

PASSIVE EFFECT OF X-RAY IRRADIATION ON TESTICULAR FUNCTION, SPERMATOGENESIS, SOME BLOOD PARAMETERS AND TESTOSTERONE IN MALE RABBITS

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ABSTRACT

The present study was done to determine and evaluate the effect of X-ray irradiation on the testicular tissue of rabbits those were exposed for a long time. Ten male rabbits, 8-9 months old and their weight approximately two kg. Rabbits were exposed to X-ray irradiation for two months/ twice daily. Blood parameters and testosterone hormone were measured within 20th, 40th, and 60th days after exposure. Orchidectomy were done by surgical methods after 60th days for histopathological examination. The results revealed highly changes in testis such as atrophy, hyper atrophy, blood vessel congestion and suppression of spermatogenesis, blood parameter also changed and testosterone levels reach to zero at 60th days after exposure. In concluding that the persistence of X-ray exposure caused deterioration and passive effects on testicular tissue and other organs of rabbits.

INTRODUCTION

Hazardous irradiation of x-ray is important to the patient and technician safety (1). Radiation effects on the brain tissue are cause typical necrosis and congestion in (2), physiological changes also show in serum glutathione (GSH), sulphhydry [5,5dihydrobis-2-nitrobenzoic (DTNB)] and serum protein concentration as well as lipid profile, these changes tend to increase (3). X-ray irradiation effects on the stomach cause gastric disorders which observed gastric erosion, ulcerative gastritis, stomach dilatation, and gastroparesis (4). The liver is sensitive to X-ray irradiation, the researchers showed primary liver cancer, large number of blood vessels as well as elevated liver enzyme parameters (5, 6). The risk of x-ray to the pancreas, heart, eye,

and other body organs are very dangerous which cause pancreatic tumor, pancreatic damage, eye lens cataract, and tachycardia (7,8). Male reproductive system in rabbits and other animals are sensitive to x-ray irradiation (9). The male reproductive system in rabbit consists of pair testis, epididymis, ampoules, vas deferens, urethra, penis, glands and accessory glans (10), but the sensitive organ in the male reproductive system is the testis and neighbor organs (11). X-ray irradiation induces rapid germ cell division and cause DNA damage due to long prophase and meiotic division to rise to haploid spermatids during this phase, the chromatin of DNA is extensive and are replaced by basic transition proteins followed by proteins (12). Histochemistry of testicular tissues has also changed with x-ray irradiation, when tests under 300 rads, ascorbic acid concentration and cholesterol of testes are decreasing sharply, alkaline phosphatase is elevated (13). Histopathological distinct change, spermatozoa are completely depleted, dense irregular nuclei, and acidophilus vacuolated cytoplasm, number of Sertoli and Leyding are reduced by 70 % of the total number (14). Spermiferous tubules are completely damaged and spotted with the connective tissue of Leyding cells (15). Due to destruction of testicular tissue the metabolism will be decreased, therefore the scavenger cell of free radical reduced, mutagenicity and develop the tumorous cells advertisement increase (16).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ten rabbits were used in the present study, their were weight 2 ± 0.05 kg, their ranged between age 8-9 months. Clinically, the rabbits were examined to ensure the health of the testicles and sexual behavior. The testicles were measured by Vernia before irradiation exposure. Irradiation exposure by using X-ray machine[Ecoray-USA, k. v=70, current=200mAmpere, time=70 second] figure [1, 2] (17). The rabbit testicles were irradiated by X-ray under general anesthesia by ketamine 13mg/kg.bw+ xylazine 5mg/kg.bw combination (18), the exposure for two months, twice per day directly. After two months the rabbits were castrated by open surgical method castration figure [3,4] (19). Blood collection were done by heart direction puncture with sterile syringe. Macroscopic images were taken over the operation and histopathological were made slides and stained by E & H stain technique (20).



Fig (1) ;X-ray board control. k.v= 70, time=75, current=200 mA

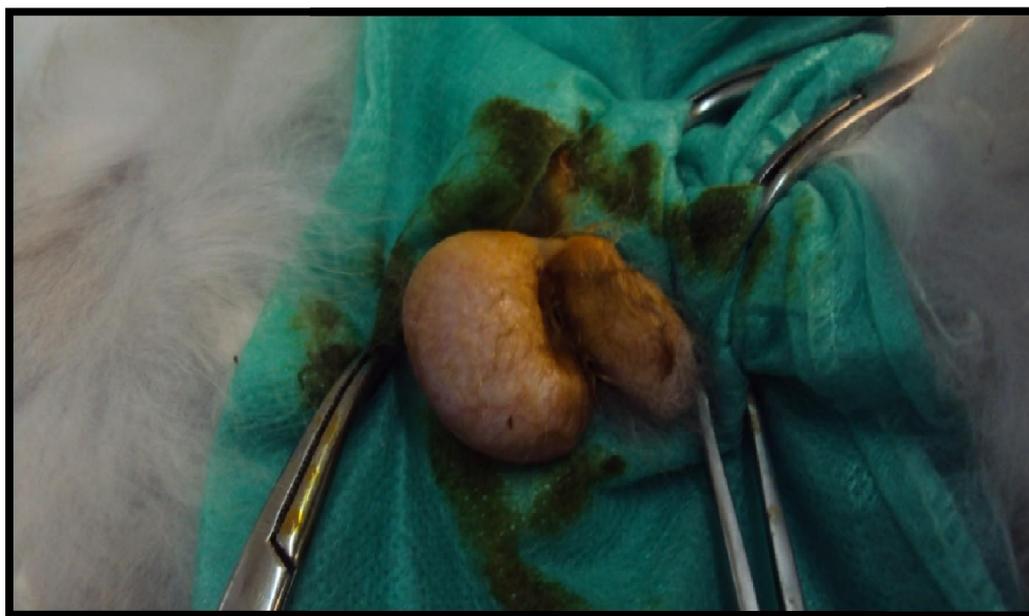


Figure (2); Testicle preparation for Castration

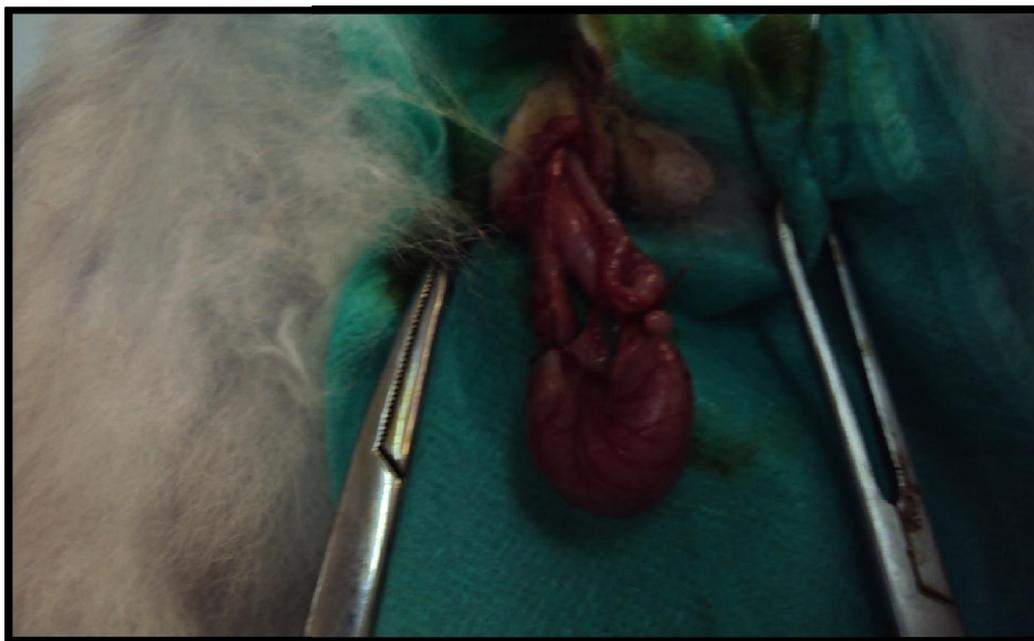


Fig. (3); Testicle Castration by open surgery

RESULTS

1-Clinical and behavioral symptoms

Healthy status of animals is good and depression, sexual behavior is non-existent, but they healthy and normal eating and drinking as well as walking.

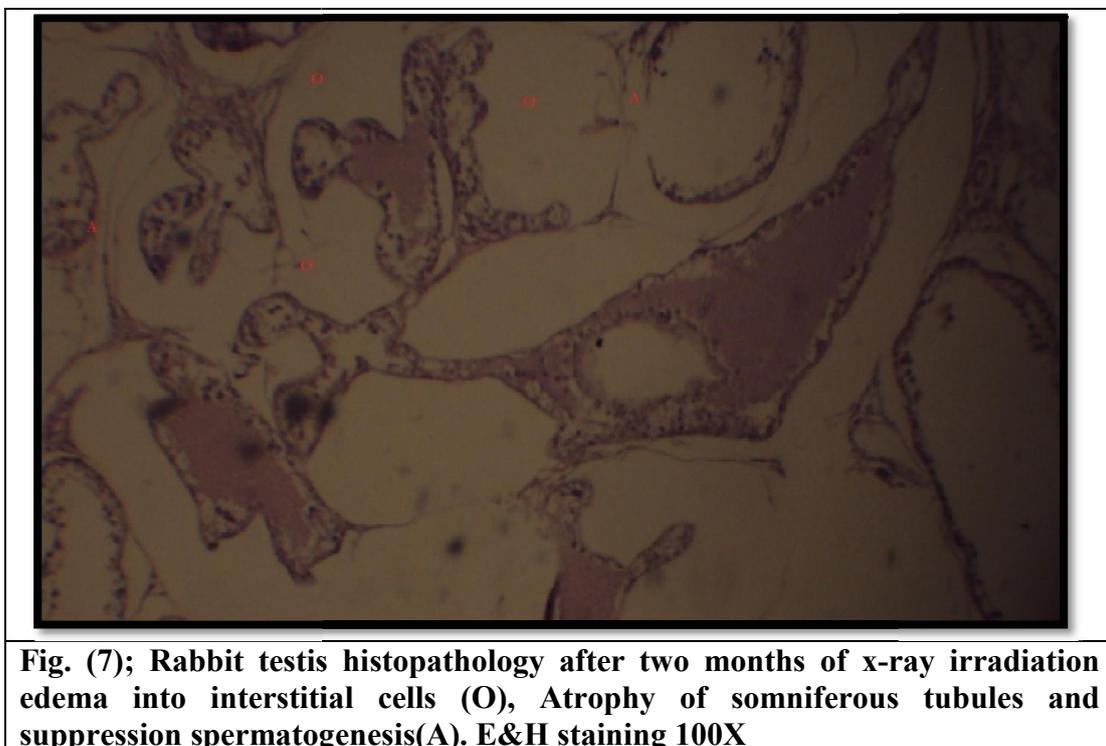
2-Gross finding

Gross pictures of rabbit testis were enlarged and edematous and smoother appearance, but after sectioning, the congestion and enlargement of superficial veins. Show picture (1 and 2)



3-Microscopic finding

Histopathological picture of testis after two months of exposure to x-ray were shown a different lesion due to X-ray irradiation. Edema is prominent in most slides. Spermiferous tubules in all animals testis were destroyed and separation, blood vessels was congested and another hemorrhage while other vessel wall is thickened, fibrosis were showing in tubules and interstitial tissues. Necrosis, inflammatory cells and fibrocytes were invasion whole testis of rabbits, show picture (3,4,5,6,7,8,9 and 10).



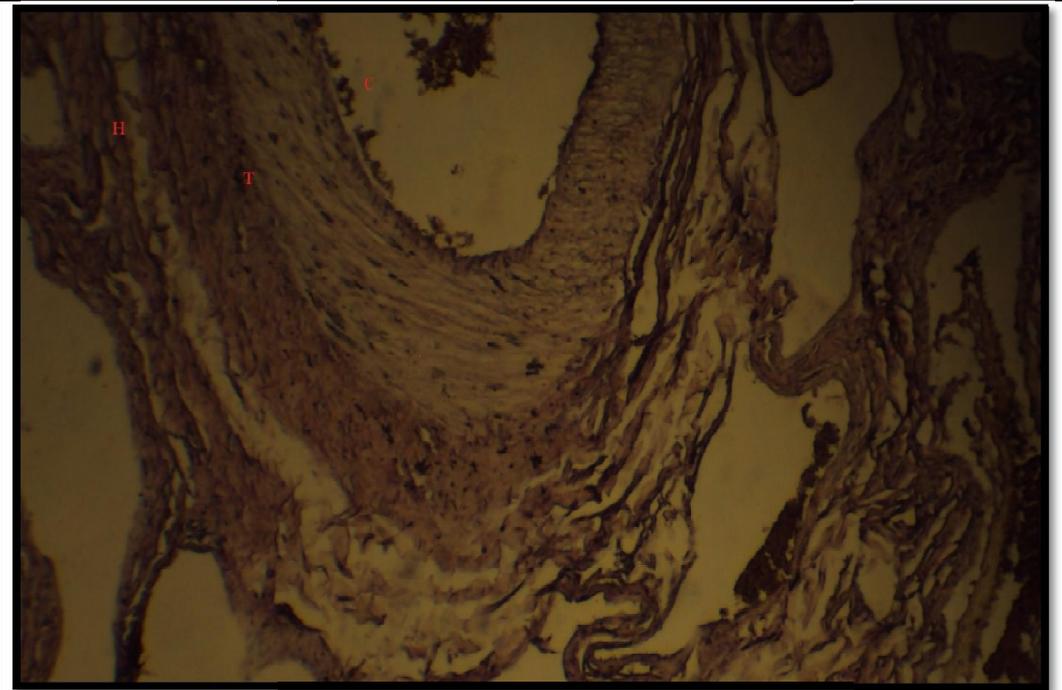


Fig. (8) Rabbit testis histopathology after two months of x-ray irradiation congestion of vessels(C), hemorrhage (H), thickening of blood vessel wall (T). E&H staining 100X

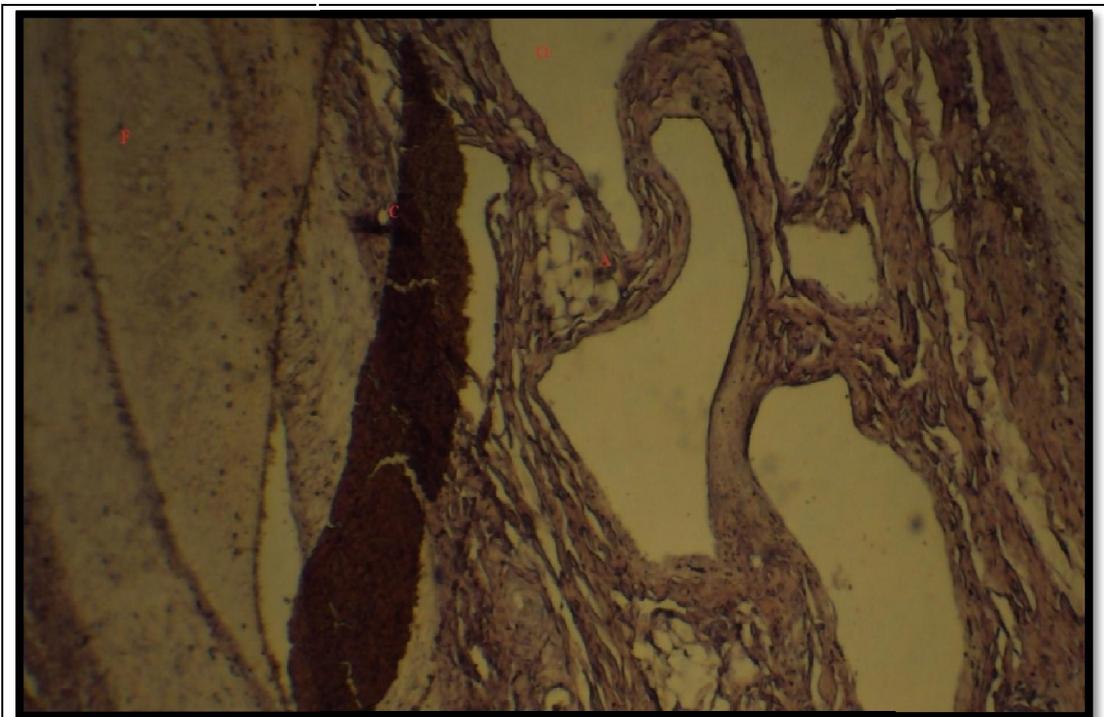


Fig. (9) ;Rabbit testis histopathology after two months of x-ray irradiation congestion C, edema A and fibrosis F. E&H staining 100X

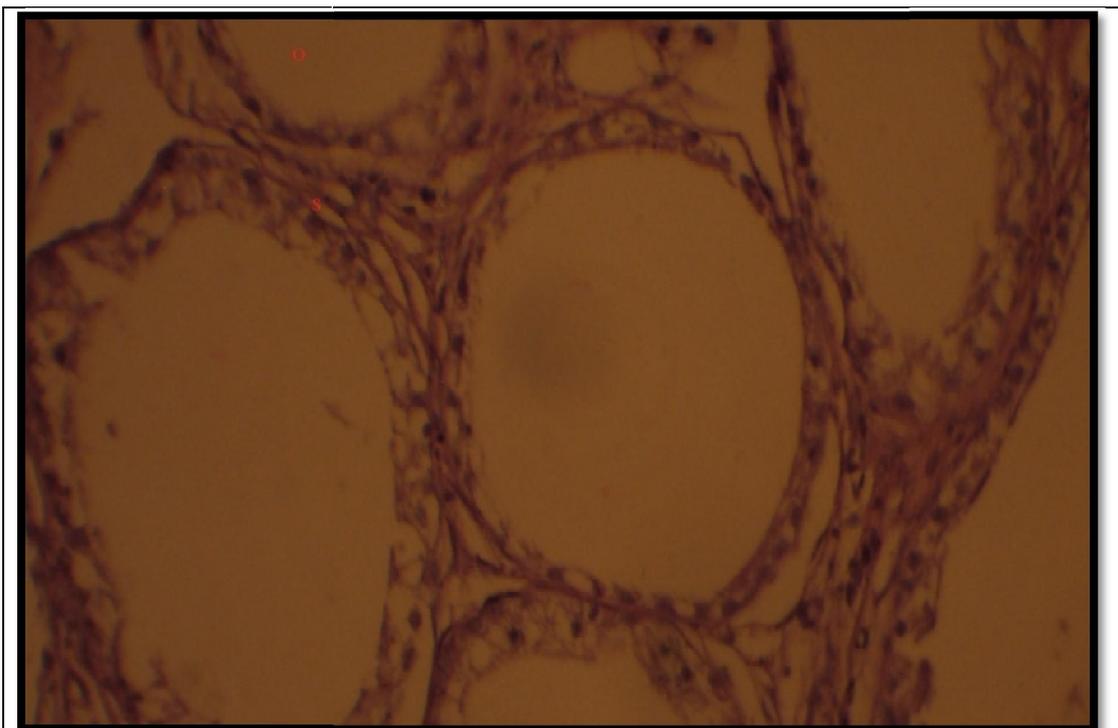


Fig. (10); Rabbit testis histopathology after two months of x-ray irradiation vacuolated of the seminiferous tubules lining and fibrosis as well as fibrocytes. E&H staining 100X

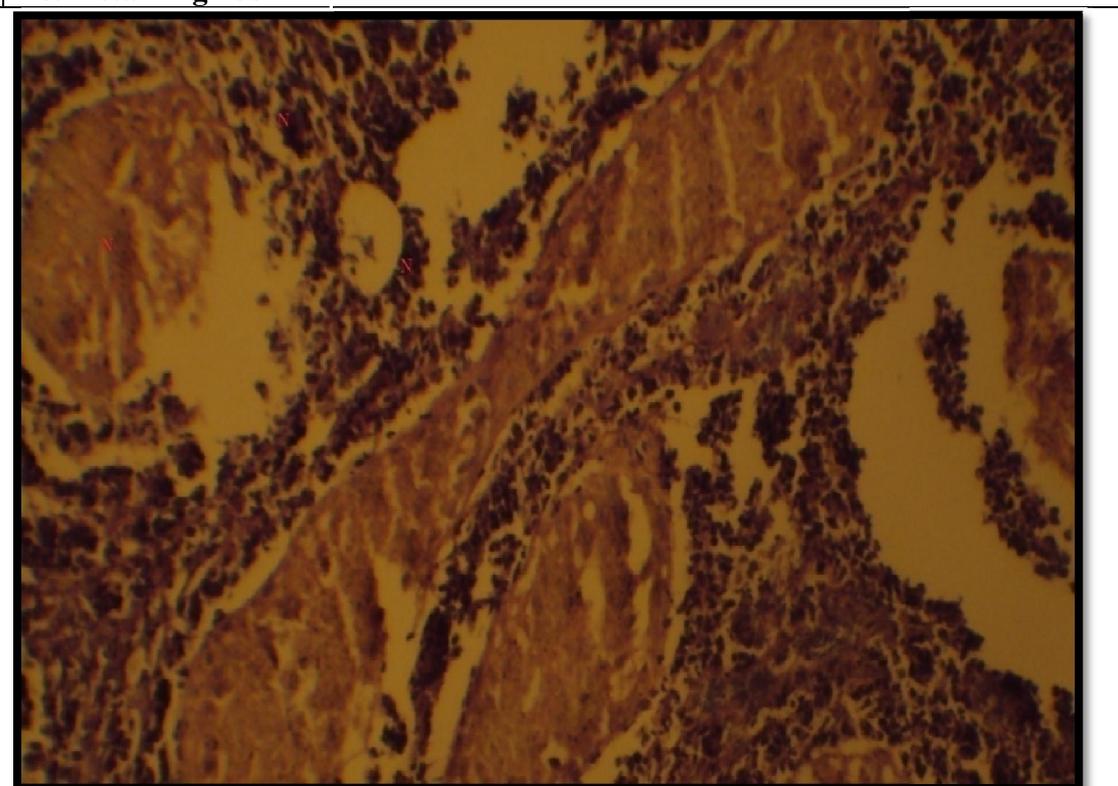


Fig. (11); rabbit testis histopathology after two months of x-ray irradiation there are hemorrhage, necrosis N and excessive amount of inflammatory cells. E&H staining 100X

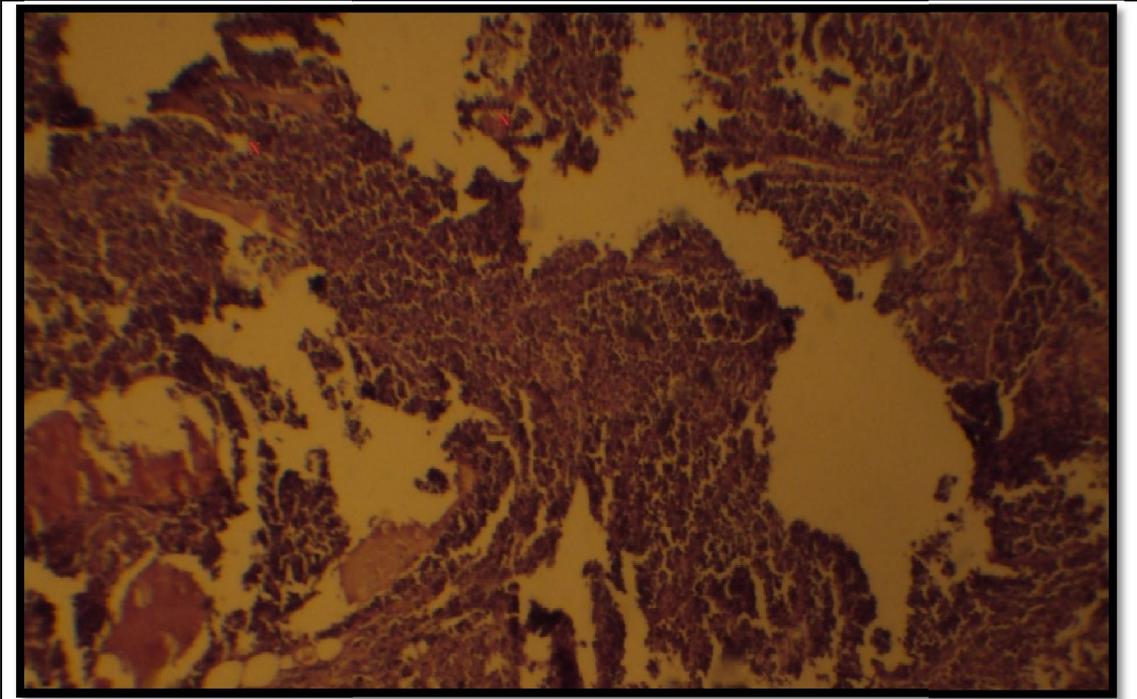


Fig. (12); Rabbit testis histopathology after two months of x-ray irradiation excessive amount of inflammatory cells and necrosis N. E&H staining 100X

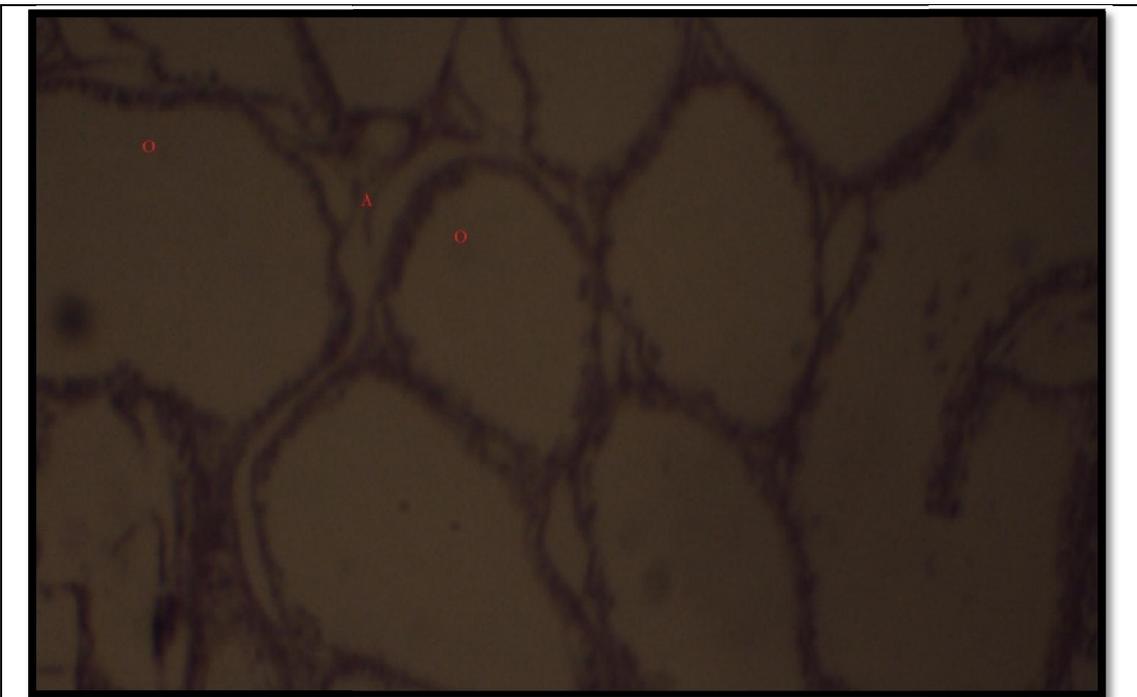


Fig. (13); Rabbit testis histopathology after two months of x-ray irradiation edema into interstitial cells atrophy of seminiferous tubules, suppression of seminiferous tubules . E&H staining 100X

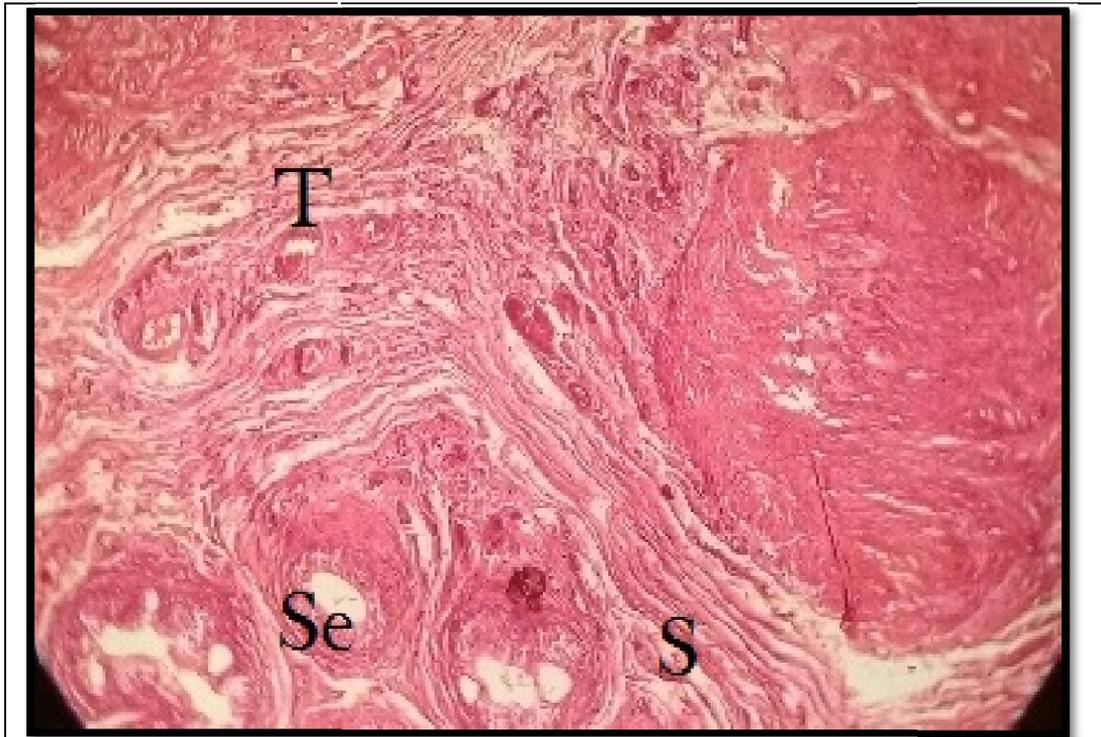


Fig. (14); rabbit testis histopathology after two months of x-ray irradiation fibrosis Se and thickening of seminiferous wall and supervision of spermatogenesis. E&H staining 100X

4-Blood profile and hormone estimation

Table (1) blood profiles and testosterone in different times

Blood parameters and testosterone /period	1 st day before x-ray exposure	After 20 days of x-ray exposure	After 40 days of x-ray exposure	After 60 days of x-ray exposure
WhiteB C*10 ⁹	7.0 ±2.1*	7.2±1.1	9.2±1.6	11.2±1.6**
Neutrophils *10 ⁹	3.6 ±1.5	3.8 ±5.5	4.8 ±0.5	7.8 ±0.5
Lymphocytes *10 ⁹	2.5 ±1.1	3.5 ±1.1	3.5 ±0.1	4.5 ±0.1
Monocytes*10 ⁹	2.40± 0.1	2.90± 0.8	4.90± 0.8	4.90± 0.8
Eosinophils*10 ⁹	0.03 ± 2	1.03 ± 2.7	1.63 ± 2.7	2.23 ± 2.7**
Basophils*10 ⁹	0.001± 2	0	0	0
BRC*10 ¹² /L	5.5 ±0.3	5.1 ±0.2	4.1 ±0.7	3.1 ±0.7
Hemoglobin(g/dl)	11.5±0.8	10.2±0.1	8.2±0.1	6.1±0.1**
Platelets*10 ⁹	201-716	101-615	101-415	78-215**
Testosterone (n/dl)	3.25±1.52	1.29±1.62	0.29±1.62	0.01±1.02**

*Mean and standard deviation, P value ≤ 0.05

Statically Analysis

The data were analyzed statically by used SPSS 18.0 program. Normal values P value ≤ 0.05 , the significant values ≤ 0.005 .

DISCUSSION

Clinical symptoms of healthy rabbits excepts abnormal size of testis is not necessarily the rabbits don't suffer from disorders, but our study didn't include biochemical or medicinal abnormalities. Gross morphology of testis in all experimental animals revealed testicular atrophy and other hypertrophy, this phenomenon was contradictory, and was explained several possibilities, the X-ray irradiation was affected the renal system which cause associates and testicular edema in single testicular and don't effect to other testicular (21), other probability because of liver disorders due to X-ray irradiation, most researchers noticed effect in the effect testis (22), other probability may be cardiac disorder and cardiovascular failure also cause interstitial edema and testicular hypertrophy (23). Another aspect of the testis was atrophy due to direct exposure of X-ray because the testis is somniferous tubules cause testicular dysfunction and effects in the testicular atrophy (24). Microscopic images had different patterns of histopathological changes such as somniferous tubules, hemorrhage, thinning of blood vessels and congestion reveal to the highly negative effect of X-ray irradiation, and the mechanism of effect of cellular ionization by X-ray, this ionization interfere with cells bioactivity and cause different histopathological changes in testis. Blood profile ordinary also changed due to the nature of x-ray irradiation physics, physics of x-ray is electromagnetic and cause blood magnetism lead to iron liberation from red blood corpuscles, therefore the present study shown declined showed RBCs count after 60 days of x-ray irradiation as well as the hemoglobin also decrease for the same reason (4). Complete WBCs and differential WBCs showed graduate increase due to tissue destruction specially testis, testosterone hormone sharply decreased after 60 days of x-ray exposures due to complete laying cells destruction which responsible testosterone secretion (25).

التأثير السلبي لإشعاع الأشعة السينية على وظائف الخصية وتكوين النطف، وبعض مكونات الدم والهرمون الذكري في ذكور الأرانب

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الخلاصة

هدفت وقيمت الدراسة الحالية تأثير إشعاع الأشعة السينية على أنسجة الخصية وأعضاء أخرى في الأرانب التي عرضت لفترة طويلة للأشعة السينية، استخدمت 10 أرانب ذكور ذات عمر من 8-9 اشهر تزن تقريبا 2 كيلوغرام، عرضت الى الأشعة السينية بجرعة 75 راد/م²، مرتين باليوم لمدة شهرين، فحصت عينات الدم وهرمون الذكري في الفترات 20، 40، و60 يوم من بدء الإشعاع، تم خصي الارانب بعد 60 يوم جراحيا، لوحظت التغيرات العيانية على حجم الخصية كالضخم والتضخم والاحتقان الدموي كما لوحظ هناك تغيرات نسجية مرضية لهذه الخصيات واهمها تحطم القنوات المنوية وانسجة اخرى، في الاستنتاج نوكد ان الاشعاع بالاشعة السينية لفترة طويلة ذات تأثير سلبي على انسجة الخصية والأعضاء الاخرى.

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