CHAPTER 5

RESULT

5.1. Atherosclerotic Induction

The study sample comprised 20 SD rats, of which 6 rats for negative control group, 6 rats for positive control group, and 8 rats for MSC treatment group. Comparisons of baseline body weight are given in Table 5.1.

 Table 5.1. Baseline characteristic of sample

	Negative control group		Positive control group		MSC treatment group	
	Body weight	Body	Body weight	Body	Body weight	Body
	early	weight end	early	weight end	early	weight end
	experiment	experiment	experiment	experiment	experiment	experiment
	(gram)	(gram)	(gram)	(gram)	(gram)	(gram)
Sample 1	172	240	225	260	235	236
Sample 2	210	270	278	277	136	290
Sample 3	240	253	209	224	228	280
Sample 4	230	280	208	252	246	280
Sample 5	223	290	200	261	204	250
Sample 6	239	250	198	272	203	245
Sample 7	-	-	-	-	196	269
Sample 8	-	-	-	-	210	255
Mean	219	263.83	219.67	278	207.25	263.125

The data distribution of sample body weight of all groups was normal. The comparisons of sample body weight at early study were statistically not significant ($p \ge 0.05$), as showed in Figure 5.1. It means that each group did not have a different body weight. At the end of study, their body weight increased, but the result of their data distribution was normal and their comparison was not different too. Oneway anova test was used to compare the body weight.



Figure 5.1. Body weight comparison of sample at early and end of the study. NGC, negative control group; PCG, posotive control group; MTG, MSC treatment group.

All groups were maintained under controlled environment (28-32^oC), placed individually, enough ventilation, and water ad libitum. For negative control groups, they were fed with the standard diet all along the study. While, positive control and MSC treatment groups were induced to be atherosclerotic according to the methodology as mentioned in chapter 4. Result of atherosclerotic induction was identified by hemetoxilin and eosin staining. It is showed in Figure 5.2.



Figure 5.2. Hematoxilin and eosin stainning result in abdominal rats after 12 (A), 14 (B), and 17 (C) weeks atherosclerotic induction. Black arrows show foam cell. Yellow arrows show hyperplasion of smooth muscle. Green Arrows show calsification plaque.

Hematoxylin and eosin staining showed foam cells in abdominal rats after 12 weeks and calsification plaques were formed in the aortas after 17 weeks of the high-fat diet. Hence, we conducted 18 weeks for atherosclerotic induction. After atherosclerotic calsification plaque occurrred, negative control group was fed with the standard diet. While, MSC treatment group was injected with MSC intravenous and fed with the standard diet.

5.2. Mesenchymal Stem Cell Isolation and Culture

Umbilical tissue was obtained from 2 Sprague Dawley rats which 19-20 days pregnant, then it was processed according to methodology as mentioned in chapter 4. In this study, MSCs were cultured until passage 4 before they were injected to atherosclerotic SD rats. The comparison of MSC in tissue culture dish is shown in Figure 5.3.



Figure 5.3. Passage 0 - 4 of MSC culture. Passage 0 showed that the culture was still mixed with debris. Passage 0 day 1 showed that MSCs starting growth from explan. Passage 1-4 showed that the culture were clean from debris and morphology cells were more homogen than passage 0.

5.3. Mesenchymal Stem Cell Identification

For MSC identification, fibroblast like stem cells were stained their Stro-1 surface marker by immunocytochemistry, and cultured in osteogenic differentiation media for 23 days, followed by alizarine red staining.

5.3.1. Stro-1 Surface Marker Identification

Stro-1 is one of the surface markers of MSC. By immunocytochemistry, it was expressed by fibroblas like stem cells. It means that fibroblas like stem cells found in the culture were mesenchymal stem cells.



Figure 5.4. Immunocytochemistry MSC using Stro-1 antibody. Black arrows show Stro-1 expression

5.3.2. Osteoblas Differentiation of Mesenchymal Stem Cell

Fibroblast like stem cells were cultured in osteogenic differentiation media for 23 days. Morphology of cells which were cultured in osteogenic differentiation media is showed in Figure 5.5. There was no significant different in their morphology at the end of osteoblas induction. But, for the point of their proliferation capability, it seems to down slope, based on the reduction of confluent cell number when compared to control. To prove that there was calsium deposit, they were stainned by alizarin red stainning. Results of alizarin red stainning were showed in Figure 5.6. Compared to the control, fibroblast like stem cell culture in osteogenic differentiation media showed calsium deposit. It proved that fibroblast like stem cells were MSC.



Figure 5.5. Process of MSC differentiation to osteoblas in tissue culture dish



 Day 23 differentiation

 Figure 5.6. Alizarin red stainning control and differentiation. Black arrows show calcium deposit.

5.4. Abdominal Aorta Staining

5.4.1. HE staining of abdominal aorta

At the end of study, abdominal aorta was stained by hematoxilin and eosin and identified by two pathology anatomy experts. Atherosclerosis plaque was obtained from this staining procedure. The result of comparison of each group is showed in Figure 5.7 and 5.8. Atherosclerosis plaque on MSC treatment group was lower than that of positive control group, and statistically significant (p=0.006). That means intravanous injection of MSC ameliorated atherosclerosis plaque.



Figure 5.7. HE staining. Black arrows show foam cells. Yellow arrow shows calsification plaque.



Figure 5.8. The comparison of the result of HE reading. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.

5.4.2. Abdominal Aorta IL-1a Expression

Abdominal aorta IL-1 α expression was measured by immunohistochemistry and quantified according to modified intensity score. The comparison of IL-1 α expression is showed in Figure 5.9, Figure 5.10, Figure 5.11, and Figure 5.12.



Figure 5.9. IL-1a expression in endothel. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.10. IL-1 α expression in smooth muscle. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.11. IL-1 α expression in macrophage. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.12. IL-1 α expression in negative control group.

IL-1 α expression both in endothel and smooth muscle almost had the same pattern, where its expression in negative control group was higher than that of in positive control group and followed by its expression in MSC treatment group, but statistically not significant ($p \ge 0.05$). Those pattern were different from its expression in macrophage, where it was higher in MSC treatment group than that of in positive control group and followed by its expression in negative control group, statistically not significant too ($p \ge 0.05$). Both pattern are interesting, considering endothel and smooth muscle are tissue which are not mobile, different with macrophage which mobile across the tissue. Furthermore, mean of intensity score of smooth muscle cell was the lowest among all location. As we know that endothel is barier of vessel wall and it always contact with material in lumen, whereas macrophage are mobile, those add an interesting result.



Figure 5.13. IL-1 α immunohistochemistry staining of abdominal aorta. Black arrow shows IL-1 α expression in calsification plaque.

5.4.3. Abdominal Aorta IL-6 Expression

Abdominal aorta IL-6 expression was measured by immunohistochemistry and quantified according to modified intensity score. The comparison of IL-6 expression is showed in Figure 5.14, Figure 5.15, Figure 5.16, and Figure 5.17.



Figure 5.14. IL-6 expression in endothel. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.15. IL-6 expression in smooth muscle. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.16. IL-6 expression in macrophage. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.17. IL-6 expression in negative control group.

IL-6 expression in both endothel and smooth muscle had the same pattern, where its expression in negative control group was higher than that of in positive control group and followed by its expression in MSC treatment group, but statistically not significant ($p \ge 0.05$). Those pattern were different from its expression in macrophage, where it was higher in positive control group than in MSC treatment group and followed by its expression in negative control group than in MSC treatment group and followed by its expression in negative control group, statistically not significant too ($p \ge 0.05$). Both pattern are also interesting, considering endothel and smooth muscle are tissue which are not mobile, different with macrophage which mobile across the tissue. Furthermore, another interesting result was mean of intensity score of endothel and smooth muscle relatively same, additionally the different mean among them was slight.



Figure 5.18. IL-6 immunohistochemistry stainning of abdominal aortae. Black arrow shows IL-6 expression on calsification plaque.

5.4.4. Abdominal Aorta TGF-B1 Expression

Abdominal aorta TGF- β 1 expression was measured by immunohistochemistry and quantified according to modified intensity score. The quantification of TGF- β 1 expression is showed in Figure 5.19, Figure 5.20, and Figure 5.21, and Figure 5.22.



Figure 5.19. TGF- β 1 expression in endothel. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.20. TGF-β1 expression in smooth muscle. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.21. TGF- β 1 expression in macrophage. NCG: Negative control group; PCG: Positive control group; MTG: MSC treatment group.



Figure 5.22. TGF- β 1 expression in negative control group

TGF- β 1 expression in almost all location in this study showed that its expression in positive control group was higher than that of in negative control group, but statistically not significant ($p \ge 0.05$). Especially for TGF- β 1 expression in MSC treatment group, it showed fluctuating patern. Compare to the other groups, it was higher in endothel, but lower in smooth muscle and macrophage. Only its expression in macrophage which showed statistically significant lower in MSC treatment group compared to TGF- β 1 expression in positive control group (p=0.046). All pettern are interesting, considering endothel and smooth muscle are tissue which are not mobile, different with macrophage which mobile across the tissue. Furthermore, when we observed mean of intensity score from all of groups, it showed interesting pattern as well. Smooth muscle have the lowest score than all of group.



Figure 5.23. TGF- β 1 immunohistochemistry stainning of abdominal aorta. Black arrows show TGF- β 1 expression.