

### Histologic Study on Reperfusion Liver after the Revascularization through the Portal Vein or Hepatic Artery Following Heterotopic Partial Liver Transplantation in Rats

Myung Hee Youn, MD., Chung Han Lee, MD., Koon Taek Han, MD.<sup>1</sup>, Dong Hun Kim, MD.<sup>1</sup> and Mun Sup Sim, MD.<sup>1</sup>

**Purpose:** The technique of partial liver transplantation from a living donor was developed to expand the donor pool. However such small grafts may not only be functionally inadequate for the recipient, but will also sustain injury characterized by cholestasis and histological features of ischemia after implantation. Damage to partial liver grafts after reperfusion is frequently observed but the mechanism of injury remains unclear. Injury to partial liver grafts may be related to changes in portal blood flow. In this study, we investigated the histologic changes of the reperfusion of livers after revascularization through the portal vein or hepatic artery following heterotopic partial liver transplantation in rats.

**Methods:** Inbred Lewis partial liver were transplanted to inbred Brown Norway rats heterotopically in three groups. The first group of transplants, Group I (Portal vein group, n=3) was reperfused firstly through the portal vein. The second group, Group II (Hepatic artery group, n=3) was firstly reperfused through the hepatic artery. The third group, Group III (Control, n=1) was sham-operated. After reperfusion, the liver grafts were procured and fixed in formalin. The reperfusion livers were studied using immunohistochemical staining and in-situ RT PCR.

**Results:** In the H&E staining of the reperfusion livers there were no differences between groups I and II. Using immunohistochemical staining of TNF- $\alpha$ , FAS L, caspase 8 and in-situ RT PCR (NOS mRNA, TNF- $\alpha$  mRNA, FAS mRNA),

the hepatic artery first reperfusion liver showed more damage than the portal vein first reperfusion liver. TUNEL staining showed severe apoptosis in hepatic artery reperfusion liver. **Conclusion:** The expression of the apoptosis molecular markers was more prominent in the reperfused liver performed with initial revascularization using the hepatic artery, rather than portal vein. These findings may be due to fact that the high oxygen blood in the hepatic artery is stressful to the reperfusion liver. The routinely used portal vein first revascularization technique decrease reperfusion injury to the graft when compared to hepatic artery first revascularization. (J Korean Surg Soc 2002;63:89-98)

**Key Words:** Reperfusion injury, Portal vein revascularization, Partial liver transplantation

Department of Surgery, Kosin Medical College, Gospel Hospital, <sup>1</sup>Department of Surgery, School of Medicine, Busan University, Busan, Korea

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 ☎ 602-702,  
 Tel: 051-990-6462, Fax: 051-990-3007  
 E-mail: yoonmhj@dreamwiz.com  
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1990  
 , 가 (small-for-size graft)  
 .(1)  
 1994  
 1 87.3%, 2 85.6%, 3  
 85.6%, 5.7% .(2)  
 가  
 가  
 ,(2-4) - ,(5)  
 (6) primary non-  
 function (7) ,  
 가 , - (5) pre-preserva-  
 tion injury, cold preservation injury, rewarming injury, and

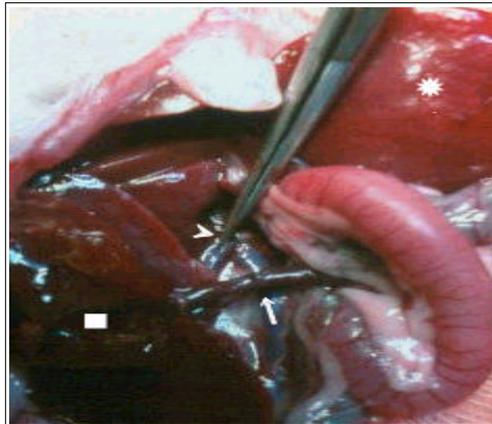
reperfusion injury , (Japan) , Dig DNA labeling and detection kit Roche (Germany) , ethanol, methanol Merck (Germany) , RNase-free DNase, RNase inhibitor, M-MuLV reverse transcriptase, Taq DNA polymerase, dNTP Promega (USA) , LSAB universal kit DAKO (USA) , PCR machine Omnigene (Hybaid, UK) . Oligonucleotide Bioneer (Korea) (Table 1). tube, pipette, tips plastic 12°C 20 . (8-10) . (11-19) (2) : inbred Lewis inbred Brown Norway (Charles River Co., Japan) 250±20 gm 12 3 ml urethane (120 g urethane/sterile water 1 L) ether 2 ml (3) ① 1 (Portal Vein (PV) group, n=3); Lee (21,22) 70% heparin (heparin 1,000 U/normal saline 1 L) 5 cc 가 가 9 0 ethilon (鉗子) (Fig. 1). 40 10 ② 2 (Hepatic Artery (HA) group, n=3); 1 celiac axis

(apoptosis) (20) (TNF- receptor (TNF · R), FAS ligand, caspase 8) (NOS mRNA, TNF · R mRNA, FAS mRNA) immunohistochemical staining in situ RT-PCR TUNEL

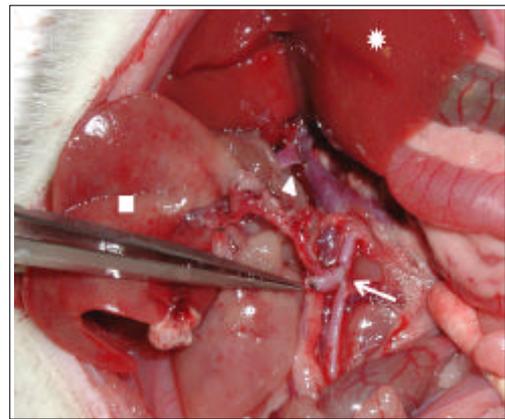
1) (1) oligonucleotide: TNF- receptor (TNF · R), FAS ligand (FAS L), caspase 8 Santa Cruz Biotechnology (USA) , DEPC, sodium chloride, Tris-HCl, sodium citrate, magnesium chloride, 3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane Sigma (USA) , hydrochloric acid, sodium hydroxide Shinyo (Japan) , slide seal TaKaRa

Table 1. List of oligonucleotide used in the experiments

Name	Sequence	GC%	Direction
rFAS L	TTAAAGCTTATACAAGCCGAAAAAGGTC	35	Forward
rFAS L	CAGTCTTGCAACAACCCAGCCCC	59	Reverse
TNF · R	CCATGAGCACAGAAAGCATGATC	47	Forward
TNF · R	TCACAGAGCAATGACTCTAAA	38	Reverse
NOS	TCAAAGGAGGCCGCATGAGCTTG	56	Forward
NOS	TCAGAGCCTCGTGGCTTTGGGCTC	63	Reverse



**Fig. 1.** Photograph of the portal vein reperfusion of heterotopic partial liver transplantation in rat. ● = recipient liver; ■ = graft liver; = portal vein anastomosis; = vena cava anastomosis.



**Fig. 2.** Photograph of the hepatic artery reperfusion of heterotopic partial liver transplantation in rat. ● = recipient liver; ■ = graft liver; = hepatic artery-aorta anastomosis; = vena cava anastomosis.

Bench surgery

1

celiac axis

50

15

③ 3 (Control group, n=1);

2)

(1)

(in situ RT-PCR

TUNEL) 10%

automatic tissue processor

paraffin 7 μm 3-

aminopropyltriethoxy silane (Sigma, USA)-coated slides

hematoxylin-eosin 1

(2) Apoptotic cell (TUNEL: TdT-mediated dUTP-biotin Nick End Labeling): Roche (Germany)

in situ cell death detection kit (Roche, Germany) TUNEL

proteinase K (20 μg/ml in Tris Hcl, pH 7.4

8.0) 15

95°C 3

PBS 15 3

TUNEL mixture 가 37°C

PBS 20 3 TUNEL

terminal dNTP transferase (TdT) 가 fluo-

rescein dUTP apoptosis DNA

fluorescein

alkaline phosphatase

37°C 30 PBS 20 3

alkaline phosphatase NBT/BCIP

200 μl 4 μl 가

30

(3) (TNF · R, FAS L, caspase 8):

xylene 15 3

ethanol (100, 95, 80, 70%) 2

30

peroxidase 3%

H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> methanol 30

PBS (phosphate buffered saline) 20 3

, antibody diluent 1 : 1000 1

4°C

PBS 20 3 , biotin 2

(DAKO LSAB kit) 37°C 30

PBS 20 3 peroxidase

streptavidin (DAKO LSAB kit) 37°C 30

, PBS 20 3 DAB

(3, 3-diaminobenzidine)

, hematoxylin counterstain

5%  
 5 24% (+), 24 50% (++) ,  
 51 74% (+++), 75% (++++)

**(4) In situ RT-PCR (NOS mRNA, TNF · R mRNA, FAS L mRNA):**

PCR  
 primer가 genomic DNA  
 RNase-free  
 DNase (5 units/ 100 µg) 37°C 3  
 94°C 3 DNase  
 in situ reverse transcription  
 mRNA M-MuLV reverse transcriptase  
 cDNA . In situ PCR Taq poly-  
 merase  
 . PCR 94°C 30 denaturation  
 , 60°C 30 renaturation 72°C 30  
 cDNA 30  
 primer Table 1 . PCR  
 digoxigenin dUTP digoxigenin  
 alkaline phosphatase가  
 alkaline phosphatase  
 cDNA  
 5%  
 5 24% (+), 24 50% (++) , 51  
 74% (+++), 75% (++++)

1)

**(1) 1 (PV group, n=3):**

(splanchnic blood)가  
 (Fig. 1).

가

**(2) 2 (HA group, n=3):**

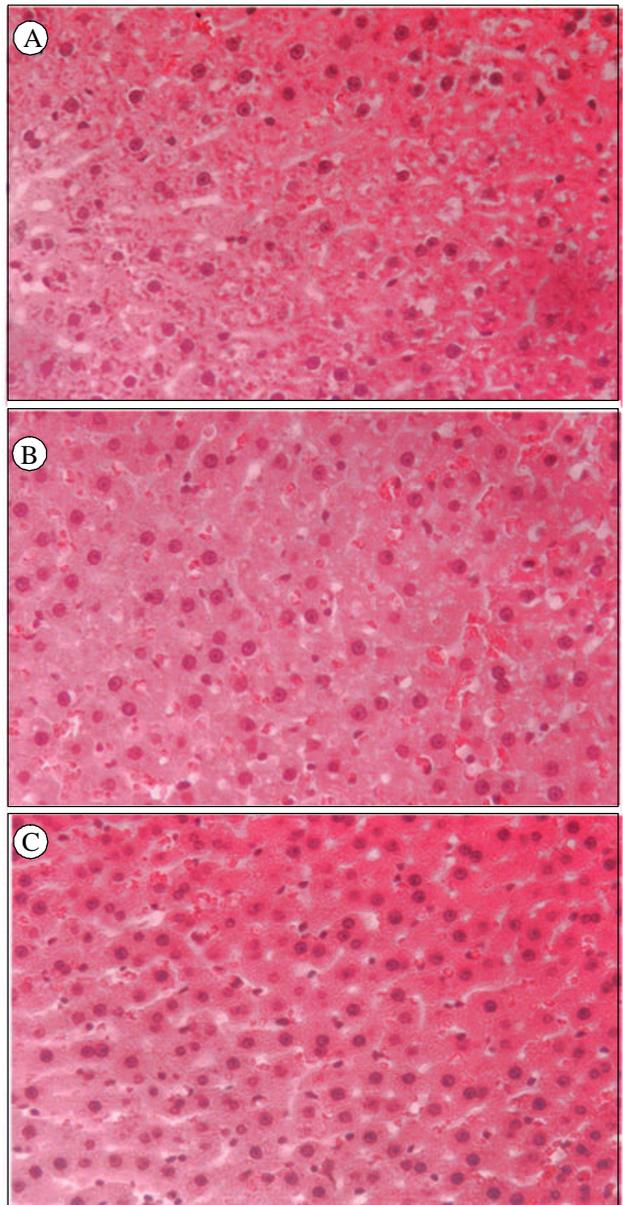
1

가

1

, 15 가 (Fig. 2).  
 20  
 가  
 2)

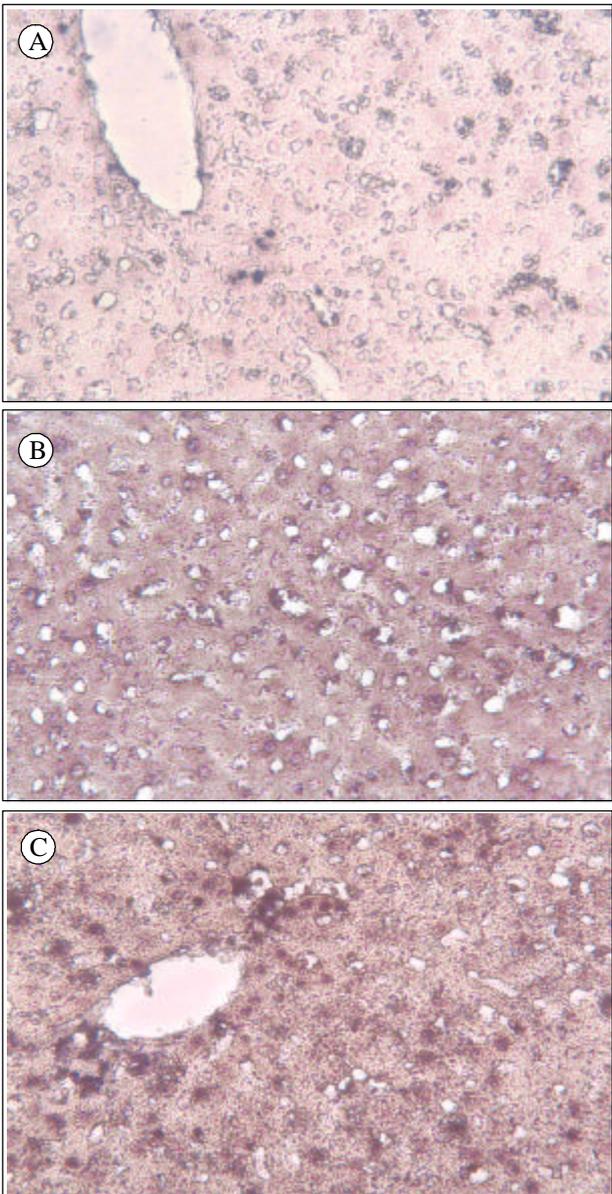
**(1) Hematoxylin-eosin : Hematoxylin-eosin**



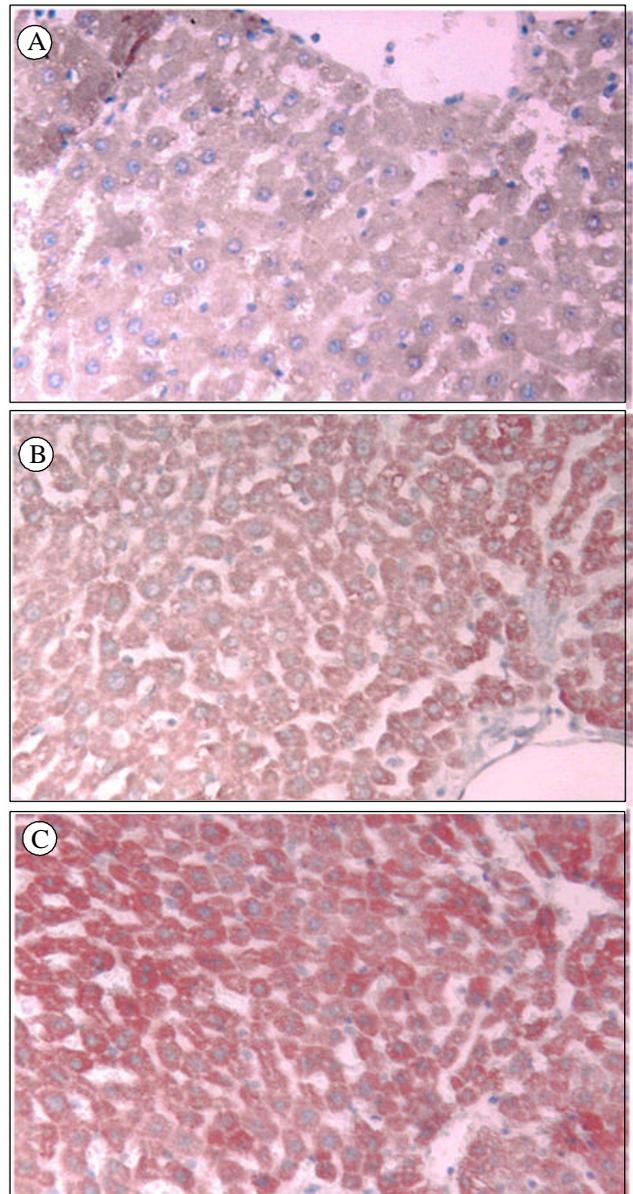
**Fig. 3.** Hematoxylin-eosin staining. There is no apoptotic cells in control liver (A), PV reperfusion liver (B) and HA reperfusion liver (C). ×200.

가 ,  
 (Fig. 3).  
 (2) Apoptotic cell (TUNEL): 가  
 TUNEL , apoptotic  
 hepatocytes control , PV group  
 20 30%, HA group 50%

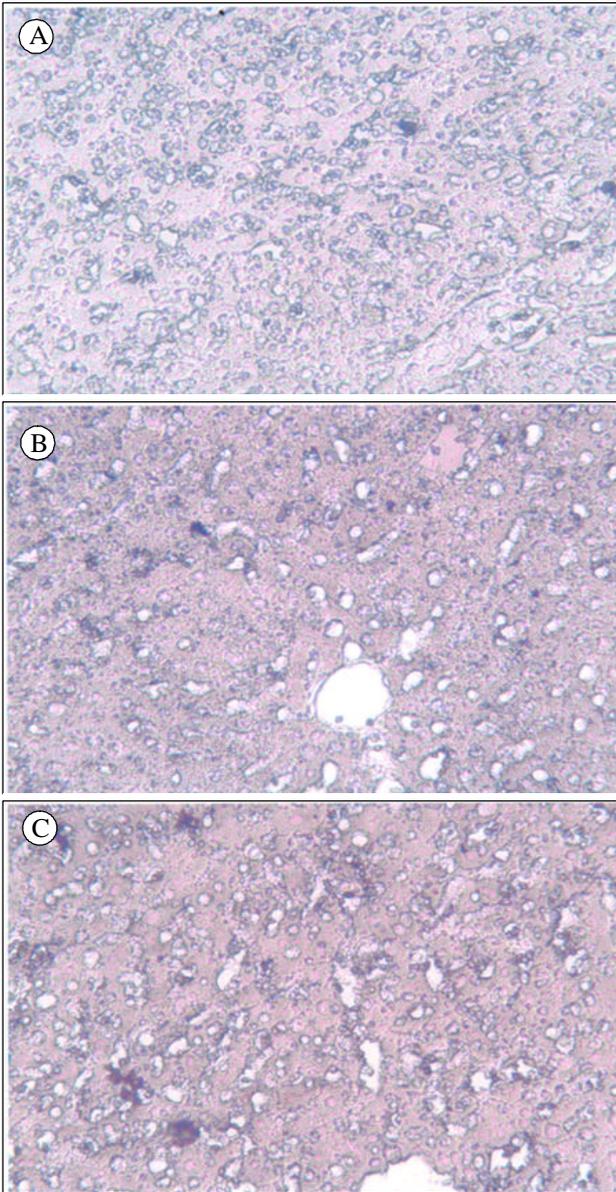
HA group 가 (Fig. 4).  
 (3) Signaling step of apoptosis: Apoptosis  
 가 , TNF- apoptosis TNF (TNF · R)  
 (Fig. 5). TNF · R mRNA in situ



**Fig. 4.** TUNEL staining. These findings show focal accumulation of apoptotic hepatocytes in PV reperfusion liver (B), and many apoptotic hepatocytes in areas of central vein of HA reperfusion liver (C). A. Control liver B. PV reperfusion liver C. HA reperfusion liver ×200.



**Fig. 5.** Immunohistochemical reaction of TNF · R by anti-TNF · R antibody. Hepatocytes show faint cytoplasmic staining in PV reperfusion liver (B), and diffuse brownish, fine granular cytoplasmic staining in HA reperfusion liver (C). A. Control liver, B. PV reperfusion liver, C. HA reperfusion liver ×200.



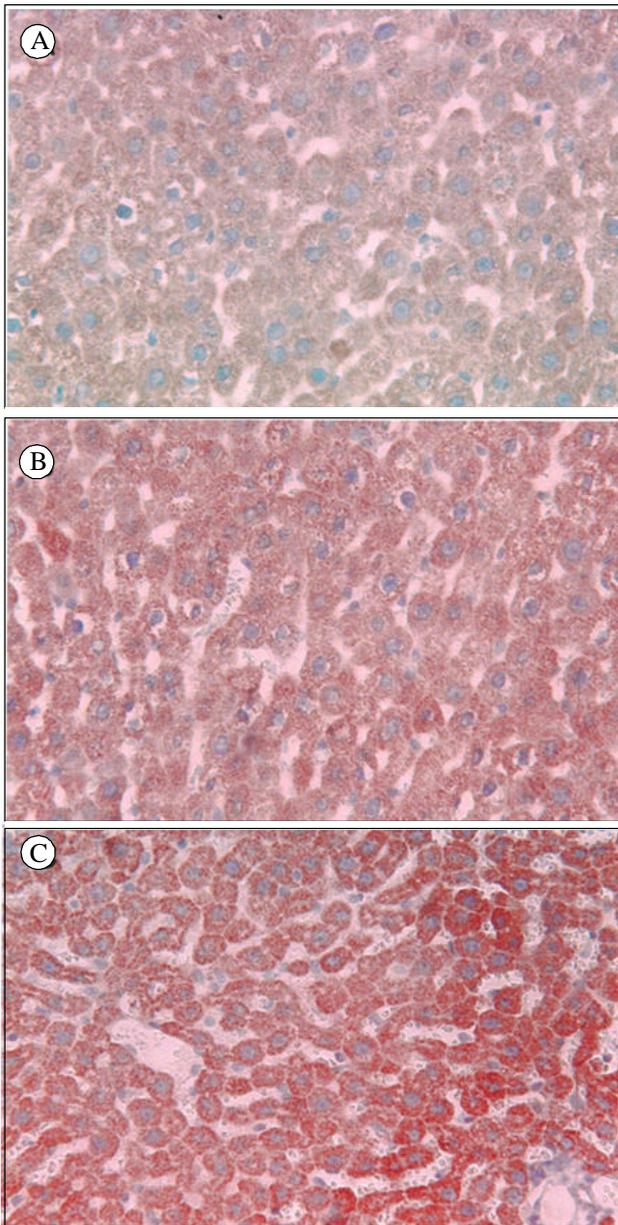
**Fig. 6.** In situ RT-PCR of TNF · R mRNA expressing cells. Hepatocytes show focal purple-colored staining in PV reperfusion liver (B), and diffuse purple-colored nuclear or cytoplasmic staining in HA reperfusion liver (C). A. Control liver B. PV reperfusion liver C. HA reperfusion liver ×200.

RT-PCR , (Fig. 6).  
 FAS FAS L가  
 FAS apoptosis (Table 2).  
 (Fig. 7). FAS L mRNA in situ RT-PCR , 가 (Fig. 8).  
 nitric oxide NOS mRNA in situ RT-PCR 가 (Fig. 9).  
**(4) Execution step of apoptosis:** apoptosis caspase가 apoptosis 가 caspase 8 가 (Fig. 10).  
 portal vein reperfusion technique hepatic artery reperfusion technique 가 . 1980

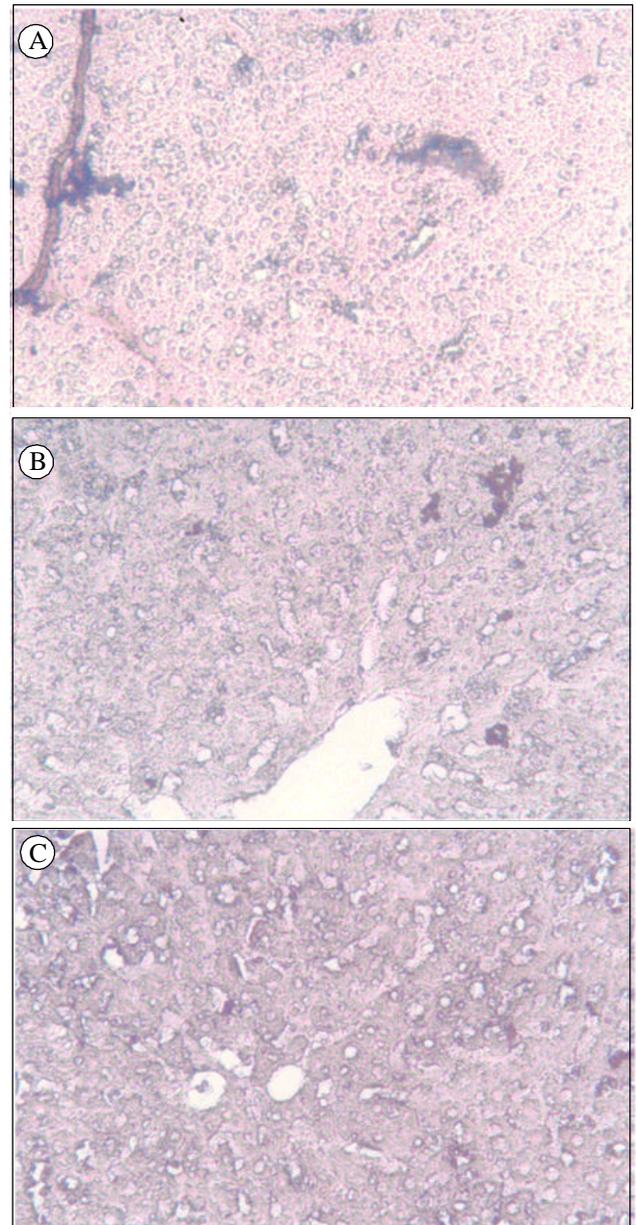
**Table 2.** Histologic staining of TNF-R/TNF·R mRNA, FAS L/FAS L mRNA, NOS mRNA and caspase 8

	Control group	PV group		HA group	
		Extent	Integrity	Extent	Integrity
TNF·R	-	++	+	++++	++
TNF·R mRNA	-	++	+/-	+++	+
FAS L	-	++++	+	++++	+++
FAS L mRNA	-	+	+	++++	++
NOS mRNA	-	++	+	+++	+++
Caspase 8	-	+++	++	+++	+++

- ≤ 5% staining; + = 5 24% staining; ++ = 24 50% staining; +++ = 51 74% staining; ++++ ≥ 74% staining.



**Fig. 7.** Immunohistochemical reaction of FAS L by anti-FAS L antibody. Hepatocytes show faint cytoplasmic staining in PV reperfusion liver (B), and diffuse brownish, fine granular cytoplasmic staining in HA reperfusion liver (C), especially in areas of portal vein. A. Control liver B. PV reperfusion liver C. HA reperfusion liver  $\times 200$ .

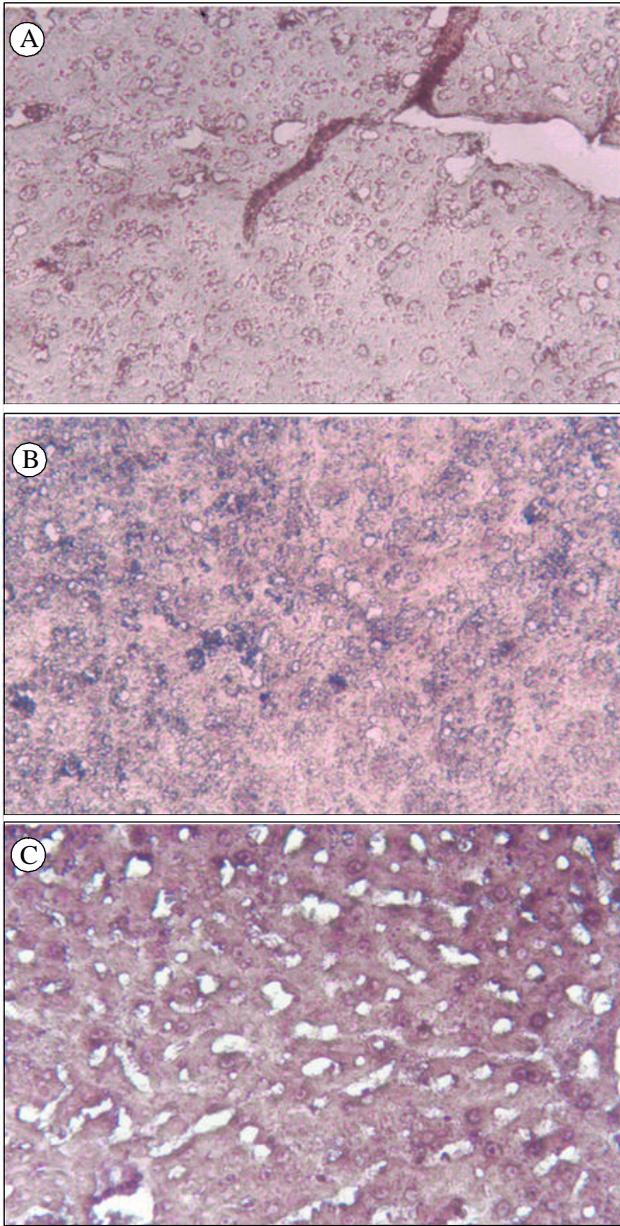


**Fig. 8.** In situ RT-PCR of FAS L mRNA expressing cells. Hepatocytes show focal purple-colored staining in PV reperfusion liver (B), and diffuse purple-colored nuclear or cytoplasmic staining in HA reperfusion liver (C). A. Control liver B. PV reperfusion liver C. HA reperfusion liver  $\times 200$ .

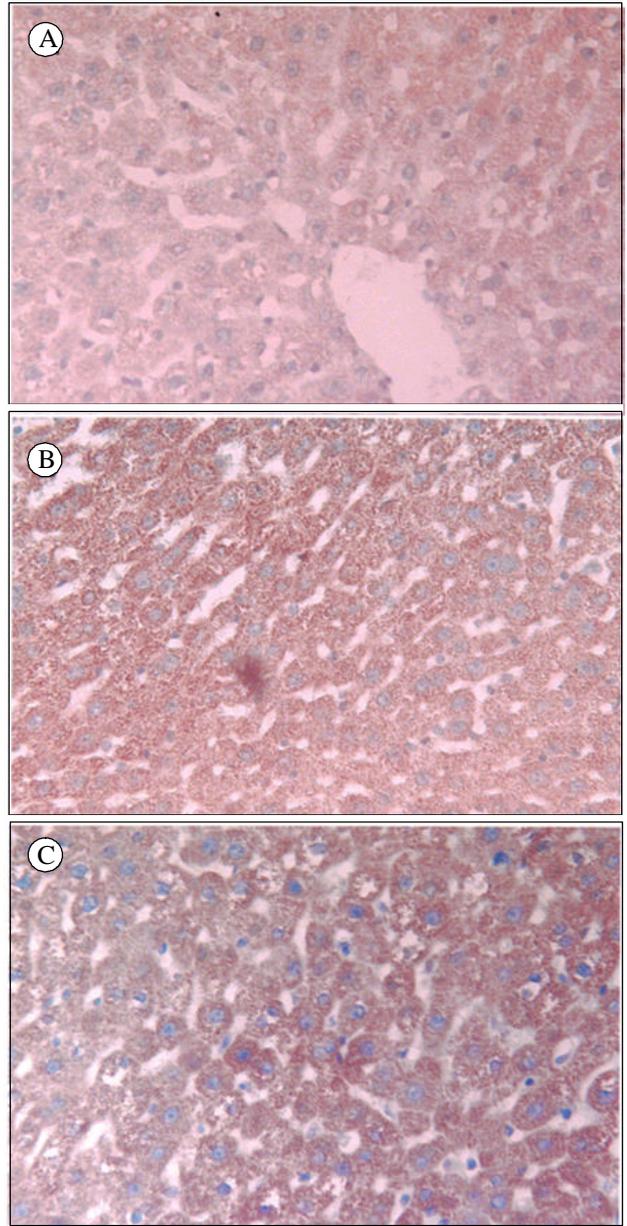
tosis)

postreperfusion syndrome (PRS)  
(23) 10 5

가 10  
, apoptosis signaling step  
execution step signaling step  
TNF- /TNF · R, FAS/FAS L  
execution step caspase 8  
(24-26) triggering factor



**Fig. 9.** In situ RT-PCR of NOS mRNA expressing cells. Hepatocytes show focal purple-colored staining in PV reperfusion liver (B), and diffuse purple-colored nuclear or cytoplasmic staining in HA reperfusion liver (C). A. Control liver B. PV reperfusion liver C. HA reperfusion liver  $\times 200$ .



**Fig. 10.** Immunohistochemical reaction of caspase 8 by anti-caspase 8 antibody. Hepatocytes show faint cytoplasmic staining in PV reperfusion liver (B), and diffuse brownish, coarse granular cytoplasmic staining in HA reperfusion liver (C). A. Control liver B. PV reperfusion liver C. HA reperfusion liver  $\times 200$ .

가 , mitochondria (superoxides, reactive oxygen species, free radicals) (27) (Kupper cells, endothelial cells, hepatocytes ) mitochondria MPT (mitochondrial permeability transition) pore  $Ca^{++}$  channel  $Ca^{++}$  cytochrome C

(28)  $Ca^{++}$ 가 TNF- /TNF · R, FAS/FAS L 가 , caspase apoptosis (23-27) cyclosporin A가 MPT pore specific blocking agent (28-30)

death :  
 necrotic death , hapanin 가  
 apoptotic death가  
 , necrotic cell  
 death  
 ,  
 apoptosis 가  
 가 apoptosis pathway  
 가 , FAS ligand, TNF- receptor, caspase 8  
 ,  
 가 he-  
 matoxylin-eosin (Fig. 3)  
 TUNEL  
 apoptotic body가 (Fig. 4).  
 ?  
 ,  
 ,  
 oxidative stress가  
 high blood flow vascular resistance가  
 가 , 1,300  
 1,400 ml per min  
 78% , 22%  
 가 ,  
 glucose  
 가  
 mitochondria free radical, superoxide, ROS  
 가 oxidative stress

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