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THE HEN'S (*GALLUS DOMESTICUS*) OVARY IN STUDIES ON CARCINOGENESIS

Summary

Ovarian cancer is one of the most lethal of gynecologic cancers in women. Its incidence is strongly correlated with the age and ovulation rate of patients. There are still various theories about the origin of ovarian cancer, so understanding of its etiology is vital for the development of prevention, early diagnosis and therapeutic strategies. Therefore, finding of a suitable animal model for further studies is a necessity. There is growing evidence that laying hen can be treated as the appropriate animal model, because among mammals ovarian cancer does not develop spontaneously with a sufficiently high frequency. Histopathological examinations of the chicken ovarian cancer have shown its remarkable resemblance to that of women's, while detailed molecular characterization have demonstrated expression of similar specific markers, immunological and genetic factors. The utility of laying hen as the experimental model may hopefully allow to deeper understand the processes underlying development of ovarian cancer in women.

Key words: cancer markers, functions, ovary