

# Combined use of plasmid drug pCMV-VEGFA and autodermoplasty for stimulation of skin defects healing in the experiment

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## Abstract

© 2018 Human Stem Cell Institute. All rights reserved. To find effective ways to stimulate chronic skin wounds healing (including deep burns, diabetic and trophic ulcers) is an actual multidisciplinary task. The aim of our study was to assess the potential of using autodermoplasty in combination with plasmid drug pCMV-VEGFA to optimize skin defects repair in the experiment. Autodermoplasty was performed on Wistar rats. The size of the skin flap was 22 cm. Immediately after surgery the animals of the test group (n=8) underwent intradermal injection in the periphery of autotransplant with 1 ml solution containing 0.3 mg of supercoiled plasmid DNA pCMV-VEGFA, rats of the control group (n=8) received 1 ml of 0.9 % NaCl. The results were analyzed in 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 days using macroscopic evaluation, laser Doppler flowmetry, histological methods. Macroscopically in the test group necrosis of the transplanted skin flap was found at later periods of observation, in one case complete survival of autotransplant was observed. The results of laser Doppler flowmetry in the group with plasmid DNA did not have statistically significant differences with control. The wound defect diameter in the test group at 12 days was  $5,52 \pm 4,80$  mm, in the control  $12,45 \pm 0,82$  mm ( $p=0,03$ );  $2,53 \pm 2,94$  mm and  $4,23 \pm 3,5$  mm ( $p=0,067$ ) at 18 days, respectively. At 18 days, the average number of vessels under the flap in the central zone were: of  $26 \pm 2,9$  in the test group and  $20 \pm 8$  in control; in the peripheral zone  $27 \pm 3,4$  and of  $12,1 \pm 3,9$  ( $p=0,035$ ), respectively; in the skin muscle  $21,2 \pm 3,9$  and  $12,4 \pm 3,6$  ( $p=0,04$ ), respectively. Thus, the use of plasmid drug pCMV-VEGFA improved the skin healing after autodermoplasty.

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## Keywords

Autodermoplasty, Gene Therapy, Skin, Vascular Endothelial Growth factor, VEGFA gene

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