11.11
Udder blindness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.56	1	1.85
Lameness	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	12.82	5	9.26
Cachexia	0	0	1	20.00	1	10.00	4	26.60 <sup>a</sup>	1	2.56 <sup>b</sup>	5	9.26
Idiopathic mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6.67	0	0	1	1.85
<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7.14<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1.77<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2.84</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>23.08</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>14.08</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>15.79</b>

a, b : Differences between the rates with different letters in the same lines are significant (P<0,05)

Reasons such as the length of time required for cows' adaptation to machine milking after first calving, lack of experience of milking personal in the newly-established enterprise and failing to show enough sensitivity for milking hygiene might have increased mastitis rate.

Studies made in dairy farms with different breeds and different countries were reported that Retentio secundinarium incidence was 2,6-3%; Metritis incidence was 2,9-32,6%; Cystic Ovarian incidence was 9,6%; Mastitis incidence was 1,3-6,5%; Foot diseases incidence was 2-57,3% (Stanton et al. 2011, Sharifi et al. 2012, Stojic et al. 2013, Scköpke et al. 2013, Ansari-Lari et al. 2013, Hagiya et al. 2014, Koeck et al. 2014, Yin et al., 2014). The main reason for the difference between the reports and the cows after calving studied in this study might describe from the difference in researchers' disease definitions. Since the sub-clinic and clinic cases were assessed together in this study, it might cause having higher values than the sources calculating only clinic cases. In addition, the differences between studies in terms of breed, age, breeding location, breeding system (organic, conventional), season and disease appraisal period might be affected as the other reasons of differences in disease incidences (Seegers et al. 1998, Fetrow et al. 2006, Dinç A. 2016).

In this study, culling rate after calving was 15.79% (including voluntary culling and mortality), and the culling rate due to Genital problems among culled ones was 6.96%. Those values were lower than the overall culling rates reported for different cattle breeds (Sharifi et al. 2012, Ansari-Lari et al. 2013, Ferguson et al. 2013, Stojic et al. 2013). Moreover, the fact that the most common reason for culling in this farm was genital problems such as metritis, cystic ovary and uterus complications etc. was consistent with reports (Seegers et al. 1998, Fetrow et al. 2006, Pinedo et al. 2010, Stojic et al. 2013). Digestive system problems caused more culling rates in Brown Swiss than Simmental cattle.

Difficulties experienced in the preparation and implementation of feed and ration protocols in the cattle breeding enterprise, which has started production for the first time, and also the lack of experience of the animal care workers, who worked in the farm and had a high turnover rate, might have increased the culling rates. The higher culling rates of Brown Swiss cows before and after calving shows the difference in the adaptation capacities of cattle breeds.

When study results are assessed together, the imported all cows had disease incidences of 9.38% before calving, and the treatment success rate was 70%. Before calving, the most common diseases were digestive and Genital diseases. The success rate in

treating diseases was higher for Simmental cows. The overall disease and culling incidences according to health parameters at the first production year of Simmental cows was equal or below the targeted values, which indicates that Simmental cows were higher adaptability than Brown Swiss cows in West Anatolia region of Turkey. These findings shows that Brown Swiss cows at the first production year are need to care under careful and attentive breeding and health program than Simmentals in this region.

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## An Assessment About The History of The Turkish Veterinary Medical Association Chamber of Veterinarian for Afyonkarahisar

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### ABSTRACT

The first chambers of veterinarian became operative in Turkey after the enactment of Law number 6343 in 1954. Chambers of veterinarian are tasked with ensuring that the relevant professional legislation is duly applied. This study has been carried out to provide information about the historical development of the Turkish Veterinary Medical Association Chamber of Veterinarian for Afyonkarahisar Region (Afyonkarahisar CV). The study material is comprised of first hand documents obtained from the Afyonkarahisar CV Archive and the Turkish Veterinary Medical Association Archive and the relevant material has been assessed with the retrospective method used in historical research. Afyonkarahisar CV became operable in 1968. During its historical development process, the chamber has held meetings in search of solutions for professional problems, decision making and organized various training programs. It has been concluded that Afyonkarahisar CV is responsible for positive contributions to the professional development of veterinary medicine in Turkey.

**Keywords:** The Chamber of Veterinarian for Afyonkarahisar, The Turkish Veterinary Medical Association, History of Veterinary Medicine.

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### Türk Veteriner Hekimleri Birliđi Afyonkarahisar Veteriner Hekimler Odasının Tarihi Hakkında Bir Deđerlendirme

#### ÖZ

Türkiye’de ilk veteriner hekim odaları 6343 sayılı Kanunun yürürlüğe girmesinden sonra 1954’te faaliyete geçirildi . Veteriner hekim odaları meslekle ilgili mevzuatın geređi gibi uygulanmasını sağlamakla yükümlüdürler. Bu çalışma Türk Veteriner Hekimleri Birliđi Afyonkarahisar Veteriner Hekimler Odası (Afyonkarahisar VHO)’nın tarihi gelişimi hakkında bilgi vermek amacı ile yapıldı. Çalışmanın materyalini Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi ve Türk Veteriner Hekimleri Birliđi Arşivinden elde edilen ilk elden belgeler oluşturdu ve söz konusu materyal, tarih araştırmalarında kullanılan retrospektif yöntemle deđerlendirildi. Afyonkarahisar VHO’nun 1968’de faaliyete geçtiđi saptandı. Tarihi gelişim süreci içerisinde oda tarafından mesleki sorunlara çözüm yollarının arandıđı toplantıların kararlaştırıldıđı ve çeşitli eğitim programlarının düzenlendiđi belirlendi. Afyonkarahisar VHO’nun Türkiye’de veteriner hekimliđi mesleğinin gelişimine olumlu katkılarda bulunduđu sonucuna varıldı.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Afyonkarahisar Veteriner Hekimler Odası, Türk Veteriner Hekimleri Birliđi, Veteriner Hekimliđi Tarihi.

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## GİRİŞ

Türk Veteriner Hekimleri Birliği (TVHB) 6343 sayılı Kanunla kurulmuş olan ve veteriner hekimliği mesleğinin Türkiye çıkarlarına en faydalı biçimde uygulanmasını sağlama, veteriner hekimlerin maddi ve manevi hak ve yararlarını koruma gibi görevleri bulunan kamu kurumu niteliğinde bir meslek kuruluşudur<sup>1</sup>. TVHB'yi oluşturan organlardan biri olan veteriner hekim odalarının ilk olanlarına 1954'te işlerlik kazandırıldı<sup>2</sup>. Veteriner hekim odaları, sınırları içinde en az 30 veteriner hekim bulunan illerde ya da bölgelerde kurulmaktadır. Odalar sahip oldukları genel kurul, yönetim kurulu, denetleme kurulu ve haysiyet divanı olmak üzere dört organ aracılığıyla meslekle ilgili mevzuatın gereği gibi uygulanmasını sağlamaya yönelik çalışmalarda bulunmaktadır<sup>3</sup>.

Günümüzde Türkiye'de faaliyet gösteren 56 veteriner hekim odasından sekizinin Ege Bölgesinde bulunduğu ve TVHB İzmir Veteriner Hekimler Odası (İzmir VHO)'ndan (1954) sonra TVHB Afyonkarahisar Veteriner Hekimler Odası (Afyonkarahisar VHO)'nın bölgede kurulan ikinci oda olduğu belirlendi<sup>4</sup>.

Türkiye'deki veteriner hekim odalarının tarihi konusunda TVHB Samsun-Sinop Bölgesi Veteriner Hekimler Odası (Samsun-Sinop VHO) (Sanal ve Melikoğlu Gölcü 2014) ve TVHB Kars Bölgesi Veteriner Hekimleri Odası (Kars VHO) (Kızıltepe 2017) hakkında birer adet bilimsel yayına rastlandı. Yapılan incelemelerde Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun 1968-1975 yıllarına ait herhangi bir evraka rastlanamadı. Bu araştırma Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun tarihsel gelişimi hakkında bilgi vermek amacı ile yapıldı.

## MATERYAL VE METOT

Çalışmanın materyalini Resmi Gazete Arşivi, TVHB Arşivi ve Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivinden sağlanan ilk elden belgeler oluşturdu. Ayrıca konuyla ilgili literatürden faydalandı. Orijinal belgelerin küneleri dipnotlar halinde gösterildi. Mevcut materyal tarih araştırmalarında kullanılan retrospektif yöntem ile değerlendirildi.

## BULGULAR

Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun 1968'de kurulduğu ve ilk oda yönetim kurulu başkanının Mehmet Eroğlu olduğu (1968-1969) belirlendi. Daha sonra sırası ile Yakup Hamza Çebi (1969-1970), Mehmet Eroğlu (1970-1971, 1971-1972), Abdullah Kardan (1972-1973), Süleyman Özkan (1973-1974) ve Sedat Öncel'in (1974-1975, 1975-1976) odaya başkanlık yaptıkları saptandı<sup>5,6</sup>. Günümüze kadar seçilmiş 34

oda yönetim kurulu başkanı arasında hiç kadın veteriner hekimin bulunmadığı ve toplam yönetim kurulu üyeleri arasında bir kadın üyenin sadece bir dönem yer aldığı ve odanın diğer organlarında hiç kadın bulunmadığı belirlendi. Afyonkarahisar VHO organlarına seçilmiş veteriner hekimlerin isimleri Tablo 1-4'te sunuldu<sup>7</sup>.

Resmi evraklarda odanın isminin 1976'dan itibaren "Afyon Bölgesi Veteriner Hekimler Odası" biçiminde yazıldığı<sup>8</sup> ve 1977'de odanın sorumluluk alanında Afyonkarahisar, Antalya, Burdur, Isparta ve Uşak illerinin bulunduğu tespit edildi<sup>9</sup>. Antalya'nın 1978, Burdur'un 1992<sup>10</sup>, Isparta'nın 19. ile 20. dönem genel kurulları arasındaki süreçte<sup>11</sup>, Uşak'ın ise 1998'de Afyonkarahisar VHO'dan ayrıldığı<sup>12,13</sup> ve bundan sonra odanın isminin "Afyon Veteriner Hekimler Odası" biçiminde, 2006'dan itibaren ise "Afyonkarahisar Veteriner Hekimler Odası" biçiminde yazıldığı tespit edildi<sup>14</sup>.

Antalya'da 30 Eylül 1976'da gerçekleşen genel kurul sonrasında Antalya Veteriner İşleri Baş Müdürü Sedat Öncel'den<sup>15</sup> boşalan oda başkanlığına Afyonkarahisar Veteriner İşleri Müdürü Necdet Demir'in gelmesinden sonra oda adresinin Afyonkarahisar Veteriner İşleri Müdürlüğü olduğu<sup>16</sup> ve 1979'da söz konusu müdürlüğün bir odasında il dışından gelen oda üyelerinin barınması için bir misafirhane kurulduğu saptandı<sup>17,18</sup>. Veteriner Bölge Sağlık Kontrol Laboratuvar Müdürlüğü'nün yeni binasına taşınmasından sonra eski binasının uygun olan odalarından bazılarının Afyonkarahisar VHO'ya lokal ve misafirhane olarak ayrıldığı belirlendi<sup>19</sup>. Söz konusu misafirhanenin 1985'te kapatıldığı<sup>20</sup> ve 2005 yılında oda için Vakıflar Müdürlüğünde bir büro kiralanmasına karar verildiği<sup>21</sup> ve oda adresinin 3. Vakıf İş Hanı kat: 6, no: 42 olduğu saptandı<sup>22</sup>. Günümüzde ise Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun 2013'te satın alınan Çetinkaya mahallesi Uydukent İş Merkezindeki 22 no'lu dairede faaliyet gösterdiği belirlendi<sup>23,24</sup>.

<sup>7</sup>1976-2016 genel kurul seçim tutanakları. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>8</sup>Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>9</sup>1977-1978 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>10</sup>Bkz: Dipnot 2.

<sup>11</sup>1992-1994 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>12</sup>23/03/1998 tarih ve 20nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>13</sup>21/08/1998 tarih ve 30 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>14</sup>27/09/2006 tarihli genel kurul seçim tutanağı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>15</sup>1976-1977 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>16</sup>Bkz: dipnot 8

<sup>17</sup>22/01/1979 tarih ve 8 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>18</sup>12/03/1979 tarih ve 11 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>19</sup>1980-1981 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>20</sup>13/05/1985 tarih ve 9 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>21</sup>15/02/2005 tarih ve 35 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>22</sup>03/11/2013 tarihli yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>23</sup>27/09/2013 tarihli yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>24</sup>30/09/2013 tarihli yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>1</sup>09/03/1954 tarihli ve 6343 sayılı Veteriner Hekimliği Mesleğinin İcrasına, Türk Veteriner Hekimleri Birliği ile Odalarının Teşekkül Tarzına ve Göreceği İşlere Dair Kanun, 18/03/1954 tarihli ve 8661 sayılı Resmî Gazete.

<sup>2</sup>TVHB Arşiv Belgeleri (1954-2018).

<sup>3</sup>Türk Veteriner Hekimleri Birliği Hizmetlerinin Yürütülmesine İlişkin Uygulama Yönetmeliği, 13/09/2006 tarihli 26288 sayılı Resmî Gazete.

<sup>4</sup>Bkz: Dipnot 2.

<sup>5</sup>23/01/1985 tarih ve 73/300 nolu gelen evrak. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>6</sup>31/01/1985 tarih ve 19 nolu giden evrak. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

**Tablo 1: Afyonkarahisar VHO Yönetim Kurulu (1976-2016)**  
**Table 1: Afyonkarahisar VHO Executive Board (1976-2016)**

<b>Dönem</b>	<b>Başkan</b>	<b>Sekretar</b>	<b>Muhasip</b>	<b>Üye</b>	<b>Üye</b>
1976-1977	Necdet Demir	O. Nuri Serdaroğlu	Semai Çelebi	Erol Çelebi	Mehmet Ayalp
1977-1978	Necdet Demir	O. Nuri Serdaroğlu	Hüseyin Kurtulmuş	Hasan Sarıbaş ↑	Semai Çelebi
1978-1979	Necdet Demir	O. Nuri Serdaroğlu	Semai Çelebi	Aydın Tuncer	Rıfat Açıkgöz
1979-1980	Necdet Demir	O. Nuri Serdaroğlu	Semai Çelebi	Mehmet Çakırgöz	Aydın Tuncer
1980-1981	Necdet Demir	O. Nuri Serdaroğlu	Semai Çelebi	Mehmet Çakırgöz	Ramazan Şimşek
1981-1982	Necdet Demir	Rıfat Açıkgöz	Ramazan Şimşek	Mehmet Çakırgöz	Hasan Aytekin
1982-1984	Necdet Demir	Düzali Karataş	Ramazan Şimşek	Ümit Ülker	Ali Ünsoy ↑
1984-1986	Necdet Demir	Hüsamettin Öner	Bekir Aslan	Cengiz Tan	Hamza Akalın
	Bekir Aslan ↑		Ramazan Şimşek ↑	Hüseyin Tan ↑	Baki Uçman
1986-1988	Bekir Aslan	Hüsamettin Öner	Semai Çelebi	Hüseyin Tan	O. Nuri Serdaroğlu
	Hüsamettin Öner ↑	Semai Çelebi ↑	Hüseyin Tan ↑	Düzali Karataş ↑	
1988-1990	Semai Çelebi	Ali Ünsoy	Şükrü Şap	Ümit Ülker	O. Nuri Serdaroğlu
				Halil Kalınbaçoğlu ↑	
1990-1992	Semai Çelebi	O. Şükrü Aksu	Mehmet Çelik	Mehmet Çakırgöz	Ali Ünsoy
1992-1994	Ali Ünsoy	O. Şükrü Aksu	Bekir Aslan	Mehmet Çakırgöz	Semai Çelebi
1994-1996	Bekir Aslan	M. Azmi Gökteke	Halil Kalınbaçoğlu	Beyazıt Yılmaz	Semai Çelebi
				Rıza Avcı ↑	
1996-1998	O. Şükrü Aksu	Şiar Ayhan	M. Azmi Gökteke	Mehmet Çelik	Mahmut Salman
1998-2000	Y. Selim Kızıltepe	Hakan Gökberber	Sebahattin Doğantaş	Kadir Ekin	Recep Aslan
		Sebahattin Doğantaş ↑	Hakan Gökberber ↑		
2000-2002	H. Aziz Toker	Hakan Gökberber	Şükrü Şap	Hulusi Tütüncü	O. Şükrü Aksu
2002-2004	H. Aziz Toker	Hakan Gökberber	A. Kadir Şahin	Halil Kalınbaçoğlu	Levent Demirbaş
2004-2006	Fatih M. Birdane	Zekeriya Erdurmuş	Nuri Gümüş	Türkan İlhan	Celalettin Çankaya
2006-2008	Fatih M. Birdane	Zekeriya Erdurmuş	Nuri Gümüş	H. Ahmet Çelik	Hulusi Tütüncü
2008-2010	Fatih M. Birdane	Zekeriya Erdurmuş	Nuri Gümüş	H. Ahmet Çelik	Hulusi Tütüncü
2010-2012	Fatih M. Birdane	Ö. Buğrahan Solmaz	Nuri Gümüş	H. Ahmet Çelik	Hulusi Tütüncü
2012-2014	Fatih M. Birdane	Ö. Buğrahan Solmaz	Nuri Gümüş	H. Ahmet Çelik	Hulusi Tütüncü
2014-2016	Fatih M. Birdane	Hulusi Tütüncü	Nuri Gümüş	H. Ahmet Çelik	Ö. Buğrahan Solmaz
2016-2018	Fatih M. Birdane	Hulusi Tütüncü	Nuri Gümüş	H. Ahmet Çelik	Ö. Buğrahan Solmaz

↑ Görevinden ayrılmış olan bir üst satırdaki üyenin yerine atanmış üye

**Tablo 2: Afyonkarahisar VHO Haysiyet Divanı (1976-2016)**

**Table 2: Afyonkarahisar VHO Discipline Board (1976-2016)**

Dönem	Üyeler	
1976-1977	—	—
1977-1978	Süleyman Özkan	Ali Ünsoy
1978-1979	Süleyman Özkan	Ali Ünsoy
1979-1980	—	—
1980-1981	Basri Küçüközdemir	Ali Ünsoy
1981-1982	İsmet Kutlual	Ali Ünsoy
1982-1984	Semai Çelebi	Ali Ünsoy
1984-1986	Semai Çelebi	Cengiz Tan
1986-1988	Semai Çelebi	Baki Uçman
1988-1990	Semai Çelebi	Baki Uçman
1990-1992	Mehmet Çelik	Ali Kutver
1992-1994	Nevzat Ercan	Rıza Aşar
1994-1996	Mehmet Çakırgöz	İhsan Karakadıoğlu
1996-1998	Mehmet Çakırgöz	Semai Çelebi
1998-2000	Semai Çelebi	Hulusi Tütüncü
2000-2002	Mehmet Çakırgöz	Nevzat Erkan
2002-2004	Mehmet Çakırgöz	Mustafa Tekerli
2004-2006	İsmail Türkmenoğlu	İsmail Kaynar
2006-2008	İsmail Türkmenoğlu	Hakan Gökberber
2008-2010	İsmail Türkmenoğlu	M. Fehmi Çağır
2010-2012	İsmail Türkmenoğlu	Hakan Gökberber
2012-2014	İsmail Türkmenoğlu	Hakan Gökberber
2014-2016	İsmail Türkmenoğlu	Erkan Acar
2016-2018	İsmail Türkmenoğlu	Erkan Acar
—	Üyenin ismine ulaşılamamıştır.	

**Tablo 3: Afyonkarahisar VHO Büyük Kongre Delegeleri (1976-2016)**  
**Table 3: Afyonkarahisar VHO Grand Congress Delegates (1976-2016)**

Dönem	Üyeler
1976-1977	Necdet Demir Hasan Sarıbaş
1977-1978	Ethem Edincikli Sami Tekin
1978-1979	Basri Küçüközdemir Ali Yancı
1979-1980	—
1980-1981	Ali Ünsoy Necdet Demir
1981-1982	Hamza Akalın Necdet Demir
1982-1984	Ali Ünsoy Mehmet Çakırgöz Baki Uçman
1984-1986	Hamza Akalın Necdet Demir
1986-1988	Hüsamettin Öner Yalçın Ünsal
1988-1990	Hüsamettin Öner Ali Ünsoy
1990-1992	Mehmet Çakırgöz Bekir Aslan
1992-1994	Mehmet Çakırgöz Bekir Aslan
1994-1996	Y. Selim Kızıltepe Kadir Ekin
1996-1998	Sebahattin Eronat Kadir Ekin
1998-2000	Mustafa Tekerli Cemil Tosun
2000-2002	Mustafa Tekerli Cemil Tosun
2002-2004	Seçkin Küçükerdem Cemil Tosun
2004-2006	Seçkin Küçükerdem Cemil Tosun
2006-2008	Vural Özdemir Cemil Tosun
2008-2010	Ahmet Karakoç İsmail Atlı
2010-2012	Zekeriya Erdurmuş İsmail Atlı
2012-2014	M. Nevzat Algan İsmail Atlı
2014-2016	Mahmut Salman İsmail Atlı
2016-2018	Mahmut Salman İsmail Atlı

— Üyenin ismine ulaşılamamıştır.

**Tablo 4: Afyonkarahisar VHO Denetleme Kurulu (1976-2018)**  
**Table 4: Afyonkarahisar VHO Inspection Board (1976-2018)**

Dönem	Üyeler	
1976-1977	—	—
1977-1978	Baki Uçman	Muhsin Uysal
1978-1979	Baki Uçman	Muhsin Uysal
1979-1980	—	—
1980-1981	Baki Uçman	Hamza Akalın
1981-1982	Baki Uçman	Hamza Akalın
1982-1984	Baki Uçman	Mehmet Çakırgöz
1984-1986	Baki Uçman	Mehmet Çakırgöz
1986-1988	Semai Çelebi	Hüseyin Tan
1988-1990	Bekir Aslan	Halil Kalınbaçoğlu
1990-1992	Hakan Boyar	Halil Kalınbaçoğlu
1992-1994	O. Şükrü Aksu	Erol Ünsoy
1994-1996	Sabahattin Doğantaş	Ali Ünsoy
1996-1998	Hakan Gökberber	Ahmet Karakoç
1998-2000	Hakan Karakoç	Azmi Gökteke
2000-2002	Ahmet Karakoç	Ali Kutver
2002-2004	Ahmet Karakoç	Ümit Dağdeviren
2004-2006	Turgut Çivri	A. Kadir Şahan
2006-2008	Zafer Avcı	A. Kadir Şahan
2008-2010	Zafer Avcı	A. Kadir Şahan
2010-2012	Zafer Avcı	A. Kadir Şahan
2012-2014	Zafer Avcı	A. Kadir Şahan
2014-2016	Numan Altıntaş	Mustafa Aslan
2016-2018	Numan Altıntaş	Mustafa Aslan
— Üyenin ismine ulaşılamamıştır.		

□

05 Ağustos 1983'te yayınlanan 68 sayılı Kanun Hükmünde Kararname (KHK)<sup>25</sup> ile veteriner hekim odalarının genel kurullarının 31 Ekim 1983 tarihine kadar yapılması hükme bağlanırken Sıkı Yönetim Koordinasyon Kurulu kararı ile<sup>26</sup> bu maddenin işletilmesinin durdurulduğu ve 16 Eylül 1983'te yayınlanan 86 sayılı KHK<sup>27</sup> le veteriner hekim odalarının genel kurullarının 01 Aralık 1983'ten itibaren üç ay içerisinde yapılmasının hükme bağlandığı saptandı. Yukarıdaki nedenlerle Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun her yıl Eylül ayında gerçekleştirdiği olağan genel kurulun 1983'te yapılmadığı 22 Ocak 1984'te yapıldığı belirlendi<sup>28</sup>.

<sup>25</sup> 9/3/1954 Tarih ve 6343 Sayılı Veteriner Hekimliği Mesleğinin İcrasına, Veteriner Hekimleri Birliği ile Odalarının Teşekkül Tarzına ve Göreceği İşlere Dair Kanunun Bazı Maddelerinin Değiştirilmesi ve Bu Kanuna Bazı Maddeler Ekleneceği Hakkında 1/6/1983 Tarihli ve 68 Sayılı Kanun Hükmünde Kararname.05/08/1983 tarih ve 18126 sayılı Resmî Gazete.

<sup>26</sup> TVHB 30. büyük kongre tutanağı (1984). TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>27</sup> 9/3/1954 Tarih ve 6343 Sayılı Veteriner Hekimliği Mesleğinin İcrasına, Veteriner Hekimleri Birliği ile Odalarının Teşekkül Tarzına ve Göreceği İşlere Dair Kanunun Bazı Maddelerinin Değiştirilmesi ve Bu Kanuna Bazı Maddeler Ekleneceği Hakkında 1/6/1983 Tarihli ve 68 Sayılı Kanun Hükmünde Kararname. Bazı Hükümleri ile 6343 Sayılı Kanun'un Bazı Hükümlerinin Değiştirilmesine Dair 6/9/1983 Tarihli 86 Sayılı Kanun Hükmünde Kararname. 16.09.1983 tarih ve 18167 sayılı Resmî Gazete.

<sup>28</sup> 1982-1984 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

Ayrıca mevzuatta yapılan değişikliklerle<sup>29</sup> odaların olağan genel kurullarının 1984'ten itibaren iki yılda bir yapılmaya başlandığı tespit edildi. Kamuda çalışan veteriner hekimlerin odaya üye olma mecburiyetinin 68 sayılı KHK<sup>30</sup> ile kaldırılmasının hemen ardından Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun üye sayısının 63'den 49'a düştüğü tespit edildi<sup>31</sup>. Odaya kayıtlı üye sayısının 18 Temmuz 2018 tarihi itibarı ile 431 olduğu belirlendi<sup>32</sup>. Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun, ilaç satışı konusunda üyeleri arasındaki haksız rekabeti önlemek amacı ile Ocak 2003'te Afyonkarahisar Eczacılar Odası Başkanlığı ile birlikte içeriğini; her iki odanın da ilaç satışı konusunda ticari ahlak ve meslek etiği çerçevesinde haksız rekabeti önleyici tedbirleri alması, üyelere protokolü uygulayacaklarına dair imza alınması; üyelerin aylık olarak belirlenecek fiyat listesine uyması ve listenin altında ücret alanlara yaptırım uygulanmasının oluşturduğu bir protokol

<sup>29</sup> 9/3/1954 Tarih ve 6343 Sayılı Veteriner Hekimliği Mesleğinin İcrasına, Veteriner Hekimleri Birliği ile Odalarının Teşekkül Tarzına ve Göreceği İşlere Dair Kanunun Bazı Maddelerinin Değiştirilmesi ve Bu Kanuna Bazı Maddeler Ekleneceği Hakkında 1/6/1983 Tarihli ve 68 Sayılı Kanun Hükmünde Kararname. Bazı Hükümleri ile 6343 Sayılı Kanun'un Bazı Hükümlerinin Değiştirilmesine Dair 6/9/1983 Tarihli 86 Sayılı Kanun Hükmünde Kararname. Bazı Hükümlerinin Değiştirilerek Kabulü Hakkında Kanun (2993 Sayılı Kanun).07.04. 1984 tarih ve 18365 sayılı Resmî Gazete.

<sup>30</sup> Bkz: dipnot: 25

<sup>31</sup> Bkz: dipnot: 28.

<sup>32</sup> 18/07/2018 tarihli oda üye kayıt listesi. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

düzenledikleri tespit edildi<sup>33</sup>. Protokol çerçevesinde eczane ve veteriner hekim muayenehanelerini denetlemek için Afyonkarahisar VHO yönetim kurulundan da iki üyenin görevlendirildiği bir komisyonun oluşturulduğu<sup>34</sup> ancak Rekabet Kurulunun odaya yapmış olduğu tebligat ile söz konusu ilaç fiyat tespit listelerinin uygulamadan kaldırıldığı saptandı<sup>35</sup>.

Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun Merkez Konseyden, diğer odalardan ve çeşitli yerlerden gelen yazıları üyelerine ileterek çeşitli konularda onların görüş ve düşüncelerini aldığı<sup>36</sup> ve odanın da gerekli zaman ve konularda Bakanlık ve Merkez Konseye görüş bildirdiği saptandı<sup>37,38</sup>. Pek çok dönemde (1977-1992) odaya gelir sağlamak amacı ile bağış makbuzları bastırıldığı belirlendi<sup>39</sup>. 6343 sayılı Kanun'un 18. Maddesi, 2993 sayılı Kanun'un 19. Maddesi<sup>40</sup> ile yürürlükten kaldırılana kadar ikinci görev almak için odaya başvuran veteriner hekimlerin onay işlemlerinin yapıldığı tespit edildi<sup>41,42,43</sup>. Odada rutin olarak; üyelerin kayıt ve nakil işlemlerinin yapıldığı, asgari ücret tarifnamesinin düzenlendiği ve üyelerle mesleki sorunların görüşülüp tartışıldığı toplantıların kararlaştırıldığı, odanın, il meclis toplantılarında temsil edildiği, günün ve konunun gerektirdiği durumlarda dönemin ilgili siyasi ve mesleki şahıslarına tebrik ya da konu ile ilgilenilmesi hususunda telgraflar çekildiği, yazılar yazıldığı ve veteriner hekimliğinin kuruluş yıl dönümünde ve 2000 yılından itibaren Dünya Veteriner Hekimler gününde üyelerin aileleri ile birlikte katıldıkları kutlama programları düzenlendiği saptandı<sup>44,45</sup>.

Afyonkarahisar VHO tarihinden tespit edilen bazı önemli faaliyetler; müsteşarlık seviyesinde yeni bir kuruluşa toplanma talebinin devlet büyüklerine telgrafla pek çok kez iletilmesi (1979-1980 dönemi)<sup>46</sup>, Merkez Konseye Veteriner Hekimler Yüksek Danışma Kurulunun kurulması önerisinin sunulması (1980-1981 dönemi)<sup>47</sup>, üyelerle daha iyi iletişim kurabilmek için Burdur, Isparta ve Uşak illerinde birer temsilci görevlendirilmesi (1988-1990 dönemi)<sup>48</sup>, devlet büyüklerine Hayvancılık Bakanlığının kurulması için telgraflar çekilmesi (1990-1992

dönemi)<sup>49</sup>, Hayvancılık ve Su Ürünleri Müsteşarlığı kurulması talebinin devlet büyüklerine iletilmesi, dönemin Tarım ve Köy İşleri Bakanının ziyaret edilerek (16/03/1996) mesleki sorunların dile getirilmesi (1994-1996 dönemi)<sup>50</sup>, çeşitli tarihlerde suni tohumlama kursları (4-8/10/2004<sup>51</sup>, 24-28/07/2006<sup>52</sup>), akredite veteriner hekim kursları (11-13/03/2006, 18-20/03/2006)<sup>53</sup> ve hizmet içi eğitim kursları düzenlenmesi (18/11/2011<sup>54</sup>, 19-21/12/2011<sup>55</sup>, 14-15/06/2012<sup>56</sup>, 23-24/12/2012<sup>57</sup>) olarak tespit edildi.

Afyonkarahisar VHO'da değerlendirilen toplam beş disiplin vakasına rastlandı<sup>58,59,60,61</sup> ve odanın 1976'dan günümüze kadar herhangi bir yayın organının bulunmadığı belirlendi<sup>62</sup>.

## TARTIŞMA VE SONUÇ

TVHB'nin tarihinin incelendiği bir araştırmada (Melikoğlu ve Kızıltepe 2008) TVHB arşivinin çok yetersiz olduğunun; belirlendiği benzer şekilde bu çalışmada da hem TVHB Arşivi hem de Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivinde oda ile ilgili 1968-1975 yıllarına ait bir evraka rastlanılmadığı, bu durumun ise söz konusu arşivler açısından bir eksiklik olduğu dolayısı ile daha düzenli ve tam bir arşivin tutulması gerektiği ileri sürülebilir.

Samsun-Sinop VHO'da seçilmiş (1969-2012) toplam 32 (Sanal ve Melikoğlu Gölçü 2014) ve Kars VHO'da seçilmiş (1989-2017) toplam 15 oda yönetim kurulu başkanı (Kızıltepe 2017) arasında hiç kadın veteriner hekimin bulunmadığı benzer şekilde Afyonkarahisar VHO'da da seçilmiş (1968-2016) 34 başkan arasında hiç kadın bulunmadığı<sup>63</sup>, (Tablo 1-4) bu durumun ise kadınların çeşitli nedenlerle oda başkanlığına seçilmediğini gösterdiği ileri sürülebilir. Diğer veteriner hekim odalarında kadınların oda başkanı olma durumları yapılacak çalışmalarla ortaya çıkarılabilir.

Çeşitli tarihlerde Afyonkarahisar VHO tarafından devlet bünyesinde veteriner hekimliğe daha özelleşmiş bir birimin kurulması talebinin pek çok kez devlet büyüklerine iletilmesinin, mesleği geliştirme çabası açısından önemli olduğu söylenebilir<sup>64</sup>.

Özen ve arkadaşları yapmış oldukları bir araştırmada (Özen ve ark. 2010) veteriner hekimlerin ilaç satış yetkisinin en olumsuz yönünün haksız rekabet olduğu tespit etmişlerdir Rekabet Kurulunun tebliği ile

<sup>33</sup> 21/01/2003 tarih ve 7 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>34</sup> 27/01/2003 tarih ve 8 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>35</sup> 03/11/2003 tarih ve 17 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>36</sup> 1977-1981 yönetim kurulu çalışma raporları. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>37</sup> 08/03/1991 tarih ve 22 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>38</sup> 07/03/2007 tarih ve 756 sayılı gelen evrak. TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>39</sup> 1977-1992 yönetim kurulu çalışma raporları. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>40</sup> Bkz: dipnot 29

<sup>41</sup> 05/10/1978 tarih ve 3 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>42</sup> 20/11/1980 tarih ve 5 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>43</sup> 04/10/1982 tarih ve 3 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>44</sup> 1976-2017 yönetim kurulu karar defterleri. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>45</sup> 1976-2000 yönetim kurulu çalışma raporları, 24/09/1977, 05/10/1978, 27/09/1980, 19/09/1981, 18/09/1982; 22/01/1984, 23/09/1990, 20/09/1992, 25/09/1994, 29/09/1996 ve 01/10/2000 tarihli genel kurul belgeleri. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>46</sup> 1979-1980 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu, 27/09/1980 tarihli genel kurul belgeleri. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>47</sup> 1980-1981 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu, 19/09/1981 tarihli genel kurul belgeleri. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>48</sup> 1988-1990 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu, 23/09/1990 tarihli genel kurul belgeleri. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>49</sup> 1990-1992 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu, 20/09/1992 tarihli genel kurul belgeleri. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>50</sup> 1994-1996 dönemi yönetim kurulu çalışma raporu, 29/09/1996 tarihli genel kurul belgeleri. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>51</sup> 01/10/2004 tarih ve 26 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>52</sup> 01/08/2006 tarih ve 70 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>53</sup> 13/02/2006 tarihli 396 sayılı gelen evrak. TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>54</sup> 26/12/2011 tarih ve 90184 nolu gelen evrak. TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>55</sup> 02/01/2012 tarih ve 0700/1338 nolu giden evrak. TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>56</sup> 18/06/2012 tarih ve 2012-130 nolu gelen evrak. TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>57</sup> 25/12/2012 tarih ve 2012-305 sayılı gelen evrak. TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>58</sup> 08/05/1997 tarih ve 9 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>59</sup> 22/07/2014 tarih ve 14 nolu yönetim kurulu kararı. Afyonkarahisar VHO Arşivi.

<sup>60</sup> 10/04/2017 tarih ve 303/177 sayılı giden evrak. TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>61</sup> 20/06/2017 tarih ve 303/295 sayılı giden evrak. TVHB Arşivi.

<sup>62</sup> Bkz: dipnot 8.

<sup>63</sup> Bkz: dipnot 7.

<sup>64</sup> Bkz: dipnot 46,49,50.

sonradan uygulamadan kalkmış da olsa odanın 2003'te Afyonkarahisar Eczacılar Odası ile birlikte ilaç satışı konusunda haksız rekabeti önlemek için düzenledikleri protokol<sup>65</sup> Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun söz konusu sorunun çözümüne yönelik gayret göstermesi açısından olumlu olarak değerlendirilebilir. Samsun-Sinop VHO'da (Sanal ve Melikoğlu Gölcü 2014) ve Kars VHO'da (Kızıltepe 2017) veteriner hekimlere yönelik eğitim programlarının düzenlendiği benzer biçimde bu araştırmada Afyonkarahisar VHO'da da bu programların düzenlendiği ve bu eğitimlerin ise üyelerin mesleki bilgi ve becerilerinin gelişimi açısından olumlu faaliyetler olduğu ifade edilebilir.

Kars VHO'nun yayın organı olan derginin tarihi boyunca (1989-2017) sadece bir sayı yayınlandığı (Kızıltepe 2017), Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun ise tarihi boyunca (1968-2017) hiç yayın faaliyetinin bulunmadığı<sup>66</sup> bu durumun ise oda için bir eksiklik olduğu ileri sürülebilir.

Kızıltepe'nin tez çalışmasında (Kızıltepe 2010) Marmara Bölgesi ve Ege Bölgesinde çalışan serbest veteriner hekimlerle ilgili reklam yapma ve klinik açmadan çalışma ile ilgili deontolojik-etik ihlallere Türkiye'nin diğer bölgelerinden daha sık rastlandığı Tong ve arkadaşlarının araştırmasında (Tong ve ark. 2014) İzmir VHO Haysiyet Divanının 1992-2014 yılları arasında 74 karar aldığı . Afyonkarahisar VHO'da ise 1976-2018 yılları arasında beş disiplin vakasına rastlandığı bu durumun ise İzmir VHO ile kıyaslandığında görece düşük bir rakam olduğu ileri sürülebilir..

Sonuç olarak Afyonkarahisar VHO'nun tarihi gelişim sürecinde, saptanan eksiklikleri bir tarafa sorumluluk bölgesi özelinde mesleğin çıkarlarına ve mesleki sorunların çözümüne yönelik girişimleri ve yapmış olduğu eğitim çalışmaları ile Türkiye'de veteriner hekimliği mesleğinin gelişimine ve dolayısı ile toplum sağlığına katkıda bulunduğu ifade edilebilir.

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<sup>65</sup> Bkz: dipnot 32-34.

<sup>66</sup> Bkz: dipnot 8

## Effect of *Pomegranate Molasses* on Egg Quality Traits During Different Storage Time in Laying Hens

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### ABSTRACT

The present study trial was conducted to investigate the effects of pomegranate molasses on egg quality at different storage periods. A total of 240 Babcock white laying hens (58 weeks old) were divided into 5 groups (n=48) with 8 subgroups having 6 hens in each. Pomegranate molasses was added in the drinking water to experimental groups with 0%, 0.1%, 0.25 %, 0.5%, and 1%, respectively during 4 weeks. At the end of study (30 days), total of 320 eggs were collected randomly and eighty eggs (80) were analyzed at 0 day of storage while other eggs were stored at 4°C temperature for 10, 20 and 30 days. The result reveals that the egg weight, egg shell thickness and albumin index remained non-significant (P>0.05) during the whole trial. Moreover, Haught unit showed positive response in the group B and D at 10 day storage as compared with control group however, it was remained non-significant (P<0.05) at 0, 20 and 30 days of storage. It is concluded that pomgranate mollases has shown positive effect on some egg quality traits during several storage periods 0, 10, 20, 30 days.

**Keywords:** Laying hens, pomgranate mollases, Egg storage, Egg quality triats

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### Yumurta Tavuklarında Nar Ekşisinin Yumurtaların Farklı Depolama Sürelerinde Yumurta Kalitesi Üzerine Etkisi

#### ÖZ

Bu araştırma, yumurta tavuklarında içme suyuna katılan nar ekşisinin, 0, 10, 20 ve 30 günlük sürelerle depolanan yumurtaların bazı kalite özelliklerine etkisini belirlemek amacıyla gerçekleştirilmiştir. Toplam 240 adet 58 haftalık yaşta Babcock beyaz yumurtacı tavuk her birinde 48 adet olmak üzere 5 gruba ayrılmıştır. Deneme grupları ayrıca her birinde 6 adet tavuk bulunan 8 alt gruba ayrılmıştır. Çalışmada deneme grupları içme sularına (A, B, C, D ve E) 4 hafta boyunca sırasıyla %0, %0.1, %0.25, %0.5 ve %1 oranlarında nar ekşisi ilave edilmiştir. Araştırmanın 30. gününde, toplam 320 yumurta gruplardan rastgele toplanmıştır. Toplanan yumurtaların 80 adedi aynı gün analiz edilirken (0. Gün), diğer yumurtalar ise 4 ° C sıcaklıkta 10, 20 ve 30 gün boyunca depolanmıştır. Bu yumurtalardan 80 yumurta 10 gün sonra analiz edilirken, kalan yumurtaların 80 adedi 20. Gün, 80 adedi ise 30 günlük depolamadan sonra analiz edilmiştir. Araştırmada içme sularına nar ekşisi katılan tavukların farklı sürelerle depolanan yumurtaların ağırlıklarının gruplar arası karşılaştırmasında anlamlı farklılıklar görülmemiştir (P> 0.05). İlave olarak, Haugh birimi değeri B ve D gruplarında 10 günlük depolamada kontrol grubuna kıyasla yüksek bulunmuştur. Sonuç olarak, nar ekşisinin 0, 10, 20, 30 günlük sürelerle depolama periyodunda bazı yumurta kalitesi özellikleri üzerinde olumlu etki gösterdiği sonucuna varılmıştır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Yumurta tavuğu, Nar ekşisi, Yumurta depolama, Kalite

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## INTRODUCTION

Poultry is the most important sector in livestock of any country. It is the passion of farmer to supply humankind with pure food including the meat and eggs. Poultry is the foremost widely used and cheaper source of protein. Although science contributed a lot to develop this industry, still there are some limitations in quality. Layer farmers need the better egg production in terms of egg shelf life during storage and its internal quality parameters like yolk height and width, albumin height and width, Egg shell thickness, yolk color and egg weight. The internal quality of eggs is more prone to replenish after they are laid by the layers. There are some factors like age of flock (Williams 1992), genetic factors that play a role in egg quality after storage. Not only these, but there are also some critical and value able parameters like storage time and temperature (Samli et al. 2005) that are noticed for egg quality. Egg quality change is directly related to the carbon dioxide loss through the shell pores in freshly laid eggs during storage (Scott et al. 1971). Egg quality parameters can be controlled and evaluated during different storage times by the dietary supplementation of different plant based products. The internal quality of eggs has more chances to replenish after they are laid by the layers. There is a need to focus on the use of herbs in diet to increase the quality of eggs during and after storage. Many researchers have played role in this field. Many researchers have got positive effects of herbal extracts and oils on performance parameters including egg production and quality (Rahimi et al. 2011, Khan et al. 2012).

Turkey is famous for cultivation and it comes at 4<sup>th</sup> position all over the world (Özkal And Dinç 1993). Aril is an edible part of pomegranate and it is composed of 52% (w/w) of the total fruit mass and 78% juice and 22% seeds. The seeds contain polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA), polyphenols, minerals, sugars, vitamins and polysaccharides (Miguel et al. 2004). Pomegranates are studied as a phytochemical source and used as antifungal and antiviral. It decreases the impacts of paralysis, rectocele, leucorrhoea, menorrhagia, colic, and dysentery (Wu et al. 2016).

Pomegranate juice contains polyphenol antioxidants (ellagic acid and punicalagin) and the antioxidant content of pomegranate juice is among the highest of any foods (Guo et al. 2004). Pomegranate juice contains cyanidin-3-O-glucoside, cyanidin-3,5-di-O-glucoside, delphinidin-3-O-glucoside, delphinidin-3,5-di-O-glucoside, pelargonidin-3-O-glucoside, and pelargonidin-3,5-di-O-glucoside (Lansky et al. 1993). Traditional methods are adapted to make pomegranate molasses. The process of its concentration is done by boiling pomegranate

without adding any sugar or other additives. The procedure of processing involves cleaning, crushing, extraction, filtration, clarification and evaporation in open vessel or under vacuum. There are different types production methods (Ezra et al. 2010, Gunal et al. 2006). The final product is highly nutritive because this is a concentrate and especially the presence of high mineral contents makes it more nutritious. The strong antioxidant activity of it is also important for egg quality and human health. It is anti-carcinogenic and due to its interaction with the process of angiogenesis, circulation, invasion, and tumor cell proliferation, its use is enhanced. Many study trials approved and conducted for the use of pomegranate juice as anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, anti-atherogenic anti-carcinogenic and antimicrobial effects. Its potential against harmful effects of ultraviolet rays and cardiovascular diseases diabetics and cancer has attracted a number of researchers to investigate more (Yılmaz and Usta 2010). Linseed oil with pomegranate juice was used in broilers for 6 weeks and examination of the adipose tissue, fatty acid profiles, blood parameters, liver enzymes, and serum profiles showed an increase in white blood cells for 0.5% and 1.0% dose group and decrease in the cholesterol level for the group being offered 1.5 % pomegranate with linseed oil (Manterys et al. 2016).

According to (Kalida and Jayanty 2010) 500mg/kg of whole pomegranate extract was given to rats in India and anti-depressant effect was noticed in the trial. It has been published that no negative effect was seen on yield parameters after the addition of 5% and 10% levels in drinking water to chicken for one month. (Rahman et al. 2017). Pomegranate seed pulp may be used as potential feed supplement up to 5% for the laying hens and no adverse effect on egg quality and production was reported (Saki et al. 2014c). Pistacia terebinthus seeds at 20 and 40 g kg<sup>-1</sup> supplementation levels could be used to extend the shelf life of eggs without any adverse effect on egg quality (Gultepe 2018).

Pomegranate seed oil is rich in the CLA (conjugated linolic acid) isomer known as punicalic acid and it have been shown that the concentration of punicalic acid in pomegranate seed oil ranges from 45 to 70%. Many researchers have shown that CLA is readily incorporated into egg yolk (Windisch et al. 2008). Commercial table eggs are therefore, used as a vehicle to enhance human nutrition. Many studies have shown that the exogenous use of CLA containing feeds affects the sensory properties and shelf life of the eggs. It improves the texture of egg yolks. Manterys et al. (2016), reported that there was significant increase in the hardness of CLA enriched eggs. The textures of yolks from eggs containing CLA were rubbery and elastic and these yolks were

relatively difficult to brake using an Instron (Ahn et al. 1999).

Keeping in view the above points, the present study was designed to investigate the effect of pomegranate molasses on egg quality traits during storage in laying hens.

### MATERIALS and METHODS

The current study was performed at the Experimental Animal Research farm of Afyon Kocatepe University, Turkey after the approval of the Local Ethics Committee of the faculty of veterinary medicine under approval No: AKÜHADYEK-146-16, on 03-01-2016.

#### Experimental design and management

The present study trial was conducted to investigate the effects of pomegranate molasses on egg quality after storage for different periods. A total of 240 Babcock white laying hens (58 weeks old) were divided into 5 groups (n=48) with 8 subgroups having 6 hens in each. Pomegranate molasses was added in the drinking water to experimental groups with 0 %, 0.1%, 0.25 %, 0.5%, and 1%, respectively during 4 weeks. The 16 hours light and 8 hours dark period was given. In this study all treatment groups were fed the basal diet, which was prepared according to the (National Research Council 1994) recommendation to meet the bird's requirement. (Table.1.0) the diet offered was isocaloric and isonitrogenous.

POM molasses ingredients analyses were performed as a comparative examination regarding the qualitative and quantitative evaluation of phenolic compounds by HPLC in molasses obtained from pomegranate. This method has a good repeatability, since several analyses carried out on the same sample produce a repeatability coefficient of percent variation (CV%) of 7%, which is similar to the values reported by other Authors (Angerosa et al. 1996) (Table.2.0).

#### Data Collection and Analyses

Pomegranate molasses was poured in fresh drinking water on daily basis. A total of 320 eggs were collected at 30th day randomly. 80 eggs were analyzed at the 0 day and remaining were stored at 4°C temperature for 10, 20, 30 days. 80 eggs were analyzed at 10 day and 20 eggs were analyzed after 20 days storage and 30 eggs were analyzed after the 30 day storage. The egg analysis was done at the central laboratory of the concerned university department.

#### Statistics

The model assumptions of normality and homogeneity of variance were examined by Shapiro-Wilk and Levene tests, respectively. The statistical analysis was performed with MedCalc software (MedCalc Software bvba, Ostend, Belgium, version

17.5). One-way ANOVA was used for group comparison followed by Tukey-Kramer for post-hoc. All data were expressed as mean ± SEM. The significance level was considered as  $p < 0.05$ .

### RESULT

The result of the recent study showed that there was no significant effect ( $p > 0.05$ ) on egg weight during the whole study protocol (Table.3.0)

However, the yolk color showed positive response ( $P < 0.05$ ) in groups D and E at 30 day of storage within the groups as compared with control group. In contrast, the yolk color ( $P < 0.05$ ) decreased at 0 and 10th day of storage period between the treatment groups as compared with control group (Table. 4.0)

Haught unit showed positive response in the group B and D at 10 day storage as compared with control group however, it was remained non-significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) at 0, 20 and 30 days of storage (Table. 5.0)

Egg shell thickness remained non-significant ( $p > 0.05$ ) during the whole trial of egg analysis. (Table. 6)

Egg Albumin index was decreased significantly within the group B that was offered 0.25mg/L of pomegranate molasses juice however it was remained non-significant in all groups as compared with control group (Table. 7.0) A significant impact ( $P < 0.05$ ) was seen within all groups at 0, 10, 20, 30 day storage analysis on yolk index however, no positive effect ( $P < 0.05$ ) were observed between the groups at different storage time (Table. 8.0)

**Table 1.** Composition of basal diet

Ingredients	%, as fed basis
Corn	54.90
Vegetable oil	0.34
Sunflower meal (%32 CP) <sup>1</sup>	16.93
Full fat soya	10.00
Soybean meal (%44 CP) <sup>1</sup>	7.39
Limestone	7.87
Dicalcium phosphate	1.73
Common salt	0.40
Vitamin-mineral premix <sup>2</sup>	0.25
L-Lysine HCl	0.10
DL-methionine	0.10
<b>Calculated values</b>	
CP,%	17.00
ME,kcal/kg	2750
Ca	3,71
Av.P	0.38
Na,%	0,20
Met+Sis	0.71
Lysine,%	0.83
Treonin,%	0.61
Triptophane,%	0.20
Linoleic acid,%	2.36

1.Provided per kg of diet: Vitamin A:12.000.000 IU, Vitamin D3:3.000.000IU, Vitamin E:35.000, Vitamin K3:3.500, Vitamin B1:2.750IU, Vitamin B2:5.500IU, Nicotinamid: 30.000IU, Ca-D-Panthotenat:10.000IU, Vitamin B6: 4.000IU, Vitamin B12-15IU, Folic acid:1.000IU, D-Biotin: 50IU, Cholin clorid:150.000IU, Manganese: 80.000mg, Iron: 60.000 mg, Zinc:60.000 mg, Copper:5.000 mg, Iodine:2.000 mg, Cobalt: 500 mg, Selenium: 150 mg, Antioxidant:15.000 mg

**Table 2.** Ingredients of Pomegranate Molasses

Caffeic (ppm)	4240.998
P-coumaric (ppm)	0.799
Cinnamic (ppm)	5.338
2,5 dihydrokci (ppm)	819.052
Epicatechin (ppm)	1356.114
Ellagic (ppm)	883.340
Acetic acid (ppm)	273.60
Propoinic acid (ppm)	624.72
Butyric acid (ppm)	5417.97
<b>Composition of Molasses (Anonymous, 2001)</b>	
Water Soluble Dry Matter, %, minimum	68.0
Titration acidity (as citric acid), %, minimum	7.5
PH	3.0
HMF, mg/100g, maximum	50

**Table 3.** Effect of Pomegranate molasses on egg weight at 0, 10, 20 and 30 days of storage

Group	0 <sup>th</sup> day		10 <sup>th</sup> day		20 <sup>th</sup> day		30 <sup>th</sup> day		p
	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	
A	67.991	1.4814	66.390	1.4364	69.089	1.8174	66.670	1.4408	0.578
B	65.704	1.9121	65.723	1.6124	65.733	1.5049	67.216	1.5188	0.887
C	66.684	1.8620	67.505	2.0790	65.704	1.9736	64.489	1.8607	0.692
D	68.809	1.4948	62.675	1.5095	66.643	1.5735	66.899	1.7489	0.380
E	68.904	1.0693	65.636	1.5709	65.063	1.3452	65.638	1.4265	0.225
<i>P</i>	0.474		0.346		0.497		0.705		

**Table 4.** Effect of Pomegranate molasses on yolk color at 0, 10, 20 and 30 days of storage

Group	0 <sup>th</sup> day		10 <sup>th</sup> day		20 <sup>th</sup> day		30 <sup>th</sup> day		p
	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	
A	12.750 <sup>ab</sup>	0.2189	13.344 <sup>b</sup>	0.2027	12.656	0.1921	13.187	0.1700	0.318
B	12.125 <sup>a</sup>	0.3461	12.969 <sup>ab</sup>	0.1736	12.875	0.1963	12.875	0.3146	0.084
C	12.406 <sup>ab</sup>	0.2709	13.000 <sup>ab</sup>	0.2092	12.781	0.2457	12.906	0.3169	0.406
D	13.219 <sup>Bb</sup>	0.1706	12.281 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.1644	13.031 <sup>AB</sup>	0.2014	13.469 <sup>B</sup>	0.1852	<b>0.001</b>
E	12.656 <sup>Aab</sup>	0.1563	12.562 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.1819	13.187 <sup>B</sup>	0.1760	13.594 <sup>B</sup>	0.1838	<b>0.001</b>
<i>P</i>	<b>0.028</b>		<b>0.002</b>		0.394		0.129		

**Table 5.** Effect of Pomegranate molasses on Haugh Unit at 0, 10, 20 and 30 days of storage

Group	0 <sup>th</sup> day		10 <sup>th</sup> day		20 <sup>th</sup> day		30 <sup>th</sup> day		p
	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	
A	86.613	2.2182	83.175 <sup>ab</sup>	2.4428	84.909	1.7575	87.516	1.3208	0.296
B	92.624 <sup>B</sup>	1.4553	85.269 <sup>Aab</sup>	1.7388	85.383 <sup>A</sup>	1.2128	84.769 <sup>A</sup>	1.6554	<b>0.002</b>
C	88.938	1.5555	84.630 <sup>ab</sup>	1.6822	84.315	1.7763	85.633	1.4148	0.129
D	86.968 <sup>AB</sup>	1.8400	88.951 <sup>Bb</sup>	1.6551	82.134 <sup>A</sup>	2.2285	86.814 <sup>AB</sup>	1.4201	<b>0.029</b>
E	86.636	1.9472	79.998 <sup>a</sup>	2.3444	85.725	1.0874	88.529	2.2252	0.130
<i>P</i>	0.113		<b>0.036</b>		0.496		0.563		

**Table 6.** Effect of Pomegranate molasses on eggshell thickness at 0, 10, 20 and 30 days of storage

Group	0 <sup>th</sup> day		10 <sup>th</sup> day		20 <sup>th</sup> day		30 <sup>th</sup> day		P
	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	
A	0.363	0.01011	0.379	0.006612	0.371	0.007663	0.369	0.005039	0.465
B	0.361	0.006612	0.380	0.006831	0.381	0.008004	0.368	0.009627	0.221
C	0.371	0.008778	0.358	0.007201	0.367	0.007344	0.359	0.01076	0.631
D	0.379	0.009463	0.380	0.009083	0.391	0.01074	0.364	0.01060	0.278
E	0.388	0.005261	0.382	0.008427	0.388	0.009408	0.374	0.01144	0.598
<i>P</i>	0.116		0.170		0.282		0.831		

**Table 7.** Effect of Pomegranate molasses on albumin index at 0, 10, 20 and 30 days of storage

Group	0 <sup>th</sup> day		10 <sup>th</sup> day		20 <sup>th</sup> day		30 <sup>th</sup> day		P
	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	
A	9.013	0.4927	8.404	0.4271	8.416	0.4119	9.234	0.3624	0.332
B	10.539 <sup>B</sup>	0.5069	8.566 <sup>A</sup>	0.6147	8.727 <sup>A</sup>	0.3952	8.528 <sup>A</sup>	0.4100	<b>0.009</b>
C	9.687	0.5003	8.747	0.4742	8.443	0.3615	9.394	0.4038	0.092
D	8.863	0.4698	9.615	0.4802	8.763	0.5486	9.386	0.5020	0.407
E	8.876	0.5714	7.629	0.5320	8.628	0.2665	9.405	0.5190	0.062
<i>P</i>	0.087		0.064		0.967		0.574		

**Table 8.** Effect of Pomegranate molasses on yolk index at 0, 10, 20 and 30 days of storage

Group	0 <sup>th</sup> day		10 <sup>th</sup> day		20 <sup>th</sup> day		30 <sup>th</sup> day		p
	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	$\bar{X}$	SEM	
A	41.549 <sup>Aab</sup>	0.6374	41.532 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.5949	42.864 <sup>AB</sup>	0.7364	45.228 <sup>B</sup>	0.8922	<b>0.001</b>
B	43.483 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.6791	41.679 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.5469	42.018 <sup>A</sup>	0.7639	46.745 <sup>B</sup>	0.7562	<b>0.001</b>
C	41.621 <sup>Aab</sup>	0.4060	41.519 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.5342	41.827 <sup>A</sup>	0.6695	44.507 <sup>B</sup>	0.8972	<b>0.007</b>
D	40.422 <sup>Aa</sup>	0.5347	39.975 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.6186	42.591 <sup>AB</sup>	0.8178	44.463 <sup>B</sup>	0.8698	<b>0.001</b>
E	41.826 <sup>Aab</sup>	0.7131	39.603 <sup>Ab</sup>	0.6515	43.854 <sup>AB</sup>	1.0322	45.455 <sup>B</sup>	0.7185	<b>0.001</b>
<i>P</i>	<b>0.015</b>		<b>0.031</b>		0.489		0.294		

## DISCUSSION

According to (Dei et al. 2008) average daily gain (ADG) was increased by treatment of pomegranate molasses and no effect is seen on water intake (Shabtay et al. 2008). In contrast to this (Saki et al. 2014a) had observed no positive impact on FCR, feed intake, egg weight and egg mass in layers hens. Previous researchers observed that using thyme and oregano in the ration of laying hens positively increase the egg mass and egg weight with the supplementation of thyme and oregano (Abdel-Wareth et al. 2013). However, other studies did not find any positive results on egg weight with the supplementation of herbs in the diet of Laying Japanese Quails (Christaki et al. 2011). (Rahman et al. 2017) study indicated that supplementation of Mentha Piperita oil and its juice in the laying hen's diet had no significant effect on egg quality traits during storage for 15 and 30 days at 4°C. Similarly, in another study, no significant loss of egg weight was observed at 5°C and 21°C temperature till 10 days in normal fed diet layers hens (Jin et al. 2011). Similarly, the recent study showed that there was no significant

effect ( $p>0.05$ ) on egg weight during the whole study period.

Some researchers observed that with supplementation of 5% carrots in the diet of laying hen increased egg yolk color however, Haugh unit, eggshell thickness, and egg shape index remained unaffected (Ishikawa et al. 1999). For egg yolk, supplementation of 70g/day purple carrots increased egg yolk index. Moreover, purple carrots showed positive affect on egg yolk (Hammershøj et al. 2010). However, in our study the egg yolk color was significant between the groups at zero day storage and after ten day egg storage analysis, yolk color was increased significantly and egg yolk color was significantly increased at twenty and thirty day egg storage analysis within the 1mg/L and 2mg/L pomegranate molasses groups as compared to the control group.

Dietary supplementation of pomegranate molasses had no positive affect on the egg quality parameters such as the egg shell thickness, Haugh unit, eggshell weight, eggshell breaking strength. (Saki et al. 2014a) Some of the researcheres like (Navid et al. 2014) reported non-significant impact on egg quality trait of

plant extracts. Similarly in our research trial the Haugh unit was decreased significantly between the groups at 10 day storage analysis as compared to zero day analysis and it was also decreased during 30 day storage analysis within the groups of 0.25mg/L and 1.0mg/L. Moreover, egg shell thickness also remained non-significant during the whole trial of egg analysis. Feeding laying hen with pomegranate pulp had no positive result on yolk and albumen indexes and also Haugh unit was remained non-affected by dietary treatments, which could confirm the low effect of nutrition on Haugh unit (Saki et al. 2014c) In our study, egg albumin index was decreased significantly within the 0.25mg/L of pomegranate molasses juice group. However, it was remained non-significant in all other supplemented groups over control. Similarly, a good effect was observed on the yolk index within the groups and between the groups and the yolk index was increased between the groups at zero day and 10 day storage analysis and yolk index was increased in group 0.25mg/L and also increased within all groups at thirty day of analysis.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Pomegranate molasses had no effect on egg weight, egg shell breaking strength and eggshell thickness while positive affect was observed effect on yolk color, albumin index and Haugh unit. Overall, pomegranate molasses supplementation was found beneficial to preserve the egg texture and quality. It was suggested to do more research on egg external and internal parameters after storage for prolonged duration at relatively higher temperature.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*The current study was performed at the Experimental Animal Research farm of Afyon Kocatepe University, Turkey after the approval of the Local Ethics Committee of the faculty of veterinary medicine under approval No: AKÜHLADYEK-146-16, on 03-01-2016.*

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## Investigation of Anti-*Toxoplasma gondii* Antibodies in Slaughtered Sheep in Abattoir of Niğde Using ELISA Test

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### ABSTRACT

The objective of this study is to determine seroprevalence of anti-*Toxoplasma gondii* antibodies with ELISA test in the sheep slaughtered in Niğde slaughterhouse. Blood samples were taken from one year and older 175 sheep between January and April. The serum samples obtained from the blood samples were examined with ELISA test, and anti-*T. gondii* antibodies were detected in 11 out of the 175 samples (6.28%). Serological examination of the sheep shows that the highest seropositivity rate of 12.5% (5/40) was detected in March, while the seropositivity rate in January was 5.9% (2/34), and in February it was 6.7% (4/60). However, none of the sheep inspected in April were seropositive for *T. gondii*. Comparison of the seropositivity rates of the sheep with regards to months did not reveal statistical significance ( $P>0.05$ ). In conclusion, the presence of *T. gondii* in the sheep slaughtered in Niğde province have been determined.

**Keywords:** *Toxoplasma gondii*, Sheep, Niğde, Slaughterhouse, ELISA

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### Niğde Mezbahasında Kesilen Koyunlarda Anti-*Toxoplasma gondii* Antikorlarının ELISA Testi ile Araştırılması

#### ÖZ

Bu çalışmada, Niğde mezbahasında kesilen koyunlarda anti-*Toxoplasma gondii* antikorlarının ELISA testi ile belirlenmesi amaçlanmıştır. Bu amaçla Ocak ve Nisan ayları arasında bir yaş ve üzerindeki toplam 175 koyundan kan alınmıştır. Serumları çıkarılan kan örnekleri ELISA testi ile incelenmiş ve toplam 175 koyunun 11 (%6.28)'inde anti-*T. gondii* antikorları saptanmıştır. Koyunların serolojik incelemesinde en yüksek seropozitiflik oranı %12.5 (5/40) ile Mart ayında belirlenirken, Ocak ayında %5.9 (2/34), Şubat ayında %6.7 (4/60) oranında seropozitiflik belirlenmiştir. Buna karşılık Nisan ayında muayene edilen koyunların hiçbirinde *T. gondii* seropozitifliği tespit edilememiştir. Aylar açısından koyunlardaki seropozitiflik oranları karşılaştırıldığında istatistiksel olarak bir farklılık bulunamamıştır ( $P>0.05$ ). Sonuç olarak, Niğde yöresinde mezbahada kesilen koyunlarda *T. gondii*'nin varlığı ortaya konulmuştur.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** *Toxoplasma gondii*, Koyun, Niğde, Mezbağa, ELISA

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## GİRİŞ

Toxoplasmosisin etkeni olan *Toxoplasma gondii* ilk kez Nicolle ve Monceaux tarafından 1908 yılında Kuzey Afrika'da *Ctenodactylus gundii* adı verilen ve parazitin tür ismini aldığı bir kemiricide tanımlanmıştır. Cins ismini ise organizmanın yay şekline benzemesi nedeniyle Yunan dilinde aynı anlamdaki toxon kelimesinden almıştır (Dubey 1998, Dubey ve Beattie 1988).

Etken zorunlu hücre içi paraziti olup eritrositler hariç tüm hücrelerde gelişim gösterebilir. Parazitin konak türüne ve enfeksiyon dönemine göre değişen takizoit, bradizoit ve ookistten oluşan üç farklı yaşam formu bulunmaktadır (Dubey 1998, Dubey ve Beattie 1988). Parazitin yalnızca kedigillerde bulunan ookist formu 10x12µm boyutlarında, oval şekilli olup kalın ve dayanıklı duvara sahiptir. Kedi dışkıyla ile dış ortama çıktığında henüz enfeksiyöz olmayan ookistler, uygun ısı ve nem varlığında sporlanarak enfeksiyöz hale gelir. Sporulasyon süresi ortamdaki ısı ve oksijenine bağlı olarak değişmektedir. Olgun ookistteki sporozoitler, enfekte hayvandaki takizoitler ve kistlerdeki bradizoitler, hem kediler için hem de diğer konak ve insanlar için enfeksiyon kaynağıdır (Dubey 1998, Dubey ve Beattie 1988).

Zoonoz karakterli toxoplasmosis koyun ve diğer hayvanlarda subklinik bir seyir göstermektedir. Türkiye'de koyunlarda *Toxoplasma gondii*'nin varlığını belirlemek için çok sayıda seroprevalans çalışması yapılmış olup bu çalışmalarda %2.8-98.9 arasında anti-*T. gondii* antikoru saptanmıştır (Aktaş ve ark. 2000a, Çiçek ve ark. 2011). Niğde yöresinde toxoplasmosis ile ilgili daha önce yapılan çeşitli çalışmalarda; koyunlarda SFDT ile %50.90 oranında seroprevalans saptanmış bunun yanında at, sığır, keçi, hindi, güvercin, bildircin ve rodent gibi ara konaklarda ve son konak kedilerde enfeksiyonun varlığı ortaya konulmuştur (Karatepe ve ark. 2003, 2004a,b, 2008, 2010, 2011, Babür ve ark. 2008, Kılıç ve ark. 2017). Bu çalışmada, Niğde mezbahasında kesilen koyunlarda anti-*Toxoplasma gondii* antikoru ELISA testi kullanılarak belirlenmesi amaçlanmıştır.

## MATERYAL ve METOT

Bu çalışmanın gerçekleştirilmesi için, Niğde ili mezbahasında Ocak-Nisan 2011 tarihleri arasında kesilen bir yaşın üzerindeki 175 koyundan kan alınmıştır. Kanlardan usulüne uygun olarak serumları çıkarılmış ve serolojik analizler yapılmaya kadar laboratuvarında -20°C'lik derin dondurucuda saklanmıştır. Ayrıca, mevcut çalışma için HADMEK'in 05.06.2009 tarih ve "Araştırma kapsamı

dışında teşhis ve tedavi amaçlı hayvanlara yapılan; klinik uygulamalar, ölü hayvanla veya ölmüş hayvan dokusu ile yapılan çalışmalar, mezbahe materyalleri, atık fetuslar, süt sağma, dışkı veya altlık örneği toplama, kan alma, swap ile örnek alma vb. müdahalelerde Hayvan Deneyleri Yerel Etik Kurulundan izin alınmasına gerek olmadığına" dair 12 sayılı kararına istinaden etik kurul onayı alınmamıştır. Çalışmada, *T. gondii* antikoru araştırılması amacıyla CHEKIT-Toxotest ELISA Test Kiti (IDEXX, Switzerland AG) kullanılmıştır. ELISA testi, CHEKIT-Toxotest ELISA Test Kiti ile üretici firmanın prosedüründe belirtildiği şekilde yapılmıştır. ELISA testi sonucunda mikrotiter plateler 450nm'de ELISA mikropate okuyucusunda (MR-96A) okutulmuş ve saptanan değerler üretici firmanın kit prosedüründe belirttiği formül ile hesaplanmıştır.

Formül;

$$\% \text{ Değer} = \frac{\text{O.D. örnek} - \text{O.D. negatif}}{\text{O.D. pozitif} - \text{O.D. negatif}} \times 100$$

O.D. örnek : Örneklerin Optikal Yoğunluğu

O.D. pozitif : Pozitif Kontrollerin Optikal Yoğunluğu

O.D. negatif : Negatif Kontrollerin Optikal Yoğunluğu

% Değer;

≥%100 ise pozitif,

≥%30 - <%100 ise zayıf pozitif,

≥%20 - <%30 ise şüpheli,

<%20 ise negatif olarak değerlendirilmiştir.

Araştırmada koyunların aylara göre seropozitiflik oranlarının istatistiksel olarak değerlendirilmesinde Ki-kare testi kullanılmıştır.

## BULGULAR

Niğde mezbahasında kesilen bir yaş ve üzerindeki toplam 175 koyunun 11'inde ELISA testi ile *Toxoplasma gondii*'ye karşı antikoru tespit edilmiş ve *T. gondii*'nin seroprevalansı Niğde yöresi koyunlarında %6.28 oranında saptanmıştır.

Tablo 1'e göre aylar açısından; Ocak ayında 34 koyunun 2 (%5.88)'sinde, Şubat ayında 60 koyunun 4 (%6.66)'ünde, Mart ayında 40 koyunun 5 (%12.5)'inde *T. gondii* yönünden seropozitiflik tespit edilmiştir. Buna karşılık Nisan ayında incelenen 41 koyunun hiçbirinde seropozitiflik saptanmamıştır. Seropozitif hayvanlar arasında aylar açısından seropozitifliğin istatistiksel yönden önemsiz olduğu belirlenmiştir (P>0.05).



**Tablo 1.** Koyunlarda *Toxoplasma gondii* seropozitifliğinin aylara göre dağılımı

**Table 1.** Distribution of *Toxoplasma gondii* seropositivity in sheep according to months

Aylar	Muayene Edilen Hayvan Sayısı	Pozitif Hayvan Sayısı	Seropozitiflik (%)
Ocak	34	2	5.88
Şubat	60	4	6.66
Mart	40	5	12.5
Nisan	41	-	-
<b>Toplam</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6.28</b>

## TARTIŞMA ve SONUÇ

Toxoplasmosis gibi tüm dünyada yaygın olarak görülen zoonoz protozoer enfeksiyonlar halk sağlığı açısından önemli bir problem oluşturmakla beraber hayvancılık ekonomisinde de önemli kayıplara sebep olmaktadır. Toxoplasmosis, genellikle latent enfeksiyonlara neden olduğundan gözden kaçmakta ve ciddi ekonomik kayıplar oluşturmaktadır. *Toxoplasma gondii*, enfekte koyunlarda et, süt ve yapağı gibi verim kayıplarının yansira meydana getirdiği atıklarla da önemli protozoon parazitlerdendir. (Dubey ve Beattie 1988).

Türkiye’de koyunlarda ilk çalışma 1967 yılında Ekmen tarafından yapılmış ve SFDT ile %43.1 ve CFT ile %20 seropozitiflik oranı bulunmuştur (Ekmen 1967). Daha sonra ülkenin birçok bölgesinde koyunlarda toxoplasmosisin yaygınlığı üzerine SFDT, ELISA, IFAT, IHA ve LAT gibi farklı serolojik testler kullanılarak yapılmış araştırmalarla Orta Anadolu, Adana, Elazığ, Ankara, Çankırı, KKTC, Kayseri, Konya, Malatya, Kars, Kırıkkale, Amasya, Yozgat, Hatay, Şanlıurfa, Mersin, Aydın, Van, Afyon, Yalova, Samsun ve Nevşehir’de sırası ile %36, %22-25.5, %22.5-46.8, %14.6-72, %88.7, %52.1, %33.7, %10.1-13, %33.2, %51.4-95.7, %63.9, %66.6, %45.4, %53.3, %42.7-55.6, %48, %72, %46, %54.6-98.9, %65-66.6, %50, %10 oranları tespit edilmiştir (Arda ve ark. 1987, Öz ve ark. 1995, Dumanlı ve ark. 1991, Zeybek ve ark. 1995, Babür ve ark. 1996, 1997, İnci ve ark. 1999, Nalbantoğlu ve ark. 1999, Aktaş ve ark. 2000a, b, Sevinç ve ark. 2000, Aslantaş ve Babür 2000, Yıldız ve ark. 2000, Karatepe ve ark. 2001, Babür ve ark. 2001, Kamburgil ve ark. 2001, Aslan ve Babür 2002, Öztürk ve ark. 2002, Paşa ve ark. 2004, Tütüncü ve ark. 2001, Çiçek ve ark. 2004, 2011, Öncel ve ark. 2005, Sevgili ve ark. 2005, Mor ve Arslan 2007, Acici ve ark. 2008, Aköz ve ark. 2009). Niğde yöresinde mezbahada kesilen koyunlar üzerinde yapılan bu çalışmada ELISA ile %6.28 seropozitiflik oranı saptanmıştır. Konya’da, Sevinç ve ark. (2000) ile Aköz ve ark. (2009)’nın yaptıkları çalışmalarda elde edilen %10.1 ve %13’lük oranlar bu çalışmada elde edilen sonuca benzerlik göstermektedir. Bu durum çalışmaların yapıldığı illerin aynı coğrafi bölgede bulunmasından kaynaklanabilir.

Yine Çakmak ve Karatepe (2017)’nin Nevşehir’de ELISA ile yaptıkları çalışmada tespit edilen %10’luk sonuç, bu çalışmada saptanan sonuca oldukça

yakındır. Bunun sebebi aynı test tekniğinin kullanılması ve komşu şehir olan Niğde ile Nevşehir illerinin sahip olduğu coğrafi benzerlik olabilir. Türkiye’de yapılan bazı çalışmalarda çok yüksek seropozitiflik oranları elde edilmiştir. Bu farklılıkta, bölgeler arasında iklim ve konum farklılıkları ile birlikte kullanılan metodun da etkili olduğu düşünülmektedir. Bunun yanında, araştırmanın yürütüldüğü Niğde yöresinde Karatepe ve ark. (2004) tarafından SFDT ile koyunlar üzerinde yapılan bir çalışmada %50.90 oranında seropozitiflik saptanmıştır. Aynı yörede yapılan bu iki çalışma arasındaki farklılık, analizde kullanılan serolojik testlerin farklı olmasından ve çalışmaların farklı yıl ve farklı koyunlarda yapılmış olmasından kaynaklanabilir. Niğde yöresinde koyunlarda gerçekleştirilen bu çalışmayı dünyada koyunlar üzerinde yapılan araştırmalar ile karşılaştığımızda benzer sonuçları görmek mümkündür. O’Donoghue ve ark. (1987)’nin Kuzey Avustralya’da IHAT ile 1159 koyun üzerinde yaptıkları araştırmada %7.4 oranında seropozitiflik saptanmıştır. Pakistan’da Zaki (1995) 40 koyun üzerinde LAT ile yaptığı araştırmada %2.5 oranında ve Sharma ve ark. (2008) Bangladeş’te aynı yöntemi (ELISA) kullanarak yaptıkları serolojik çalışmada 186 koyunda %0.27 oranında seropozitiflik elde etmişlerdir. Aynı testin kullanılması ve farklı sonuçların elde edilmesine coğrafi koşulların farklılığı sebep olabilir.

Ülkemizde ve dünyada çeşitli oranlarda yaygınlık gösteren toxoplasmosisin korunma ve kontrolünde öncelikli olarak parazitin zorunlu olan konağı olan kedilerle mücadele etmek gerekmektedir. Çiftlik hayvanları ile yemleri, kedi ve kedi dışkılarından uzak tutulmalıdır. Hastalık zoonoz olduğundan özellikle hamilelerin kediler ile temastan kaçınması gerekir. Çiğ et ve çiğ et bulunan yiyecekleri tüketme alışkanlığının enfeksiyonun yayılmasında etkili olduğu unutulmamalıdır.

Sonuç olarak, toplam 175 koyundan ELISA ile elde ettiğimiz %6.28 seropozitiflik oranına bakarak toxoplasmosisin Niğde mezbahasında kesilen

koyunlarda yaygın olmasa da varlığının tespit edildiğini söyleyebiliriz. Toxoplasmosisin insan ve hayvan sağlığı açısından etkisinin tam olarak ortaya çıkarılabilmesi ve gerekli kontrol ve korunma önlemlerinin alınabilmesi için Niğde yöresinde daha geniş çapta serolojik ve moleküler çalışmalar yapılmasının gerekli olduğu düşünülmektedir.

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## Traumatic Diaphragmatic Hernia in Cats: A Retrospective Study of 15 Cases (2016-2017)

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### ABSTRACT

In this study, evaluation of clinical and operative results of cats with diaphragmatic hernia presented with respiratory failure was aimed. The cats were in different age, breed and sex. All of the cats were treated surgically with 73.3% survival rate. The highest incidence of herniation was in the liver and small intestine, but stomach and spleen also was encountered. All deaths occurred during surgery, the cases completed surgical procedure were healed. The cats which died had multiple organ herniation as well as laceration of the lungs and fluid accumulation in the thoracic cavity were noticed. It was seen that intensive care cabin applications and Ventolin - Pulmicort support through nebulizer provided marked contribution on survival rate.

**Keywords:** Cat, diaphragm, hernia, intensive care

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### Kedilerde Travmatik Diyafram Fıtık: 15 Olgu (2016-2017)

#### ÖZ

Bu çalışmada, kliniğimize solunum güçlüğü şikâyeti ile getirilen kedilerde karşılaşılan diyafram fıtıklarının klinik ve operatif sonuçlarının değerlendirilmesi amaçlanmıştır. Kediler farklı yaş, ırk ve cinsiyette idiler. Tüm kediler % 73.3 sağ kalım oranıyla cerrahi olarak tedavi edildi. En fazla fıtıklaşan organ karaciğer ve ince bağırsak olmakla birlikte mide ve dalakla da karşılaşıldı. Tüm ölümler operasyon sırasında meydana geldi, operasyonu tamamlanan olguların tamamı yaşadı. Ölen kedilerde çoklu organ fıtıklaşması yanı sıra gerek fıtıklaşan organ gerekse akciğerlerde laserasyon, göğüs boşluğunda sıvı toplanması dikkati çekti. Yoğun bakım kabin uygulamaları ve nebulizator aracılığı ile ventolin- pulmicort desteği sağ kalım üzerine olumlu katkı sağladığı görüldü.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Kedi, diyafram, fıtık, yoğun bakım

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## INTRODUCTION

Diaphragm is a musculocutaneous structure that separates abdominal and thoracic cavity, supports ventilation, and plays a role in lymphatic fluid flow. Embryologically it develops from the septum transversum in the ventral side, two pleuroperitoneal leaves and the mesentery of the small intestines in the dorsal side (Orton 2017, Randall 2018). Diaphragmatic hernia is a defect or hole in the diaphragmatic muscle which allows the one or more organs located in the abdominal cavity to move into the thoracic cavity. It may be occurred congenital or acquired and, is encountered in cats and dogs as a common problem (Fossum 2002, Gibson et al. 2005). Congenital diaphragmatic hernia is caused from the failure of the development of transversal septum. Since clinical findings are not very clear, the herniation usually determined incidentally after thorax radiography. Acquired hernias generally occur after the blunt traumas (traffic accidents, fall from high places etc.). Traumatic diaphragm hernias in cats and dogs are more common than congenital hernias and treated with surgically (Fossum 2002, Schmiedt et al. 2003, Minihan et al. 2004, Randall 2018). Initial approach to the patient with respiratory distress and, management of pre/post-operative period including oxygen therapy, fluid therapy, control of body temperature, using of the inhaler therapeutics have great role on prognosis (Mazzaferro et al. 2013, Nelson 2015). In this study, to share preoperative medical management, surgical treatment and results of the diaphragmatic hernia cats represented our clinic was aimed.

## MATERIAL and METHOD

The study was conducted on 15 cats of different ages, breed and sexes. Place of hernia, herniated organs, complications and survival rates of cats were recorded to the trauma form. All cats were brought to our clinic with respiratory complaints. Clinical, radiological, hematological and biochemical analyzes were performed on all animals. Ventro-dorsal and latero-lateral, radiological position (Figure 1) (positive contrast celiography in 1 case, Iohexol Omnipaque, Amersham, USA) was taken and it has been interpreted. Diaphragmatic hernia was diagnosed by clinical and radiographic findings (Figure 1A-B).

Preoperatively, the patients were to the intensive care cabin and oxygen support was provided for 24 hours. Serum and antibiotic (cefazolin sodium of 20 mg / kg, Iespor®, IE Ulagay, Istanbul) were administered intravenously for prophylaxis. Induction of the general anesthesia induction was performed with intravenous propofol of 4 mg / kg (Diprivan®, Astra Zeneca). Then, anesthesia was maintained with 1-3% MAC isoflurane (Isoflurane, Adeka, Samsun) by intubation with 3-3.5 cuffed endotracheal tubes. The

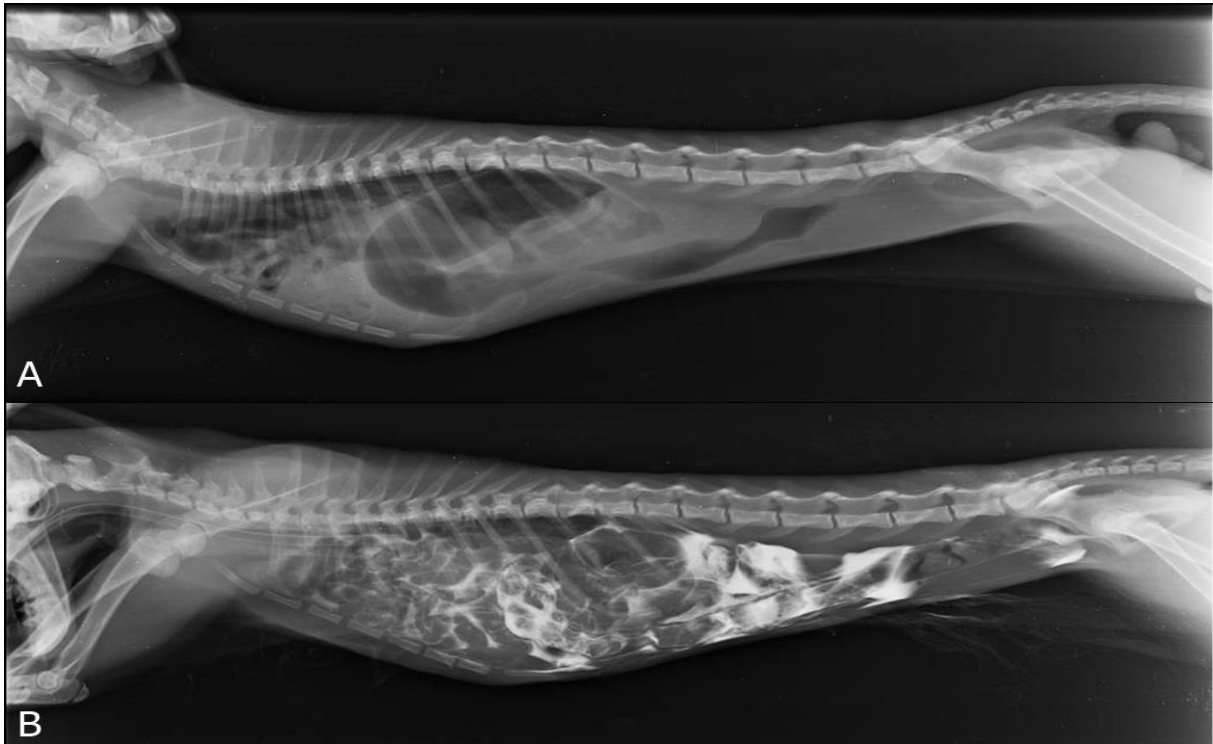
patients were placed in a dorsal recumbency on the operating table tilted 40 degrees in caudal direction. During the operation, Ringer's lactate solution of 10 ml/kg/ h (500 ml, Polypharma) was administered intravenously. Operation area was prepared aseptically and covered sterile drapes. The diaphragm was approached by ventral median line laparotomy extending from the xiphoid cartilage to the umbilicus (Figure 2). The organs displaced to the thoracic cavity (Figure 3) were re-poisoned to the abdomen. Diaphragmatic defect (Figure 4A) was repaired with simple continuous or interrupted suture techniques with non-absorbable material (Figure 4B)(Prolene, Ethicon, Johnson & Johnson, Brussels, Belgium, USP 2/0-3/0). The negative pressure of the thoracic cavity was created before the last stitches. Abdominal cavity was lavaged with saline (Isotonic Sodium Chloride, 500 ml, Koçak Farma), the operation area was closed routinely. Polypropylene mesh (Polypropylene mesh)(Prolene®, Ethicon) implantation was needed in only one case to close of the abdominal cavity. No chest tube was placed in any of the patients. All cases were observed in the intensive care unit for 3 days. Meanwhile, oxygen support is provided and methylprednisolone of 1 mg/kg (Prednol®, Mustafa Nevzat, Turkey) were administered intramuscularly. Also salbutamol sulfate (Ventolin Nebules® 2.5mg/ml, GlaxoSmithKline) – budesonide (Pulmicort® Nebulizer sus. 0.5mg/ml Astra Zeneca) was given with mask via nebulizer twice a day (Figure 6). Additionally, cefazolin sodium administration continued for postoperative one week.

## RESULTS

The cats were between 5 months and 15 years old, 2 male and 13 female, mean 2-5.5 kg body weight (Table 1). Etiologies of the diaphragmatic hernias were motor vehicle accidents in 5 cases, falling from high places in 4 cases and unknown traumas (as a result of run away from home) in 6 cases. Clinical presentation durations of the cases were between 1 to 5 days after trauma Tachypnea (15 cases), dyspnea and orthopnea (5 cases), inappetence (5 cases), open mouth respiration (3 cases), abdominal respiration (3 cases) exercise intolerance (2 cases) and vomiting (1 case) were determined in clinical and physical examination. Direct radiographies provided sufficient information in 14 cases, but positive contrast celiography was performed in one cases. Radiographic examination revealed that loss of diaphragmatic shadow and heart silhouette and displaced abdominal organs in the thorax. Celiography revealed that the contrast medium was distributed in thorax. The results of hematological and biochemical analysis were within normal limits. The diaphragmatic defects were on dorsal region in one case, ventral region in other cases (right in 6 cases, central in 4 cases, left in 3 case, right and left in 1 case). The herniated organs were single organ in 5

cases (2 small intestines, 3 liver), multiple organs in 10 cases (spleen, liver, stomach and intestine in 3 cases; small intestine and liver in 4 cases; stomach, spleen and small intestine in 2 cases; spleen and small intestine in 1 case). Four patients were died during

the operation. The cases died had marked laceration of the lungs and large amount fluid accumulation into the thoracic cavity.



**Figure 1.** Direct radiography (A) and peritoneography (B).



**Figure 2.** Limitation of the operation side with surgical drapes.

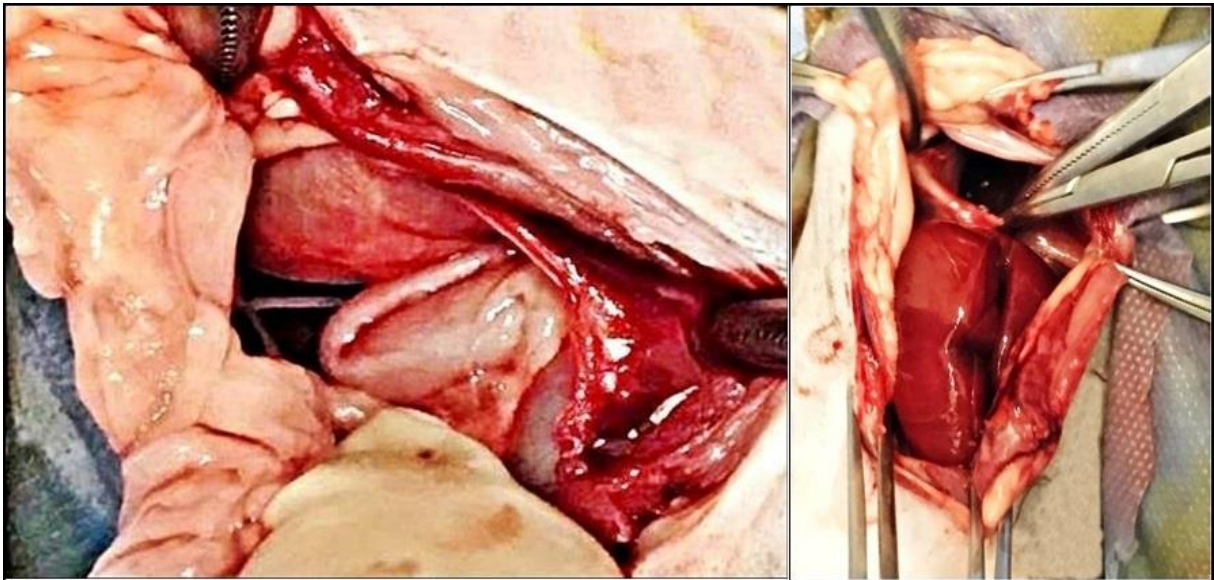


Figure 3. Intestine in thoraks.

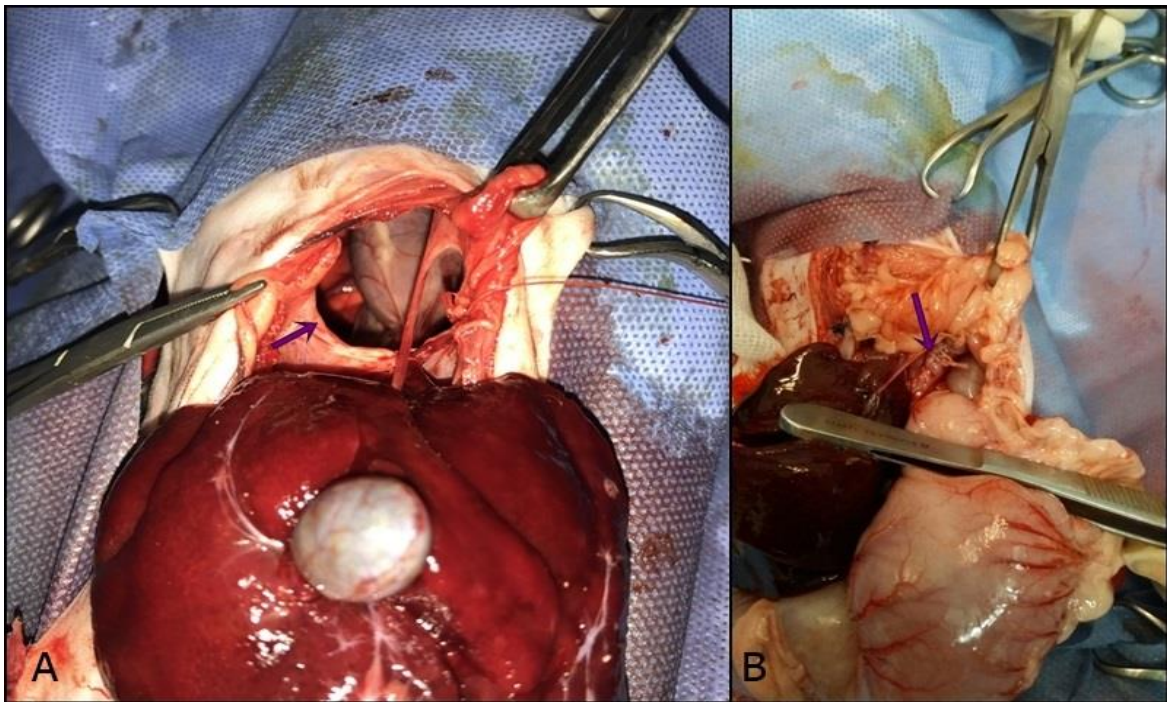


Figure 4: Diaphragmatic herni (A). Repair of the diaphragmatic hernia (B).



**Figure 5:** Polypropylene mesh.



**Figure 6:** Postoperative nebulisation.



**Table 1.** Cats information

	Age	Sex	Location of Hernia	Hernia organs	Cause
1	8 months old	Male	Dorsal-Central	Spleen, Small intestines	
2	12 years old	Female	Ventral -Left	Liver	
3	2 years old	Female	Ventral-Right	Small intestines	
4*	3 months old	Female	Ventral-Central	Spleen, Liver, Stomach, Small intestines	
5*	2 years old	Female	Ventral -Left	Spleen, Liver, Stomach, Small intestines	
6	5 months old	Female	Ventral- Right	Liver, Small intestines	
7*	1 years old	Female	Ventral-Central	Liver, Small intestines	
8	8 months old	Female	Ventral-Central	Liver, Small intestines	Trauma
9	7 months old	Female	Ventral-Right	Liver	
10	5 months old	Female	Ventral-Right	Small intestines	
11	1 years old	Female	Ventral-Right	Spleen, Liver, Stomach, Small intestines	
12	1 years old	Female	Ventral-Right-Left	Spleen, Stomach, Small intestines	
13	4 months old	Female	Ventral- Left	Spleen, Liver, Stomach, Small intestines	
14	15 years old	Female	Ventral- Right	Liver	
15*	4 months old	Male	Ventral- Central	Liver, Small intestines	

\* Four patients were died during the operation

## DISCUSSION

Diaphragmatic hernia is a defect or hole in the diaphragmatic muscle which allows the one or more organs located in the abdominal cavity to move into the thoracic cavity. It has very high incidence in cats after trauma. Survival rate after surgery of diaphragmatic hernia is reported as 54-90% (Schmiedt et al. 2003, Minimal et al. 2004, Gibson et al. 2005, Besalti et al. 2011, Legallet et al. 2017). Following the procedure which used in this study 73.3% survival rate was accomplished.

Many studies (Minimal et al. 2004, Hyun 2004, Besalti et al. 2011) have stated that diaphragmatic hernia cases occur more in male cats than females. However, 13 of the cats with diaphragmatic hernia were female and only 2 cases were male in our study.

Clinical manifestations of diaphragmatic herniation in animals include respiratory problems, increased respiratory rate, collapse, regurgitation, vomiting and muffled heart sounds. These findings may not be

found in chronic cases (Fossum 2002, Schmiedt et al. 2003, Minimal et al. 2004, Gibson et al. 2005, Ozer et al. 2007, Besalti et al. 2011). Radiological findings include loss of the diaphragmatic shadow and heart silhouette, pleural effusion, gas findings of the gastrointestinal organs and shadow of the other abdominal organs in the thoracic cavity. Some patients may have no radiographic findings (Voges et al. 1997, Hyun 2004). Such cases can be diagnosed by contrast radiography of the gastrointestinal tract, peritoneography, thorax or abdominal ultrasonography and computed tomography (Gibson et al. 2005, Kibar et al. 2006). Transition of radiographic contrast agents injected into the peritoneal cavity to the thoracic cavity is evaluated by performing peritoneography (Sullivan and Lee 1989, Kibar et al. 2006, Tillson 2014). In this study, all cases were presented with complain of respiratory problems. Clinical and radiological examinations revealed diaphragmatic hernia. Except one case which diagnosed by celiography, because direct radiography and clinical examination findings were sufficient for

diagnosis in all cases, to perform other examination methods such as peritoneography, ultrasonography and computed tomography was not needed.

No specific laboratory findings are usually found in hernia cases. Some studies state that the cases with hernias of the liver may have high levels of aminotransferase and serum alkaline phosphatase (Fossum 2007, Ozer et al. 2007). In our study no abnormal laboratory finding were determined in any case, even in the cats with liver herniation.

The diaphragmatic rupture should be closed with a simple surgical suture. For this purpose, the absorbable or non-absorbable suture material should be used, and the needle tip has to be round. Autogenous and synthetic grafts may be needed in some cases where the defect cannot be repaired completely. By providing inspiration, the lungs are brought in fully expanded form to provide negative pressure in the thoracic cavity before final suture (Fossum 2002). In our study, non-absorbable suture material was used to repair the defect. Negative pressure before last suture was provided. No grafting material was needed to close the diaphragmatic defects. Only in one case, a synthetic mesh was used for the closure of the abdomen, because of enlargement of herniated organs.

Depending on the size and location of the diaphragmatic defects and the mobility of the abdominal organs, the herniated organ varies, but usually is liver. In addition, the small intestine, stomach, spleen, omentum, pancreas, colon, uterus can also herniate. According to some authors, the diaphragmatic rupture is mostly seen on the right side, and the liver, the small intestine, the pancreas is usually herniated from this defect. The stomach, spleen and small intestines is largely herniated from the left side defects (Schmiedt et al. 2003, Hyun 2004, Gibson et al. 2005, Baines 2016). In our study, the diaphragmatic defects were on dorsal region in one case, ventral region in other cases. The ventral defects were localized on right side in 6 cases, central in 4 cases, left side in 3 case, right and left in 1 case. Among the herniated organs, the most common was liver and small intestine, but stomach and spleen were also encountered.

Surgery of the diaphragmatic hernia has a greater anesthesia risk than other abdominal operations. Dorsal recumbency on the operation table causes increased pressure in the lungs and displacement of the heart resulting exacerbated cardiovascular and respiratory disorders. Longer operation and longer anesthesia duration and higher soft tissue damage and need of oxygenation rises mortality rate in cats and dogs (Legallet et al. 2017). In addition, localization of hernia, amount of herniated organs, elapsed time after trauma to the operation also affect perioperative

mortality (Besalti et al. 2011, Legallet et al. 2017). Therefore, the time between anesthesia induction and herniorrhaphy should be as short as possible and oxygenation should be provided before and after anesthesia (Besalti et al. 2011, Yool 2014). In our study anesthesia duration before the surgical intervention was kept as short as possible. Oxygen support was supported before and after the operation and the cats.

Oxygen therapy is a well-known indispensable procedure for respiratory distress patient. But also to keep the animal calm and prevent getting stress has high important choosing the way of providing oxygen (Sharp et al. 2013). Therefore, the most recommended method is the oxygen cage (Mazzaferro et al. 2013, Mackay 2001). All cats included our study got oxygen support by using intensive care cabin a day before and 3 days after surgery. Also usage of the intensive care cabin provided keeping animal warm and preventing hypothermia.

The fluid therapy is another important step to improve tissue perfusion and oxygen delivery associated with bradycardia, hypotension and hypovolemia in the cats with diaphragmatic hernia (Nelson 2015). During the operation, Ringer's lactate solution of 10 ml/kg/h was administered intravenously to the all cats.

Aerosol therapy is known a functional method of drug delivery to direct therapy at the site of the problem (Miller et al. 2003). Aerosol agents include physiologic saline, some antibiotics, glucocorticoids and bronchodilators (Kirschvink et al. 2006). Usage of the aerosol glucocorticoids limits systemic complications and provides immediate relief of bronchoconstriction. Prednisone or prednisolone treatment in the cats works well as an anti-inflammatory agent but concurrent use of oral bronchodilators generally is usually recommended for bronchoconstriction (Rozanski et al. 2007). In our study ventolin and pulmicort were administered twice a day with mask by aid of nebulizer concurrently systemic methylprednisolone therapy. Thus, all cats who survived surgery (73.3%) lived no complication and healed completely in a short time.

As a result, it was concluded that the management procedures include fluid therapy, oxygen and, ventolin and pulmicort therapy concurrent with systemic methylprednisolone, and doing all of these in intensive care cabin to keep the animal away from stress contributes the survival rates of the cats.

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## Reconstruction of Bilateral Upper Eyelid Coloboma in a Domestic Shorthaired Cat Using Roberts and Bistner Technique

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### ABSTRACT

A 1-year-old, male domestic short haired cat was presented to our Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Istanbul-Cerrahpaşa due to complaints of blepharospasm and epiphora in both eyes present since birth. In the ocular examination, absence of a part of palpebra in both eyes and persistent pupillary membrane (PPM) in the left eye were observed. There was trichiasis irritating the corneas in both eyes. Bilateral palpebral defects and secondary trichiasis were repaired using a Roberts and Bistner technique. This technique provided a good cosmetic appearance and functional outcome to the patient. Roberts and Bistner technique is recommended in treating congenital, bilateral eyelid coloboma.

**Keywords:** Cat, eyelid margin, persistent pupillary membrane, trichiasis, upper eyelid coloboma.

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### Bir Kedide Bilateral Üst Göz Kapağı Kollobomunun Roberts ve Bistner Tekniği ile Rekonstrüksiyonu

### ÖZ

Bir yaşında erkek sarman kedi, İstanbul-Cerrahpaşa Üniversitesi, Veteriner Fakültesi'ne, iki gözünde doğduğundan beri devam eden blefarospazm ve epifora şikayeti ile getirildi. Oftalmolojik muayenede her ikisinde mevcut olan üst göz kapağı agenezisi ve sol gözünde persistent pupillar membran olgusuna rastlandı. Bunlara ek olarak korneaları irrite eden trichişiazis de tespit edildi. Olguda teşhis edilen bilateral göz kapağı agenezisi ve buna bağlı oluşan sekonder trichişiazis, Roberts ve Bistner tekniği kullanılarak düzeltildi. Bu teknik hastaya iyi bir kozmetik görünüm ve işlevsel sonuç sağladı. Konjenital, bilateral göz kapağı kolobomunun tedavisinde Roberts ve Bistner tekniği önerilmektedir.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Göz kapağı kenarı, kedi, persistent pupillar membran, trisiyazis, üst göz kapağı kolobomu.

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## INTRODUCTION

Eyelid agenesis, or commonly known as coloboma, is a congenital developmental anomaly characterized by lacking all or part of the eyelid (Ocelli and Neaderland 2011, Esson 2014). This problem has been reported in cats, dogs, horses, sheeps, Snow leopards, Texas cougar and humans (Cheng at al. 2006, Etemadi at al. 2013). It is a rare disease in small animals but is more common in cats than in dogs (Ocelli and Neaderland 2011, Etemadi at al. 2013, Reed at al. 2018).

This lesion, which affects the lateral portion of upper eyelid in cats, is mostly bilateral (Cheng at al.2006, Ocelli and Neaderland 2011). The aetiology has not been known exactly, but several causes containing a recessive genetic disorder and teratogenic effects have been reported (Whittaker at al.2010, Etemadi at al. 2013,Esson 2014). The clinical symptoms of the disease vary depending on the width and localization of the defect. The contact of the skin hairs to the cornea due to the absence of palpebral margin, causes ocular irritation and excessive tear production(Reed at al. 2018). Due to insufficient closure of the palpebral fissure, secondary exposure keratitis and keratoconjunctivitis sicca may occur(Whittaker at al.2010, Ocelli and Neaderland 2011, Etemadi at al. 2013). Medical treatment may be used in small eyelid lesions that do not cause severe ocular lesions, but this treatment may be inadequate because this lesion is usually in the form of large defects (Cheng at al.2006). Many surgical techniques have been reported, ranging from simple closure of smaller lesions to complex reconstruction procedures that was used for repairing large lesions of the eyelids (Cheng at al.2006,Whittaker at al.2010, Reed at al. 2018).

In this report, the treatment of bilateral, congenital eyelid coloboma in a cat using Roberts and Bistner surgical technique was evaluated.

## CASE REPORT

A 1-year old male, domestic shorthair cat, was presented to Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of İstanbul-Cerrahpaşa with a history of ocular discomfort, blepharospasm and epiphora since birth. Ophthalmic examination revealed bilateral absence of part of upper palpebra and margins, skin hairs irritating the corneas, causing epiphora and blepharospasm (Figure 1-2). The palpebral fissures were not completely closed during the blink. Since the ocular surface was partially exposed, secondary keratitis and corneal vascularization developed in both eyes. Also there was a PPM that adhered to the cornea in the left eye (Figure 3). No other ocular and systemic anomaly was found in the examination. Because of

the corneal surface lesions and serious ocular discomfort in the patient, it was decided to correct the defects with surgical reconstruction method in both eyes. General anaesthesia was maintained with xylazine (1mg/kg, IV, Basilazine, Bavet, Turkey) and ketamine (5mg/kg IV, Ketalar®, Pfizer, Turkey) followed by 2% isoflurone (Forane®, Abbott, Turkey) in oxygen. Analgesia was provided by meloxicam (0.1-0.2mg/kg, SC, Melox, Nobel, Turkey) 2 hours before surgery. Cephalosporin (25 mg/kg IV, Iesef 500mg, Ibrahim Ethem Ulugay, Turkey) was given 30 min prior to surgery. Defects were repaired with rotational pedicle eyelid flaps that were formed from the lateral region of the lower eyelid.

## SURGERY

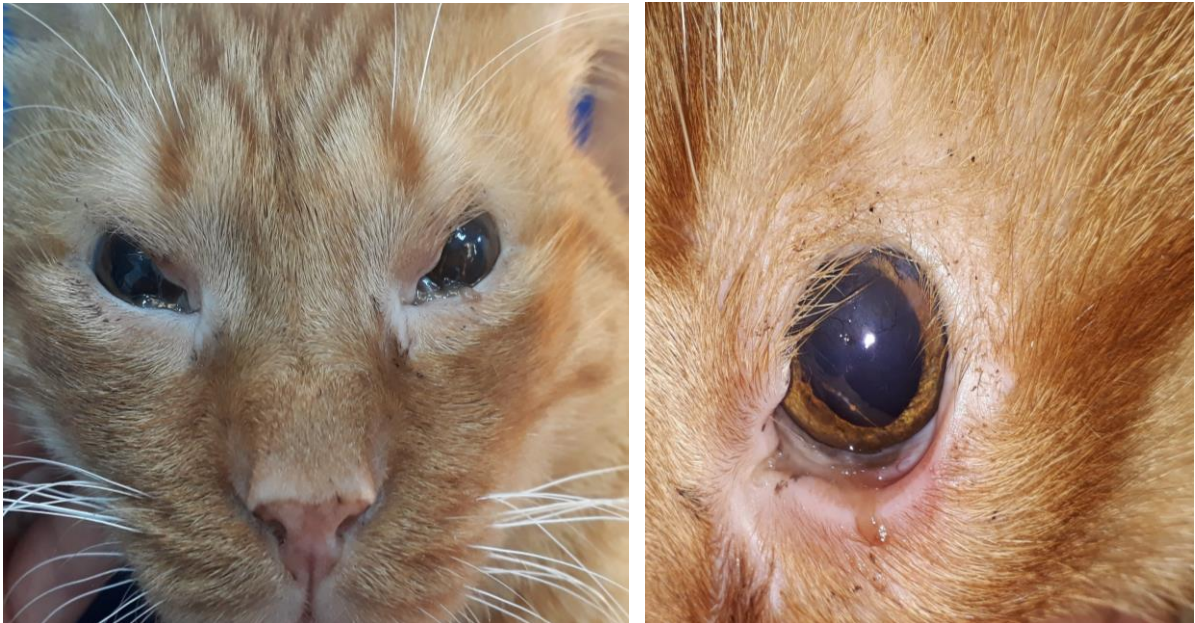
Skin that containing trichiasis was dissected from the adjacent palpebral conjunctiva and then excised with tenotomy scissors. Thus, first eyelid recipient beds were formed (Figure 4). Rotational pedicle flaps that were formed from the lateral region of lower eyelids were used to fill the defect cavities. That flaps were created with 3 step incisions. The first incision of the flap was dorsal incision at a distance of 1-2 mm from the edge of the lower eyelid. The ventral incision was large enough to close the defect of the upper eyelid and was parallel to the dorsal incision. The incisions of the flap were made slightly more than the length of the defect. The incisions parallel to each other were combined with a vertical incision that was made from the region close to the medial canthus of the eyelid (Figure 5). The width of the flap incision was made wide enough to cover the defect to prevent secondary lower eyelid ectropion (Figure 6). The lower eyelid flap that containing skin, muscle and tarsus, was rotated to cover the upper eyelid defect and it was sutured to the recipient bed atraumatically with absorbable 8/0 PGA, simple sutures (Figure 7-8). The dissociated conjunctiva in the temporal region was fixed to the skin of the flap by simple continuous sutures to support the feeding of the flap and to prevent secondary necrosis.

Postoperatively, an Elizabethan collar was worn to prevent self trauma. Topical 0.3% ofloxacin (Exocin, Abdi Ibrahim, Turkey) 4 times a day and systemic amoxicillin and clavulanic acid (Synulox 50mg, Pfizer, Turkey) 2 times a day 12.5 mg/kg PO antibiotics against secondary infection;for inflammation topical % 0.15 diclofenac sodium (Inflased®, Bilim, Turkey) 2 times a day and systemic meloxicam (Metacam®, Boehringer Ingelheim, Australia) 0.05mg/kg PO were used.

24 hours after the operation, minimal swelling occurred in the eyelids. Warm compress was

applied 2-3 times daily for 1 week to accelerate the blood circulation of the eyelids. Although the eyelids and flaps were slightly oedematous, no necrosis occurred at the flaps tip or trunk (Figure 9). The swelling of the cat's eyelid disappeared completely, the ocular discomfort has decreased and sutures were taken within 2 weeks. There were

no complications such as flap loss, infection or ectropion. There was no problem with flap feeding and corneal protection in the patient was fully provided (Figure 10). The cat was followed for 4 months after the operation, but there was no recurrence similar to the first in the affected eyes (Figure 11).



**Figure 1-2.** Bilateral absence of temporal upper eyelid in a cat and presence of severe trichiasis that irritated the cornea.



**Figure 3.** The cat also had PPM that adherent to cornea in the left eye.



**Figure 4.** First, the upper eyelid recipient bed was formed by excising the colobomatous area and hairs that irritated the cornea.



**Figure 5.** Surgical incisions of flap.



**Figure 6.** The flap is wide enough to close the defect.



**Figure 7.** The lower eyelid flap is moved to the upper eyelid recipient bed.



**Figure 8.** The lower eyelid flap is sutured to the upper eyelid recipient bed with simple sutures using 3/0 nylon.





**Figure 9.** The appearance of the eyelid 1 week after surgery. No necrosis was seen, but mild swelling on the donor flap



**Figure 10.** The appearance of the cat 2 weeks after surgery. Eyelid swelling disappeared, ocular discomfort was reduced but still had conjunctival hyperaemia.



**Figure 11.** 3rd control of the cat 4 months after surgery. The patient had a perfect cosmetic appearance and a functional upper eyelid.

## DISCUSSION

Congenital eye anomalies are less common than other organ anomalies. The eyelid coloboma is one of the important anomalies of the eye characterized by a partial or complete absence of the palpebra. The most common site of colobomas is the upper eyelid, especially the lateral part in cats (Reed et al. 2018). In this case, coloboma of the lateral 2/3 of the upper eyelid was diagnosed in both eyes.

It has been reported that occurs more frequently in Domestic Shorthair, Persian, Birman cats, although there is no breed predisposition (Cheng et al. 2006, Etemadi et al. 2013, Gelatt 2014). Eyelid coloboma may be a single lesion or associated with other ocular disorders such as microphthalmia, dermoids, PPM, lacrimal gland aplasia, retinal dysplasia, cataracts and anophthalmos (Cheng et al. 2006, Etemadi et al. 2013). In the present case, PPM was present in addition to the eyelid lesion in the left eye.

If treatment is not started in the early period except for cosmetic disorders, complications occur due to prolonged exposure of the ocular surface to external factors. It is very difficult to get a good result with medical treatment in ocular lesions of eyelid defects, so surgical treatment is often indicated. The method of surgical repair is determined by the size of the defect. If the size of defect is smaller than 1/3 of the width of the eyelid, primary closure is the ideal treatment after wedge-shaped excision. Larger defects require

reconstructive techniques that are more complex as the size and content of the defect increases (Whittaker et al. 2010, Reed et al. 2018).

Reconstruction is indicated for all defects that may cause secondary complications when not repaired. These complications include exposure keratitis, keratoconjunctivitis sicca, epiphora and lagophthalmus (Gelatt 2014). The main purpose of the reconstruction is to provide eyelid function, protect the eyeball and obtain a cosmetic appearance (Esson 2001, Gelatt 2014). The reconstruction of eyelid components including skin, muscle, tars and conjunctiva is important for the function of the upper eyelid (Etemadi et al. 2013, Trbolova 2014). In cases where primary suture is insufficient, various eyelid reconstruction techniques; Cutler-Beard, Mustarde, Bucket handle, sliding skin such as semi-circular and z-plasty skin flap have been described (Esson 2001, Reed 2018). The bilateral palpebral defect of this case was repaired using Robert and Bistner technique. This technique is used for repairing of full-thickness defects of the upper eyelid. In this technique, a rotational flap that was rotated from the lower eyelid, is a preferred surgical treatment intervention. The advantages of this flap include reconstructing the eyelid defect with similar tissue (Cheng et al. 2006, Trbolova 2014, Reed et al. 2018). Since there is no marginal area like normal eyelid edge in the rotational flap, hairs on the palpebral skin may usually turn towards the cornea and cause discomfort in the eye after surgery (Cheng et al. 2006). 4 weeks after the operation, no such

complication was encountered in our case. In addition, this procedure may cause complications such as ectropion of the lower eyelid after the operation (Reed et al. 2018). Ectropion was common in this disease compared to other complications, which did not develop in this patient.

In conclusion, a large number of upper eyelid reconstruction options are available. When evaluating them and choosing the appropriate one, it is necessary to select the method that gives the best result and causes the least damage.

The rotation flap of the lower eyelid can be said to be a technique that provides satisfaction results in both cosmetic and functional aspects in the treatment of rare eyelid coloboma.

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## True Hermaphroditism in a Dog: A Case Report

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### ABSTRACT

True hermaphroditism in a dog is described in this case report. An eight month old cross-breed dog with enlarged structure protruding from the vulva was brought for an ovariectomy operation. Physical examinations exposed the presence of an os clitoris and urethral orifice at the base of the os clitoris. Exploratory laparotomy was performed as a diagnostic and therapeutic procedure. Both gonadal tissues and the genital tract were removed during surgery and brought to the laboratory for pathological examinations. Microscopic examinations showed that the right gonad had both seminiferous tubules like testis and primer follicles like ovarium. The concentrations of serum progesterone, testosterone and 17 $\beta$ -estradiol were 0,188 ng/ml, 1,008 ng/ml and 23,61 pg/ml respectively. We concluded that this is a true hermaphroditism case due to the simultaneous presence of two sex gonads.

**Keywords:** Dog, Intersexuality, True hermaphroditism, Ovary, Hormone concentrations

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### Bir Köpekte Gerçek Hermafroditizm: Olgu Sunumu

### ÖZ

Bu çalışmada, gerçek hermafrodit bir köpek anlatılmıştır. Vulvasından dışarıya doğru çıkan büyük bir kitle olan 8 aylık melez bir köpek kısırlaştırma operasyonu için araştırma merkezimize getirildi. Fiziksel muayenelerde os klitoris varlığı ve bunun bazalinde uretral deliğin olduğu saptandı. Teşhis ve tedavi amacıyla hayvana ovariectomy operasyonu uygulandı. Her iki gonadal doku ve uterus patolojik incelemeler için laboratuvara gönderildi. Mikroskopik incelemeler, sağ gonadın hem testis gibi seminifer tubuller hem de ovarium gibi primer foliküller içerdiğini gösterdi. Serum progesteron, 17 $\beta$ -östradiol ve testosteron düzeyleri sırasıyla 0,188 ng/ml, 23,61 pg/ml, 1,008 ng/ml olarak ölçüldü. Köpekte her iki gonadal dokunun aynı anda bulunması nedeniyle olgunun bir gerçek hermafroditizm olgusu olduğu kanısına varıldı.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Köpek, İnterseksüalite, Gerçek hermafroditizm, Ovary, Hormon seviyeleri

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## INTRODUCTION

The chromosomal sex of zygote resulting in XY or XX is determined after fertilization. During the normal sex development of males, the SRY gene in the Y chromosome causes differentiation of primordial follicles in the testes at the sexual differentiation stage of the embryo. Secretion of testosterone and Mullerian Inhibiting Substance (MIS) results in the development of male genital organs. The absence of the Y chromosome and the SRY gene leads to the development of ovaries and female genitalia (Hare 1976, Poth et al. 2010). Any defect at this progression stage may cause the development of sexual disorders such as hermaphroditism. An animal that has genitalia with a part or all of the genital organs of both sexes is called a 'Hermaphrodite' (Alam et al. 2007). Male pseudohermaphrodites have testicular gonadal tissue with female genital organs, while female pseudohermaphrodites have ovarian gonadal tissue with male genital organs. As for true hermaphrodites, they have the gonadal tissues of both sexes (Hare 1976). There are various combinations involving the presence of both ovarian and testicular tissues in true hermaphrodites. A testis and ovary may be found in contralateral sides, ovotestis may be found in both sides or the ovotestis may be paired with one ovary or testis (Alam et al. 2007). Poth et al. (2010) classified the reproductive tract abnormalities into three categories as sex chromosomes, gonadal sex development and phenotypic sex development disorders. Developmental disorders like these are caused by genetic or chromosomal abnormalities and iatrogenic hormonal or chemical exposure (Pasello-Legrand and Mowat 2004). Hermaphroditism is generally reported to be rare in dogs and it is often associated with infertility (Hare 1976, Kim and Kim 2006). In this paper, we report a case of true hermaphroditism in a dog.

## CASE HISTORY

A cross bred dog aged 8 months was brought to the Veterinary Health, Practice and Research Centre of Afyon Kocatepe University for an ovariohysterectomy. The owner noted that the dog was classified as a female at birth and no abnormalities were reported except the absence of estrous behavior and an enlarged clitoris. The initial examination of the external genital organs revealed that an enlarged clitoris protruded from the vulva (Fig. 1). It was approximately 4 cm in length and 0,5 cm wide. Palpation of the enlarged tissue indicated the presence of an urethral orifice at the base of the os clitoris. During transabdominal ultrasonography,

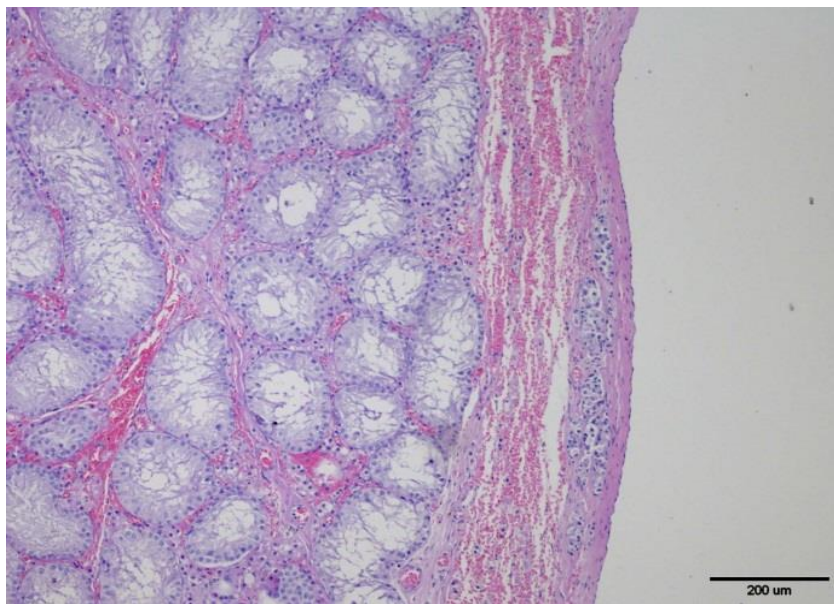
neither follicles nor pathological structures were observed on the ovaries. Blood samples were collected for sex hormone analyses and it was decided to perform exploratory laparotomy for diagnosis and treatment.

The dog was administered 0,04 mg/kg atropine sulphate (Atropine sulphate inj®, Vetaş, Turkey) subcutaneously 30 min before the surgery. Intra catch i.v. cannula (18 G) was placed into the v. cephalica antebrachii for applying the anesthetics and intravenous solutions. The animal was premedicated with 0,3 mg/kg midazolam (Dormicum, Roche®, Turkey) given intravenously. Induction of anesthesia was performed with 6 mg/kg propofol (Propofol®, Abbott, Turkey) via IV bolus. Following endotracheal intubation, general anesthesia was maintained with 2% isoflurane (Forane®, Abbott, Turkey). The surgical incision was made on the abdominal midline about 2-3 cm in length. The reproductive internal organs were similar to those of a female dog in the inspection of the abdomen. After two ligations of the ovarian pedicles and the uterine body, both gonadal tissues and the genital tract were removed and brought to the laboratory for pathological examinations. The surgery was concluded in a routine manner by closing the abdominal wall. Additionally the enlarged clitoris protruding from the vulva was removed (clitorisectomy). No complication occurred after the operation.

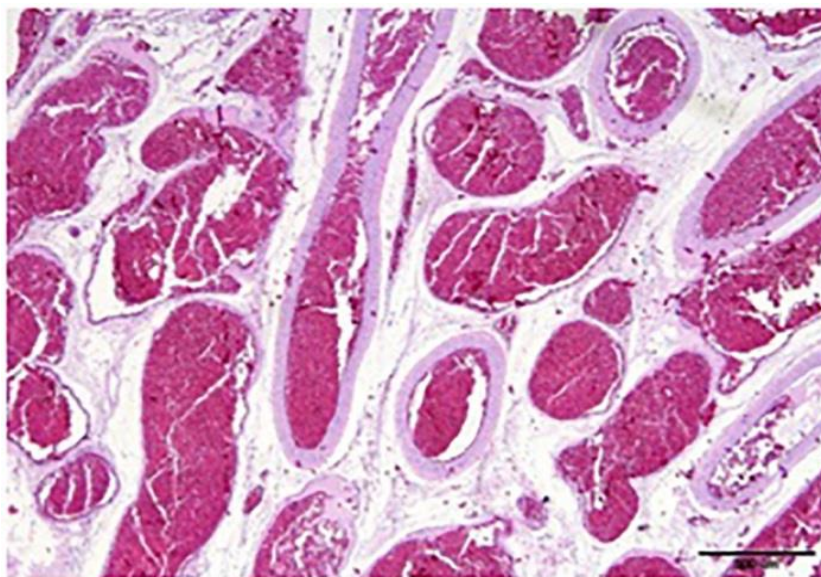
Uterine horns were 17 cm in length, left and right gonads were 1 cm and 2,5 cm in diameter respectively. Gonadal tissues were fixed in 10% neutral-buffered formalin, embedded in paraffin wax, sectioned at 5-6 µm and stained with hematoxylin and eosin. In the microscopic examination, there were numerous structures such as degenerative seminiferous tubules containing 2-3 layer cells on basal and primer follicles close to the cortex in the right gonad (Fig. 2) and numerous wide vessels filled with erythrocytes in the left gonad (Fig. 3). Microscopy of the uterine mucosa revealed wide hemorrhages between glands in the lamina propria (Fig. 4). Blood samples were transported to the Faculty of Medicine of Afyon Kocatepe University for measuring serum progesterone, testosterone and 17β-estradiol concentrations. Hormone levels were determined by electrochemiluminescence immunoassay (ECLIA, cobas e, Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany), according to the manufacturer's instructions. The concentrations of serum progesterone, testosterone and 17β-estradiol were 0,188 ng/ml, 1,008 ng/ml and 23,61 pg/ml respectively.



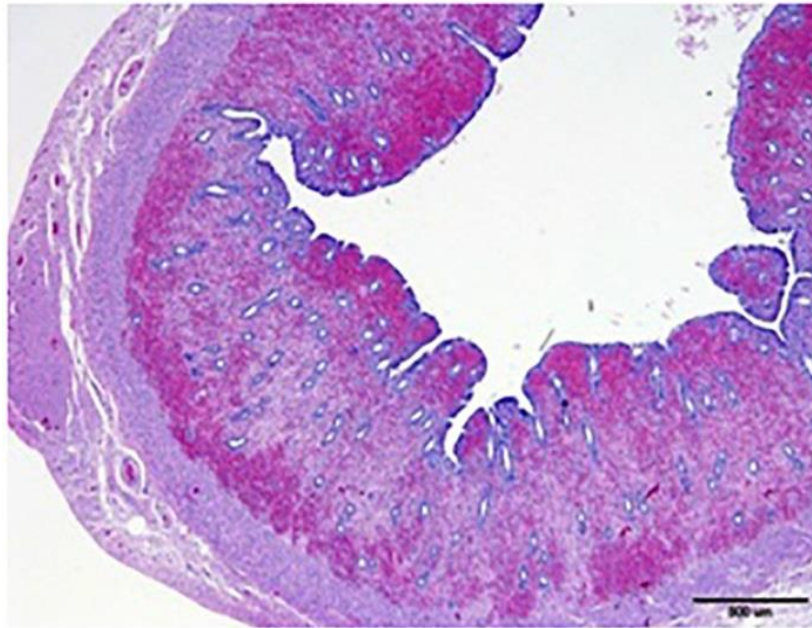
**Fig. 1.** Enlarged structure protruding from the vulva.



**Fig. 2.** Right gonad with degenerative seminiferous tubules and primer follicles.



**Fig. 3.** Left gonad containing wide vessels filled with erythrocytes.



**Fig. 4.** Uterus

## DISCUSSION

The intersexuality (true hermaphroditism or pseudohermaphroditism) in mammals has been described in numerous species including humans, cattle, horses, dogs and monkeys (Atakam 1954, Dunn et al. 1968, Meyers-Wallen et al. 1997, Del Amo et al. 2001, Pasello-Legrand and Mowat 2004). A defect at any step of sexual development, the chromosomal, gonadal or phenotypic level of differentiation can lead to sexual abnormalities (Kim and Kim 2006). Incorrect timing of releasing the Mullerian Inhibiting Factor and inadequate secretion of testosterone by leydig cells can cause the presence of Mullerian and Wolffian structures together in true hermaphrodites (Vani 2008). In this case, a rare condition, true hermaphroditism, has been reported with the findings of macroscopic, histological and the hormonal profile of a dog.

Serum levels of testosterone, estradiol and progesterone were reported as 0,01-41,5 ng/ml, 33,6-66,6 pg/ml and 0,02-0,5 ng/ml in healthy male dogs and 0,01-0,3 ng/ml, 31,5-69,0 pg/ml and 0,01-0,65 ng/ml in healthy female dogs, respectively (Concannon and Castracane 1985, Frank et al. 2003). However, we were unable to find any research that reported steroid levels of true hermaphrodite dogs, Del Amo et al. (2001) and Alam et al. (2007) reported hyperestrogenemia and low serum concentrations of testosterone in male pseudohermaphrodite dogs. In this case, the concentrations of serum testosterone were found to be 1,008 ng/ml. The level of testosterone is similar to the basal levels of male dogs but higher than females and male pseudohermaphrodites. It is suggested that the

normal testosterone concentrations may be due to true hermaphroditism and the presence of seminiferous tubules. The estrogen level (23,61

pg/ml) was lower than that of healthy males, females and male pseudohermaphrodites. Del Amo et al. (2001) suggested that the hyperestrogenemia and low testosterone serum concentrations in male pseudohermaphrodite dogs may be due to the sertoli cell tumors. In the present study, no evidence of sertoli cell tumors has been observed. The serum progesterone level of the patient was similar to that of healthy male and female dogs. Since there were no clear discrepancies regarding the concentrations of progesterone, it might be suggested that there is no association between the concentrations of progesterone and hermaphroditism.

True hermaphrodites have the gonads of both sexes (Alam et al. 2007). Although it is very rare; they can have one testis on one side and one ovary on the other (Atakam, 1954) or ovotestis may be paired with one ovary or testis (Alam et al. 2007). In our case, pathological examinations revealed that there are degenerative seminiferous tubules similar to testis tissue and primer follicles close to the cortex on the right gonad and the other gonad has numerous blood vessels filled erythrocyte. It is suggested that this is a true hermaphrodite dog because of the pathological findings.

Pasello-Legrand and Mowat (2004) reported that hermaphroditism is caused by genetic or chromosomal abnormalities and incorrect hormonal or chemical exposure. According to the anamnesis,

no hormonal or chemical treatment was applied to the patient. Therefore, it is suggested that the abnormality originates either from genetic or chromosomal defects. This report describes the first true hermaphrodite case in a cross-bred dog in Turkey.

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**Acknowledgements**, it is advised to acknowledge persons or institutions directly or indirectly involved in the study.

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