



# Adipose-derived stem cells and platelet rich plasma ameliorate liver cirrhotic circumstance in CCl<sub>4</sub>-induced mice: a new approach for liver cirrhosis treatment

Nhung Hai Truong, Nam Hai Nguyen, Trinh Van Le, Nghia Huynh, Dat Quoc Ngo, Thanh Van Nguyen, Ngoc Kim Phan, Phuc Van Pham

Laboratory of Stem Cell Research and Application, University of Science, Vietnam National University HCMC, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

## Abstract

**Background:** Stem cell therapy in liver cirrhosis treatment is attracting the attention of the scientific community. Adipose tissue-derived mesenchymal stem cells are a potential source of cells because they have self-renewal, high proliferation, and differentiation into a variety of cell types, including hepatocytes as potential cell sources for cirrhosis treatment. Platelet-rich plasma (PRP) growth factors contribute to regeneration and wound healing. We test the hypothesis that PRP co-administration enhances MSC treatment for mouse cirrhosis.

**Method:** Male Swiss mice were treated orally with olive oil or CCl<sub>4</sub> for 11 weeks. PRP was obtained from healthy mice. Mouse adipose-derived stem cells (mADSCs) from adipose tissue of 3 weeks CCl<sub>4</sub> mice were cultured for three passages (P<sub>3</sub>-mADSCs) before the transfer by tail vein injection with or without PRP into 11 weeks CCl<sub>4</sub> mice. Mice were divided into six groups (n=10 each group). 1) normal, 2) cirrhotic, 3) cirrhotic/PBS; 4) cirrhotic/PRP (0.2 ml/mice with PRP from healthy mice), 5) cirrhotic/mADSCs (5 x 10<sup>5</sup> cells/mice), and 6) cirrhotic/mADSC-PRP.

**Result:** mADSCs were highly positive for CD44, CD90, and CD105. Relative to liver cells, P<sub>3</sub>-mADSCs highly expressed Alb, Ck18, Ck19, Tnf, c-met, Cyp1a1, Afp, Muc1, Ldl receptor. mADSCs were strongly positive for Cyp1a1 (98.21±1.57%) and Hgf (95.55±3.11%); moderately positive for alfa-fetoprotein (45.99±2.08%), Aat (44.43±7.79%), Alb (57.81±8.49%) and differentiated into hepatocyte-like cells under induction medium. After transplantation, CFDA-transplanted cells into CCl<sub>4</sub>-treated mice were found in the liver at day 21 st. Compared to mADSCs, mADSCs and PRP co-treatment most effectively improved serum AST/ALT/bilirubin and albumin levels in day seven cirrhotic mice (p<0.05); and significantly down-regulated procollagen (104-fold less) and TGF-beta 1 (10-fold less) in day 21 cirrhotic liver. Histology index and collagen deposition were improved in 100% of mADSC/PRP- and mADSCs- cirrhotic mice compared to 33.3% of PBS- or PRP- cirrhotic liver (p<0.05).

**Conclusion:** Cultured mADSCs express hepatocyte enriched markers. PRP coadministration enhances mADSC effects to improve liver function further, and further reduce fibrosis.

\*For correspondence:

thnhung@hcmus.edu.vn

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## Keywords

Adipose-derived stem cells, liver cirrhosis, liver disease, mesenchymal stem cells, stem cell therapy

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## References