

## The Effect of Pulsed Electromagnetic Field in Human Intervertebral Disc Cell

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### – Abstract –

**Study design:** An in vitro experiment.

**Objectives:** To assess the effect of pulsed sinusoidal EMF on human intervertebral disc (IVD) cells.

**Literature Review Summary:** Electromagnetic field (EMF) is known to modify some relevant physiological parameters of cells cultured in vitro, such as proliferation, synthesis, secretion of growth factors and transcription. EMF induces bone formation in delayed, non union and spinal fusion models. Also, the exposure of EMF has been shown to protect against the hazardous effect of smoking in the rabbit IVD.

**Materials and Methods:** Human IVD cells were three- dimensionally cultured in alginate beads and exposed to a 650 , 1.8mil- litesla magnetic flux density, 60Hz sinusoidal wave of EMF. The cultures were divided into the control and EMF groups, with various exposure times. The cytotoxicity, and DNA and proteoglycan syntheses were measured by the MTT assay, and [3H]- thymidine and [35S]- sulfate incorporation, respectively. RT- PCRs were performed for aggrecan, and collagen types I and II mRNA expressions.

**Results:** There was no recognizable cytotoxicity in the EMF group, but cellular proliferation was stimulated (p<0.05). Newly synthesized proteoglycan, normalized by DNA synthesis, was decreased in the EMF group (p<0.05) as were the expressions of aggrecan (48hour exposure) and type II collagen (72 hours exposure) mRNA compared to the control group.

**Conclusions:** EMF seems to be hazardous in the synthesis of the chondrogenic matrix, while marginally beneficial in the cellular proliferation of human IVD cells.

**Key Words:** Electromagnetic fields(EMF), Intervertebral disc(IVD), Proteoglycan

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CMB- Y UHAN (6-2003-0092)



가 1.2%가  
 $2 \times 10^6$  cells/ml  
 102 mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$

1/2  
 .( ) 26 G 1 cc  
 24 well plate alginic acid

well 10 가  
 polymerization  
 saline

10  
 10% FBS, 25 ug/ml ascorbic acid, 1% v/v  
 penicillin/streptomycin (all antibiotics from Invitrogen,  
 Grand Island, NY) DMEM/F12  
 well 1 ml 가

5%  $\text{CO}_2$  37

4. MTT assay

PBS MTT stock (5 mg MTT(3-[4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl]-2,5-diphenyl-tetrazolium bromide)/ml)  
 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  syringe filter filtration working  
 1:5 (MTT stock : )

50  $\mu\text{l}$  MTT work-  
 ing 가 . plate  
 37 4

DMSO(Dimethyl sulfoxide,  
 sigma, D-5879) 200  $\mu\text{l}$  가 10 rotator  
 . spectrophotometer 570 nm  
 Absorbance .

5. (H3-Thymidine incorporation)

DNA  
 가 [methyl-3H]thymidine  
 (Amersham pharmacia, Uppsala, sweden) 5  $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$  가  
 24 . 24

PBS , 28 mM EDTA (pH8.0) /  
 0.15 M NaCl 3 alginate bead

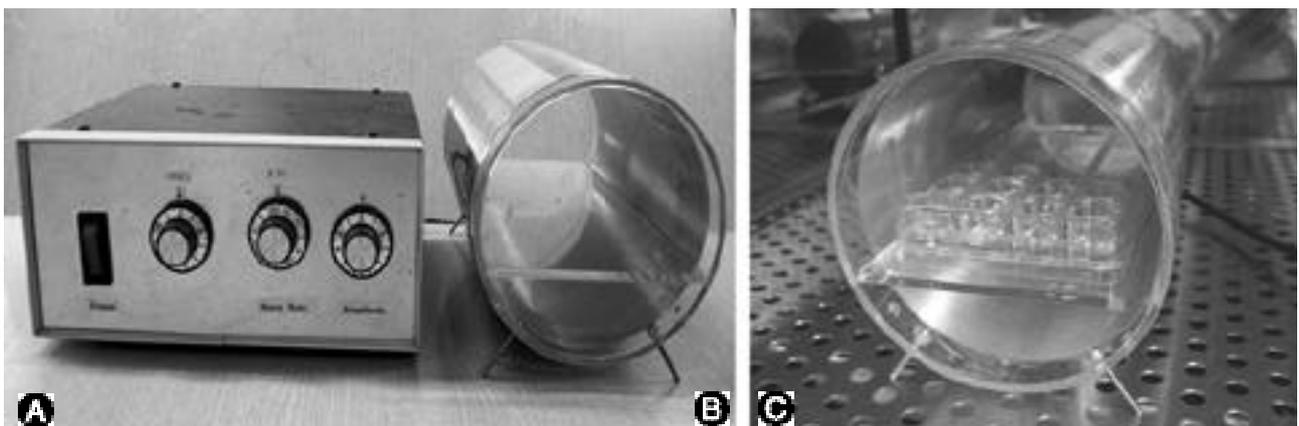
, cell harvester Glass microfiber fil-  
 ter (Whatman, Maidstone, England) .  
 D-PBS unbounded [methyl-3H]thymi-  
 dine . 16 mem-  
 brane , membrane scintillation vials

Liquid scintillation cocktail (Beckman,  
 Fullerton,CA) 3 ml 가 16  
 DNA가 . -scintillation  
 counter (Packard, Downers Grove, IL) DNA

6. (S35-sulfate incorporation)

[35S]-sulfate (Amersham pharmacia, Uppsala, Sweden) 20  
 $\mu\text{Ci/ml}$  가 4 가  
 . 8 M guanidine hydrochloride, 20 mM EDTA,  
 proteinase inhibitors 가  
 4 48 .

Sephadex G-25M PD-10 column (Amersham  
 Pharmacia, Uppsala, Sweden)  
 , Liquid scintillation cocktail (Beckman,



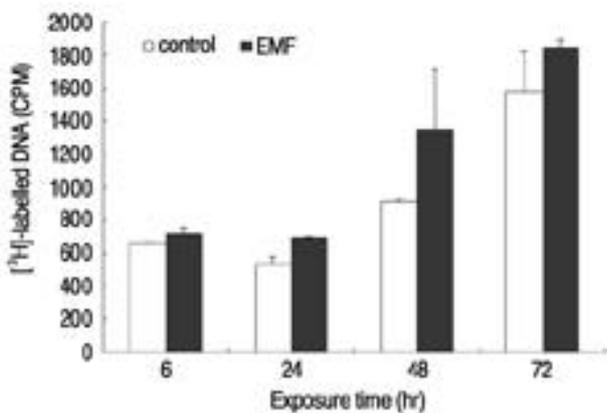
**Fig. 1.** Electromagnetic field (EMF) generator A; Power source B; EMF generator C; Culture plate in EMF generator. EMF was exposed to IVD cells with 650, 1.8 millitesla magnetic flux density, 60Hz sinusoidal wave. Cultures were divided into control and EMF group with various exposure times.

Fullerton, CA) 6 ml 가 16  
 2,3,4 -scintillation  
 counter (Packard, Downers Grove, IL)

7. (Aggrecan, I, II mRNA )

Alginate bead 3  
 , 28 mM EDTA (pH8.0) / 0.15M NaCl  
 가 depolymerization RNeasy mini kit  
 (QIAGEN, Maryland, USA) RNA  
 RNA 1ug Oligo d(T)16 primer  
 2.5uM (Invitrogen, Grand Island, NY) 가 70  
 5 annealing RT-premix (Bioneer, ,  
 ) 42 1 , 95 5 , 4  
 5 cDNA . cDNA 1ul  
 primer 10 pmol/ul 가 가  
 20ul가 PCR premix (Bioneer, , )  
 aggrecan, I, II , -actin  
 PCR .(Table 1, 2) RT-PCR  
 internal control -actin  
 TINA program .

8. 1, 4, 6, 12, 24,  
 36, 48, 72 (radiation)



**Fig. 2.** Percent control of DNA synthesis measured by [3H]-thymidine incorporation (CPM). Control; cultures without EMF exposure, EMF: cultures with EMF exposure for 6, 24, 48, 72 hours.

I, II mRNA ) (aggrecan,

9. SPSS (SPSS, Chicago, IL)  
 One way ANOVA t-test  
 p<0.05

1. MTT assay

(p=0.542)

2. (DNA )  
 DNA 가

48 가  
 (Fig. 2).

3. DNA  
 .(p<0.05) 6

(24, 48 ) 가  
 (p<0.05)(Fig. 3).

4. Aggrecan mRNA 48  
 72 가 II 6 , 24 mRNA  
 72 가 I , 48 mRNA 가

(Fig. 4).

가

DNA

가

48

가

48

가

가

cartilage)

GAG

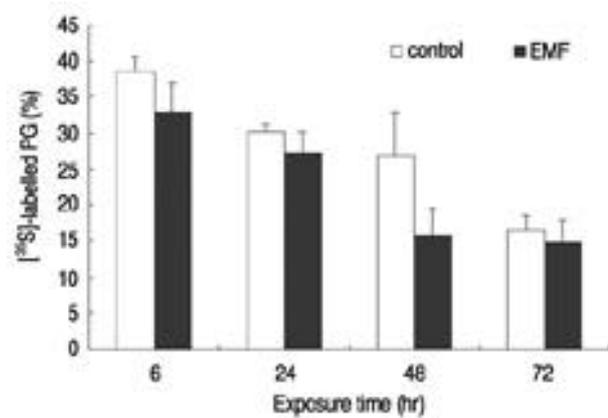
1-5)

6-7)

10-11)

(nasal

DNA



**Fig. 3.** Percent control of proteoglycan synthesis measured by [35S]-Sulfate incorporation (CPM). Control: cultures without EMF exposure, EMF: cultures with EMF exposure for 6, 24, 48, 72 hours.

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**Table 1.** Sequences of the RT-PCR Primers Used

Primer	Sequence	Length	Size (bp)
-actin	5'-GGC GGA CTA TGA CTT AGT TG-3'	20	238
	5'-AAA CAA CAA TGT GCA ATC AA-3'	20	
Aggrecan	5'-GAA TCT AGC AGT GAG ACG TC-3'	20	541
	5'-CTG CAG CAG TTG ATT CTG AT-3'	20	
Collagen type	5'-CCT GTC TGC TTC CTG TTA AC-3'	20	182
	5'-AGA GAT GAA TGC AAA GGA AA-3'	20	
Collagen type	5'-CAG GAC CAA AGG GAC AGA AA-3'	20	328
	5'-TTG GTC CTT GCA TTA CTC CC-3'	20	

**Table 2.** PCR Conditions

Primer	Conditions Cycle			
	Denaturation	Annealing	Polymerization	cycles
-actin	94 5 sec	53 5 sec	72 30 sec	24
Aggrecan	94 5 sec	47 5 sec	72 30 sec	26
Collagen type	94 5 sec	48 5 sec	72 30 sec	21
Collagen type	94 5 sec	48 5 sec	72 30 sec	40

60% 가 DNA  
6, 24, 72  
DNA 가

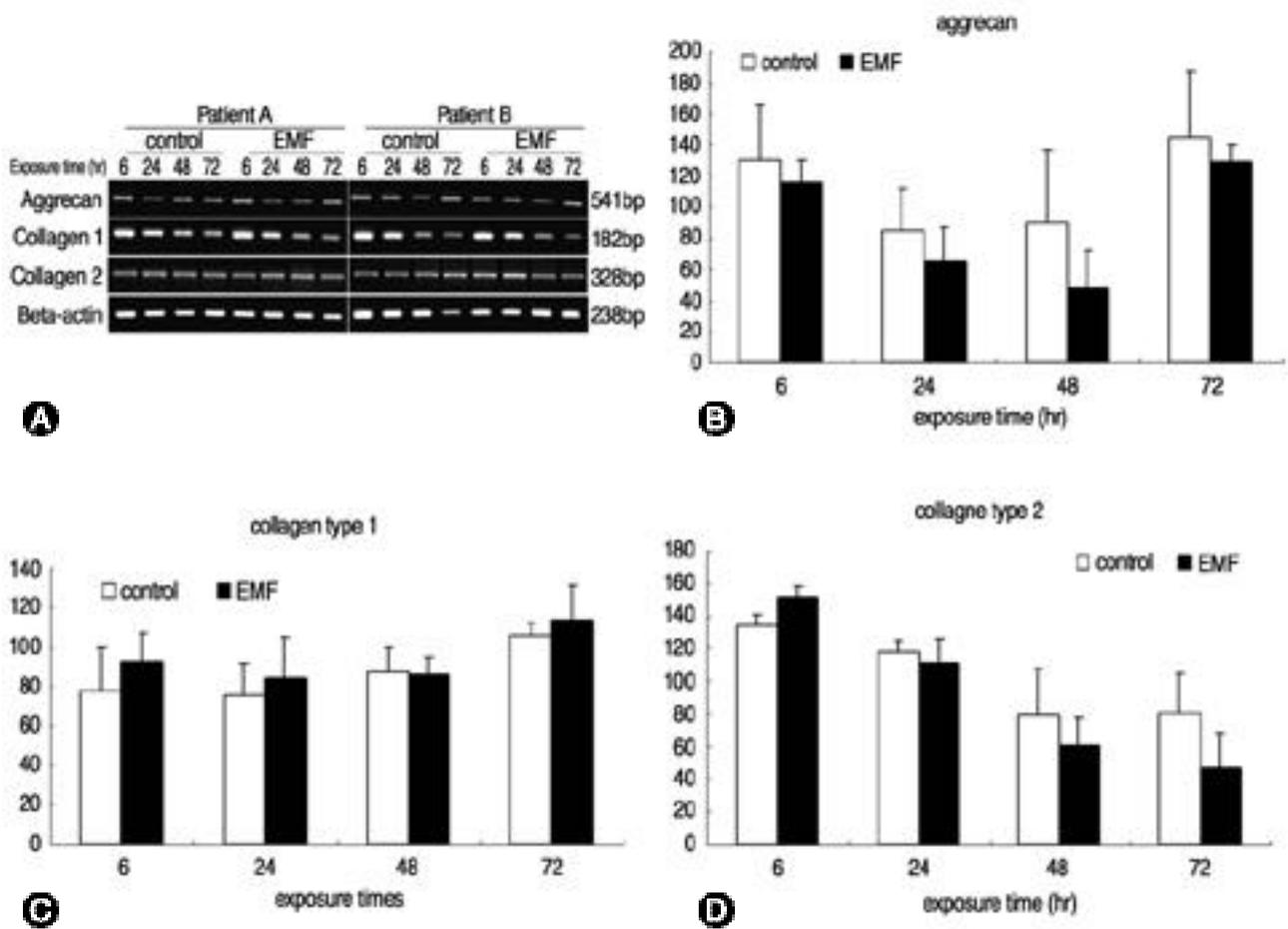
48

aggrecan, I, II mRNA  
aggrecan mRNA 48  
가 II

mRNA 72

가 I

mRNA



**Fig. 4.** Effect of EMF on the expression of aggrecan and collagen type 1 and 2. A; The IVD cells were exposed to various times of EMF. Total RNA was isolated from cells and subjected to RT-PCR. A; The PCR products were separated on 2% agarose gels containing ethidium bromide, and then observed on an ultraviolet transilluminator. B, C, D; The expression of each band seen in A was quantified using an image analyzer. The results are presented as the percentage of the mRNA level relative to  $\beta$ -actin for each band.

- 가 5, 10) 가
- 가 가
- DNA 가
- 가
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ic flux density, 60 Hz sinusoidal wave)

DNA [3H]-thymidine incorporation MTT assay, alginate bead  
 RT-PCR densitometric assay aggrecan, 1 , II [35S]-sulfate incorporation mRNA

: 가 DNA

(72 ) mRNA aggrecan(48 ) II

: DNA 가

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