Table 4S. Effect of non-encapsulated melatonin (Mel), melatonin-loaded in polymeric (Mel-NC) and lipid-core (Mel-LNC) nanocapsules on cell number and apoptotic cell rate per blastocyst at D7.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Treatment | Number of  blatocysts  D7 | Total of number of nuclei  (mean ± SEM) | | Number of  TUNEL-stained nuclei  (mean ± SEM) | | | Apoptotic cell rate (%)  (mean ± SEM) |
| Control | 16 | | 95.6 ± 6.7a | | 10.7 ± 0.9a | 10.1 ± 1,1a | | |
| MEL | 13 | | 150.2 ± 20,3b | | 8.5 ± 0.4b | 5.6 ± 0.9b | | |
| MEL-NC | 14 | | 133.3 ± 7.3ab | | 11.2 ± 0.8ab | 8.4 ± 1.1ab | | |
| MEL-LNC | 14 | | 194.4 ± 5.5c | | 3,8 ± 0.9c | 1.9 ± 0.2c | | |

a-cWithin the column, rates without a common superscript differed significantly (P < 0.05). Mel: non-encapsulated melatonin; Mel-NC: melatonin-loaded polymeric nanocapsules; Mel-LNC: melatonin-loaded lipid-core nanocapsules.