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The Influence of Extracellular Matrix on the Phenotype
of Rat Adrenal Capsular Cells

To understand the mechanisms of adrenal regeneration, the influence of extracellular matrix was observed on the phenotype and proliferation rate of cortical cells over an 8 day time period. Immunohistochemical staining was used on the cortical cells using the primary antibodies prolyl 4-Hydroxylase and 3 beta HSD and secondary antibodies DAM FITC and DAR Cy3 respectively. Cortical cells and human foreskin fibroblasts were also counted in a hemacytometer to observe any changes in cell number over a period of 7 days. Cortical fibroblast proliferation was not influenced by the ECM, however, the HFF's and cortical cells were influenced by the ECM over time, and demonstrated some phenotypic changes.