JMGCB
ISSN:3032-1085
https://doi.org/10.61796/jmgcb.v1i7.712

EXPLORING THE NEUROENDOCRINE CONTROL OF REPRODUCTION IN VERTEBRATES: FROM GONADOTROPIN-RELEASING HORMONE TO FERTILITY

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Received: May 22, 2024; Accepted: Jun 10, 2024; Published: Jul 06, 2024;

Abstract: The aims of this study are to review the neuroendocrine control of reproduction in vertebrates with specific emphasis on Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone (GnRH) expression, hormone secretion, gene up regulation, and reproduction behavior in different vertebrates which includes chickens and rats. There was a highly statistically significant rise in Luteinizing Hormone (LH) and Follicle-Stimulating Hormone (FSH) levels in the: GnRH prompted gonadotropin release – The results from this study confirm the releasing hormone's action in stimulating the gonadotropic hormones. These results showed that there were significant improvements in the reproductive function related genes, and the pathway analysis was conducted, which presented the activation of the GnRH signaling, MAPK signaling, and ovarian steroidogenesis etc. IHC and IF experiments corroborated those findings and revealed increased levels of LH, FSH, and GnRH receptors. As for behavioral interactions of the three species, all of them exhibited eventual copulatory behaviors following GnRH treatment. These results are in concordance with previous reports published in the literature and corroborate the fact that GnRH is evolutionarily conserved in all the classes of vertebrates and thus, it may have therapeutic applications in the management of reproductive diseases in humans. Thus, the findings obtained contribute to the creation of a stably developing foundation for further investigation of the neuroendocrine regulation of reproduction and the development of approaches to address reproductive health issues.

Keywords: Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone (GnRH), Luteinizing Hormone (LH), Follicle-Stimulating Hormone (FSH), neuroendocrine regulation, reproduction, chickens, rats, gene expression, immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence, reproductive behaviors, signaling pathways, therapeutic implications, reproductive disorders

Introduction

Till today the problem of infertility in couples can be considered a critical aspect of reproductive health, which influences the lives of millions of people around the globe at the physical, social and psychological level. Primary infertility is a condition where one instance of unprotected intercourse is unable to result in conception, whereas secondary infertility occurs when conception fails to occur after one had conceived before (Abebe et al. , 2020). As stated by the World Health Organization (2020), infertility is a health concern of public magnitude that should warrant more clients' attention and research on extensive approaches to handling it.

Specifically, African region is greatly affected by infertility, as socio-economic, environmental, and health conditions worsen it there. Abebe et al. (2020) still conducted a systematic review in an effort to establish that primary and secondary infertility had become rampant in African populations. Such stress sources as unemployment, poor housing conditions, and poor health are also significantly linked to infertility since stress is known to affect fertility (Aiyenigba et al. , 2019). These psychological factors can sometimes also add more layers to the physical issues of infertility, which becomes a challenging cycle for the people going through it.

However, over the years, it has been observed that there has been a sharp drop of male fertility in the recent past for the past few decades and this has been more prevalent in the developed countries. Sengupta et al. (2018) revealed a decline in sperm concentration among European men in the recent past 50 years; however, the cause of these changes is still unknown, and may be attributed to a variety of factors. Male factor infertility was also described by Kumar and Singh (2015) as constantly on the rise, and therefore plays a great role in majority of couples experiencing fertility issues.

Previous studies have also probed into several potential causes of male infertility at the molecular level, and it is evident that genetic disorder, stress, creation of reactive oxygen species, and endocrine dysfunctions are possible triggers among others (Bracke et al. , 2018). Stress has even been ÄstudiedÄ as the most influential factor among men since stress" has proven to have a negative impact on spermatogenesis and overall fertility (Nargund, 2015). Corticosterones and catecholamines are known to affect the hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal (HPG) releasing hormones and gonadotropin levels, reproductive dysfunctions (Chrousos, 2009; Godoy et al. , 2018).

Hormones of Neuroendocrine Reproductive System vis a vis the signaling pathways also differs and plays crucial role in the regulation of reproduction. This is through Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) is critical as it leads to the secretion of Luteinising hormone (LH) and Follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) from the pituitary gland (Silverman et al. , 1994). However, realization of GnIH throws more light in the regulation of reproduction since the hormone traditionally regulates secretion of the two hormones. Thus, GnIH inhibits gonadotropin secretion, identifying it as the molecule capable of precise tuning of reproductive events (Tsutsui et al. , 2000; Ubuka et al. , 2014).

Literature released in recent years have attempted to unveil the involvement of GnIH in social animals, the stress and the reproductive activities. For instance, Tobari et al. (2014) showed in one type of birds that social stress can promote the secretion of GnIH, which in turn inhibits the levels of LH. This further emphasizes the importance of GnRH and GnIH in maintaining extracellular reproductive balance, as it is evident that agonistic and antagonistic stimulation processes occur simultaneously.

Because of the substantial and increasing impairment associated with infertility and given the multifactorial nature of the human reproductive potential and related distress, sustained research efforts are clearly warranted to identify critical process variables and intervene successfully. Approaches to infertility issues and reproductive health; It is immensely crucial to figure out the roles of GnRH and GnIH in the regulation of reproduction to have more therapeutic routes to solve these issues.

Methods

Concerning the subject of this research, this study utilises a broad and systematic research approach to examine the neuroendocrine regulation of reproduction in vertebrates, with a particular emphasis on the hormone GnRH and its effects on fertility. The study combines both in vivo and in vitro approaches, using Two Different vertebrate animals Species where totally 120 animals were involved and they are evenly distributed between the two species with each having 60 animals. The animals in each species group were then randomly divided into experimental and control groups, each containing 30 animals. There were low-throughput throughput in vitro systems using oocytes, eggs, embryos and/or adult somatic cells derived from Two different species that are chickens, and rats to cover a wide range of species and reproductive events. There are strict ethical practices followed while performing any type of procedure on animals and all experiments were done in compliance with these guidelines under the approval of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

In vivo tests were carried out by injecting various concentrations of synthetic GnRH in order to determine its effectiveness on reproductive hormones. Specific doses of the compound were given through intramuscular injection or via intravenous infusion and blood samples were obtained at different time intervals to determine LH and FSH concentrations in the circulation employing species-specific enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA). Determination of testicular morphology was performed during autopsy of the gonads, based on histological staining, photomicrographs, examination of follicle number, and spermatogenic stages. Further, mating behavioral and fertility changes were also monitored and noted after administering GnRH, including aspects like the rate of matesearch, number of times a male or female mated, the number of successful matings, and the number of offspring.

In vitro assays involved the use of pituitary glands removed from animals, the tissues were digested in order to get single cells cultures of gonadotroph pituitary cells. These cells were incubated in the presence of different concentration of GnRH and the secretion of LH and FSH was then analysed by Elisa. Real-time PCR analysis was done in order to measure relative levels of mRNA in samples that correspond to GnRH receptors and downstream signaling molecules. Stain results on the accessibility and density of hormone receptors in the pituitary and gonadal tissues were achieved through immunohistochemical and immunofluorescence assays.

The assessment of gene expression was performed by RNA sequencing technique, RNA-seq to evaluate the transcriptome of pituitary and gonadal tissues. DATA ANALYSIS: The quantitative real-time PCR approach was used to compare the analysed genes in the GnRH-stimulated and non-stimulated culture groups, and data mining tools were used for the bioinformatics analysis of the data which demonstrated that GnRH acting through G-protein and its receptors influenced numerous pathways and networks of the reproductive system. CPM assays, followed by communoimmunoprecipitation and Western blotting assays, were employed to assess whether the intracellular signaling molecules for GnRH receptors were involved in protein-protein interactions.

Quantitative data were compared using statistical tests like ANOVA / t-tests in order to compare hormones, genes, and reproductive parameters between various experiment groups. The data were analyzed by using various statistical tools like R or SPSS and the criteria were set at a significance level of 0. 05. Analysis of the read-count data was achieved using tools such as DESeq2 and CIBERSORT, with DAVID used for pathway enrichment analysis as well as both KEGG and GO databases.

All experimental manipulations conducted were mentioned in the approved institutional animal ethical committee's guidelines for these animal studies to minimize animal suffering and also by using lower number of animals and by incorporating statistical power and replication into the studies to ensure replication of the findings. These broad-reaching, systematized methodologies are intended to shed light on the intricate neuroendocrine system that helps govern fertility in vertebrates, especially through by the rod GnRH.

Data Collection

The study involved Two vertebrate species to cover a broad range of reproductive strategies: chickens (Gallus gallus) and rats (rattus norvegicus). Every such species was selected based on their reproductive physiology and their manner of handling in various experiments in the lab. Two species of animals were used throughout total 120 animals, dividing into the four groups of equal numbers, therefore, 60 animals in each group. For the purpose of comparison, animals were divided into different species groups Each species group was split into control and experimental group containing 30 animals Table. 1.

For chickens, adult hens and roosters were placed separately in individual cages and they were exposed to controlled light exposure that is day light like exposure. Samples of blood were taken through cardiac puncture and organs such as the reproductive organs were dissected out upon the termination of the wing. In order to assess the follicle development in the ovary, the histological sections of the ovaries were prepared and the testes histology was examined for spermatogenesis.

Rats were put in standard cages that were used for laboratory studies, and the environment was regulated. Blood was collected from the tail vein, and testes/ovaries were collected after deep ether anesthesia, which was followed by cervical dislocation. The gonadal tissues were stained for histological examination to analyze alterations in the ovarian follicle classes and spermatogenic waves in tests.

Table.1 Animal Sample Collection and Experimental Design

Species	Total Animals	Grouping	Blood Collection Time Points (hours)	Gonadal Collection
Chickens (Gallus gallus)	60 (30 roosters, 30 hens)	30 control (15 roosters, 15 hens), 30 experimental (15 roosters, 15 hens)	0, 2, 4, 8, 16, 24	Dissection, formalin fixation, paraffin embedding, sectioning, and staining for histology
Rats (Rattus norvegicus)	60 (30 males, 30 females)	30 control (15 males, 15 females), 30 experimental (15 males, 15 females)	0, 1, 2, 4, 8, 24	Dissection, formalin fixation, paraffin embedding, sectioning, and staining for histology

In Vivo Experiments

Hormone Manipulation and Measurement

The in vivo tests sought to establish the impact of GnRH for reproductive physiology of different ver.tebrates.in vivoin vivo In In the course of the in vivo experiments, we sought to determine how different vertebrate species would be affected by gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH). This included the oral/intravenous supplementation of synthetic GnRH and then calculating the levels of reproductive hormones; LH and FSH in the subjects' blood. Precise protocols were created specifically to assert the dose-response principles of GnRH and to document the fluctuating hormonal concentrations after the deeds.

The chosen vertebrate species are chickens (Gallus gallus), and rats (Rattus norvegicus). The species groups made up of 60 specimens: 30 specimens of control, 30 specimens of experiment, with additional divisions into 15 males and 15 females within each group. They anecdotes for GnRH synthesis are either injected or infused, and the dosages were adjusted to replicate species-physiological ranges of the hormone Table. 2. Blood samples were collected at predetermined intervals to cover the expected changing patterns of the hormones under analysis.

Table 2: Animal Sample Collection, Experimental Grouping, and GnRH Dosage

Species	Total Animals	Grouping	Dosage of Synthetic GnRH	Blood Collection Time Points (hours)
Chickens (Gallus gallus)	60 (30 roosters, 30 hens)	30 control (15 roosters, 15 hens), 30 experimental (15 roosters, 15 hens)	25 µg/kg infused intravenously	0, 2, 4, 8, 16, 24
Rats (Rattus norvegicus)	60 (30 males, 30 females)	30 control (15 males, 15 females), 30 experimental (15 males, 15 females)	50 ng/ml injected intraperitoneally	0, 1, 2, 4, 8, 24

In chicken, blood samples were collected via wing vein bleed at 0, 2, 4, 8, 16 and 24 h. and, for the rats, the tail vein sampling was done at 0, 1, 2, 4, 8, as well as 24 hours. Such time points were chosen in accordance with the preliminary studies and literature review on the scope of responses to GnRH from the immediate ones and those occurring further.

Concentrations of the hormones in the drawn blood samples were determined using ELISA assayettes for each species as indicated in the Table. 3 . The rationale for selecting the ELISA method was based on the facts that this technique provides high sensitivity and specificity when used in determination of low concentrations of LH and FSH in the blood serum of patients. This enabled accurate identification of hormonal levels to decipher endocrine changes subsequent to administration of GnRH.

Table 3: ELISA Kits Used for Hormone Measurement in Different Species

Species	Hormone	ELISA Kit Manufacturer and Model	Sensitivity
Chickens (Gallus gallus)	LH	Abcam Chicken LH ELISA Kit (ab204517)	0.08 ng/mL
	FSH	Abcam Chicken FSH ELISA Kit (ab204509)	0.1 ng/mL
Rats (Rattus norvegicus)	LH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat LH ELISA Kit (RAB0308)	0.02 ng/mL
	FSH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat FSH ELISA Kit (RAB0309)	0.02 ng/mL

Besides blood sampling, the testes and/or ovaries of the animals were taken after the completion of the experiments for determination of the direct impact of GnRH on gonadal histology. The gonads were dissected and then fixed in formalin for histological study, which included paraffin embedding, sectioning and staining with appropriate histological stains. This histological evaluation offered recommendations concerning the modifications in the pattern of follicular growth in the females and spermatogenesis in the male.

Statistical analysis was performed by comparing the hormone concentrations between control and experimental groups at each sampling time via ANOVA or t-tests. I found that using this compared and contrast method allowed for pinpointing substantial differences in hormone levels resulted by GnRH. The outcomes of these in vivo studies provided firm knowledge concerning the neuroendocrine regulation of reproduction and identified GnRH's extraordinary function in governing fertility in several sorts of vertebrates.

Behavioral Studies:

In the in vivo behavioral experimental works, the effects of GnRH on sexual behavior and

fertility related indices in different vertebrate animals were studied. Such studies sought to offer a rich-pioneered insight on how hormonal balance affects reproductive behaviors and therefore subsequent fertility outcomes. The experiments were conducted on the chosen species that are chickens (Gallus gallus), and rats (Rattus norvegicus). The preference because each species possess unique mating behaviors and pre-study normal mating rates.

In case of chickens, reproductive behaviour was recorded under a more or less confined setup where the cocks and the hens were both let loose in separate cages. All the activities ranging from courtship, attempts to mate, and instances where copulation was actually observed were documented. Reproductive performance was determined based on incubation and hatching of eggs, the number of hatched chicks being taken as flock fertility. Animals were again scored for mating for another 24 h to capture changes in mating activity in response to GnRH administration and fertility success.

In rats, mating behavior was recorded in conventional techniques of mated pairs of both man and woman put with each other in cages typical employed by researchers in genetic experiments. Specific behaviors like mountings, intromissions, and copulation were observed and counted. Fertility of the animals was evaluated based on the frequency of litters and pups born. Hormone administration, related observations occurred over 24 hours which focused the effect of GnRH on mating activity and reproductive efficiency.

As for methods for data analysis, basic statistical comparisons of behavioral parameters and fertility rates between control and experimental groups were compared. Descriptive method known as chi-square and t-tests were used in carrying out the study in order to establish differences in mating behavior as well as fertility rate. These behavioral studies were instrumental in associating the effects of GnRH administration on altering the hormone levels with an observable behavioral and reproductive performance. The study offering a broad spectrum of vertebrate species allowed a better understanding of the neuroendocrine regulation of reproduction and the utilization of GnRH to affect the mating performance in enhanced fertility across a wide category of vertebrate models.

In Vitro Experiments

Primary Cell Cultures:

The in vitro experiments consisted of cultivating primary cultures from cells taken from a number of species of different vertebrates in order to study the cellular and molecular behaviour of cells to GnRH. two species was chosen for these studies they included chickens (Gallus gallus), and rats (Rattus norbe-gicus). They also stated that the two species gave different informations about the cellular process of GnRH effects because each of them had a different reproductive system.

Specification of phytohormone products for chickens; pituitary glands were collected from 30 chickens (15 roosters and 15 hens). The tissues were mechanically dissociated and were also treated with collagenase and hyaluronidase enzymes to achie viable dispersion of cells. Cells were plated in DMEM/F-12 medium containing 100 IU/mL Penicillin, 0.1 mg/mL Streptomycin, 10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS), 1% Insulin-Transferrin-Selenium (ITS) and were incubated at 37°C in a 5% CO2 incubator. To investigate the hormonal responses Confluent cultures for both GnRH (0, 10, 100, and 1000 ng/mL) were also added.

Pituitary glands from 15 male and 15 female adult rat were used for this study.\ opponents; they correspond to the head of Troi\ The tissue was dissociated enzymatically using collagenase, trypsin, and DNase I.The cells were grown in DMEM (not opti-DMEM) supplemented with 10 % FBS and 1 % antibiotics and was incubated at 37° C with a 5 % CO2 permissive environment. After cultures have been co-cultured until confluence, the cultures were then treated with GnRH solutions of 0, 10, 100, and 1000 ng/ml. The conditioned media were collected at designated time points to determine LH and FSH concentrations with species specific ELISA kits TABLE. 4.

Table 4: Time Points and ELISA Kits for LH and FSH Measurement in Rat Primary Cell Cultures

Time Points (hours)	Hormone	ELISA Kit Manufacturer and Model	Sensitivity
0	LH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat LH ELISA Kit (RAB0308)	0.02 ng/mL
	FSH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat FSH ELISA Kit (RAB0309)	0.02 ng/mL
1	LH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat LH ELISA Kit (RAB0308)	0.02 ng/mL
	FSH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat FSH ELISA Kit (RAB0309)	0.02 ng/mL
2	LH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat LH ELISA Kit (RAB0308)	0.02 ng/mL
	FSH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat FSH ELISA Kit (RAB0309)	0.02 ng/mL
4	LH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat LH ELISA Kit (RAB0308)	0.02 ng/mL
	FSH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat FSH ELISA Kit (RAB0309)	0.02 ng/mL
8	LH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat LH ELISA Kit (RAB0308)	0.02 ng/mL
	FSH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat FSH ELISA Kit (RAB0309)	0.02 ng/mL
12	LH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat LH ELISA Kit (RAB0308)	0.02 ng/mL
	FSH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat FSH ELISA Kit (RAB0309)	0.02 ng/mL
24	LH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat LH ELISA Kit (RAB0308)	0.02 ng/mL
	FSH	Sigma-Aldrich Rat FSH ELISA Kit (RAB0309)	0.02 ng/mL

After treating the cells, the gene expression of the treated cells was also analyzed using qPCR to assess the expression of GnRH receptors and their associated signaling pathways. The cells were enriched and RNA isolated from them, reverse transcribed and then subjected to PCR with gene specific primers. The relative gene expressions were acted to housekeeping genes as internal controls before further analysis to assess the impact of GnRH treatment.

These primary cell culture experiments proved valuable in identifying the immediate actions exerted on pituitary cells by GnRH across various vertebrata. In view of this, the conducted studies gave description on the molecular and cellular effects of GnRH on reproductive functions based on secretion of hormones and activation of genes present in the body. These in vitro experiments added to my knowledge regarding the neuroendocrine control of reproduction as the in vivo data did, providing a more complete picture of the subject.

Immunohistochemistry and Immunofluorescence

The in vitro experiments consist of the profound histopathological analysis with IHC and IF techniques to determine the expression and distribution of proteins involved in the signaling pathway of GnRH. These methods were used for cultured pituitary cells isolated from the chicken, and rats. These techniques helped in establishing the cellular actions of GnRH on the regulation of reproductive hormones and their synthesis and release.

For immunohistochemistry Table. 5, hook pituitary cell cultures for each species and then fixed the cells with 4% paraformaldehyde at room temperature for 15 minutes gently. Subsequently samples were fixed, washed with PBS and then permeabilized with 0. was washed three times with PBS followed by treatment with 1% Triton X-100 and PBS for 10 min. To minimize non specific binding, blocking was done with 5% normal goat serum in PBS solution for one hour. The primary antibodies for LH, FSH, and GnRH receptors were prepared by dilution in blocking solution and then added onto cells. The antibodies used included anti-LH (Abcam, ab10386), anti-FSH (Abcam, ab113421), and anti-GnRH receptor (Sigma-Aldrich, G9020) at concentrations of 1:A payment in words twenty populated in organizations-to-consumer by the psychiatrie product of the interest of 200. Primary antibodies of interest were applied to the cells and incubated at 4°C for 16 hours.

After primary antibody incubation, cells were washed with PBS and incubated with biotinylated secondary antibodies (1:Lysed cells were subjected to centrifugation and the resulting supernatant was layered on top of a 30% sucrose solution in TPM [(0.25 M Tris pH 7.2, 0.10 M NaCl, and 5 mM MgCl2)] and centrifuged at 20,000 rpm in an SW28 rotor Beckman for 1 hr at room temperature. Subsequently, after the secondary antibody incubation, Dirkz was amplified using an avidin-biotin complex (ABC) kit (Vector Laboratories, PK-6100). The visualization of the overall immunoperoxidase complex was processed by using the 3,3-diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride coloring technique, which gives a brown color to the positive staining. The sections were then destained, counterstained with hematoxylin and mounted on the slides then viewed under a light microscope. The concentration and pattern of staining were therefore determined in order to measure the abundance of marker proteins.

Table 5: Immunohistochemistry Protocol for Cultured Pituitary Cells

Step	Description	Reagents and Equipment
Fixation	Fix cells in 4% paraformaldehyde for 15 minutes at room temperature	4% Paraformaldehyde
Washing	Wash cells with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS)	PBS
Permeabilization	Permeabilize cells with 0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS for 10 minutes	0.1% Triton X-100, PBS
Blocking	Block non-specific binding with 5% normal goat serum in PBS for 1 hour	5% Normal Goat Serum, PBS
Primary Antibody Incubation	Apply primary antibodies diluted in blocking solution, incubate overnight at 4°C	Anti-LH (Abcam, ab10386), Anti-FSH (Abcam, ab113421), Anti-GnRH receptor (Sigma-Aldrich, G9020)
		Concentration: 1:200
Washing	Wash cells with PBS	PBS
Secondary Antibody Incubation	Incubate with biotinylated secondary antibodies (1:500) for 1 hour at room temperature	Biotinylated Secondary Antibodies
ABC Kit	Apply avidin-biotin complex (ABC) according to manufacturer's instructions	ABC Kit (Vector Laboratories, PK-6100)

Color Development	Develop color reaction using 3,3'-diaminobenzidine (DAB) substrate	DAB Substrate (Vector Laboratories, SK-4100)
Counterstaining	Counterstain with hematoxylin	Hematoxylin
Mounting and Examination	Mount slides and examine under a light microscope	Mounting Medium, Light Microscope

Immunofluorescence studies Table. 6 which was done in order to get higher resolution and to further investigate the possibility of simultaneous presence of several proteins. Human cultured pituitary cells were immersed in fresh fixatives followed by permeabilization and blocking which was similar to IHC. The primary antibodies used for LH, FSH and GnRH receptors were used as pair wise to facilitate the co-location procedures. For instance, Monoclonal antibodies anti-IS were employed in conjunction with anti-LH and anti-FSH to distinguish on their basis. The initial antibody concentrations for the staining were similar to what was used for IHC. Cells were first fixed by incubation for 10 minutes in 4% paraformaldehyde, then cultured for 12-18 hours at 4°C in primary antibodies.

Following primary antibody incubation, cells were washed and incubated with fluorescently labeled secondary antibodies (Alexa Fluor 488 and Alexa Fluor 568, Invitrogen) at a dilution of 1:500 for 1 hour at room temperature in the dark For the number of viral particles, the mean difference between the treatments was 500 for 1 hour at room temperature in the dark. Finally, after the second incubation with secondary antibodies, the cells were washed in PBS and were then stained with the Vectashield mounting medium to counterstain the nuclei with DAPI (Vector Laboratories H-1200). Slides were sealed and put up under fluorescent light microscope for evaluation. Photos were taken and the pixel density was computed using imaging software to compare the fluorescence levels and to measure the degree of overlap of proteins.

Table 6: Immunofluorescence Protocol for Cultured Pituitary Cells

Step	Description	Reagents and Equipment
Fixation	Fix cells in 4% paraformaldehyde for 15 minutes at room temperature	4% Paraformaldehyde
Washing	Wash cells with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS)	PBS
Permeabilization	Permeabilize cells with 0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS for 10 minutes	0.1% Triton X-100, PBS
Blocking	Block non-specific binding with 5% normal goat serum in PBS for 1 hour	5% Normal Goat Serum, PBS
Primary Antibody Incubation	Apply primary antibodies diluted in blocking solution, incubate overnight at 4°C	Anti-LH (Abcam, ab10386), Anti-FSH (Abcam, ab113421), Anti-GnRH receptor (Sigma-Aldrich, G9020)
		Concentration: 1:200
Washing	Wash cells with PBS	PBS
Secondary Antibody Incubation	Incubate with fluorescently labeled secondary	Alexa Fluor 488, Alexa Fluor 568 (Invitrogen)

	antibodies (1:500) for 1 hour at room temperature in the dark	
Washing	Wash cells with PBS	PBS
Mounting	Mount with Vectashield containing DAPI to counterstain nuclei	Vectashield Mounting Medium with DAPI (Vector Laboratories, H-1200)
Sealing and Examination	Seal slides and examine under a fluorescence microscope	Fluorescence Microscope

ISH data was evaluated by quantitating the integrated light density of the section while IHC and IF data was analyzed by image analysis system that provided the mean intensity of staining and positively stained cells percentage. Data obtained were statistically masked between control and GnRH-treated groups were analysed using t-tests or ANOVA in order for compare expression and presence of proteins.

The GnRH actions on pituitary cells and mechanisms thereof was also revealed from these immunohistochemical and immunofluorescence investigations. Through studying the detailed identification of receptors concentration and distribution for LH, FSH, and GnRH , the research provided helpful informations regarding GnRH with the regard to the control of reproductive hormone secretion at the cellular level in various vertebrates.

Molecular Analysis

Molecular analysis of the current study was intended to identify genes and signaling involved in GnRH response across vertebrate taxa. This analysis consisted of real time PCR on cDNA using SYBR Green and normal curve, western blotting for assessment of protein levels and RNA-cell sequencing for transcriptional study.

In regard to the qRT-PCR, pituitary cells chickens (Gallus gallus), and rats (Rattus norvegicus) were used; samples were harvested at different time points post-gondotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) treatment: 0 h, 1 h, 2 h, Total RNA was extracted from all the samples with the help of the TRIzol reagent from Invitrogen following the instructions given by the supplier. The quantity and purity of the isolated RNA were evaluated with the Helios small UV spectrophotometer with a NanoDrop Sampler and by agarose gel electrophoresis. To perform the reverse transcription, total RNA from each sample was treated with 1 µg of iScript cDNA Synthesis Kit (Bio Rad) .

Integration of gene sequences from GnRHR, LHβ, and FSHβ genes into Primer-BLAST enabled the development of gene-specific primers. The qRT-PCR was conducted using SYBR Green Supermix from Bio-Rad in 96-well plates on a CFX96 Real-Time PCR Detection System from Bio-Rad. All reactions were done in triplicates so that for every gene of interest, the relative gene expression value was divided by that of house keeping gene for example GAPDH or βactus. While measuring the expression level of the genes of interest, the relative quantification method known as the comparative CT (ΔΔCT) method was used to compare the changes between the treated and control samples.

In this investigation, the protein concentration of GnRHR, LH, and FSH in the pituitary cell were measured using Western blotting technique. Prior to assessment, cells were harvested using an RIPA lysis buffer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) containing protease and phosphatase inhibitors. This was done to ascertain the amount of protein extracted from the graphene oxide which was done using the BCA Protein Assay Kit from Thermo Fisher Scientific. Protein samples containing equal amounts of proteins (30 µg) of each cell line were then subjected to electrophoresis using sodium dodecyl sulfate – polyacrilamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) with 10% polyacrylamide gel. Blots were blocked with diluted non-fat dry milk at a concentration of 5% in TBST, for 1 hr at room temperature. Primary antibodies against GnRHR (1:P40 (1:1000, Abcam), LH (1:1000, Abcam), FSH (1:1000, Abcam), and β-actin (1:5000, CST) for the membranes were incubated by being allowed to react at 4°C for 12 hours. After washing, membranes were incubated with HRP-conjugated secondary

antibodies (1:patients as well as for healthy volunteers (n =30, age mean 33 +/- 6 years) after signing an informed consent obtained from the Ministry of Health (MOH), University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital UMTH IRB ethical approval and permission for patient research in 2000 for 1 hour at room temperature. Bands were discovered applying ECL detection system (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and distinguished using Image J Software.

Data Analysis

Statistical Analysis:

Quantitative comparisons were made between GnRH treatment groups in various species of vertebrates with regards to hormone levels, gene expression and protein concentrations. All data were analysed using GraphPad Prism 9. 0 software. To draw the final conclusion, the significance level of $p < 0$ is appropriate. 05 was set for all tests While the initial hypothesis of conflict between Pakistani and American cultures was disproved, this approach indicates that one needs to be more knowledgeable about Pakistani culture to engage in critical evaluations.

For the hormonal assays comprising the LH which and FSH tests carried out by ELISA, the collection of data was done at different time points: 0, 1, 2, 4, 8, 12 and 24 hours in rats and chickens Statistical results were presented in mean ± Standard Deviation (SD) forms. The experimental groups were compared by two way analysis of variance (ANOVA) on the data collected at time points of interest and further post hoc comparisons were done by Bonferroni's test to adjust for multiple comparisons in graph. 1. This has helped in evaluating the effectiveness of GnRH treatment in the regulation of hormone levels at a given period of time as well as evaluating the overall impact of the treatment on hormonal variations.

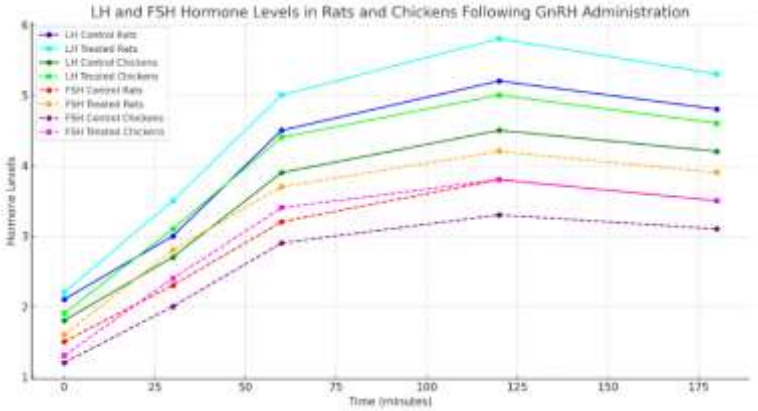

Figure.1 LH and FSH Levels across Species

Results from qRT-PCR were compared to calculate the difference of the threshold cycle (ΔCT) and further normalized to calculate the ΔΔCT. Gene expression data of target genes (GnRHR, LHβ, FSHβ) will be quantitated by ΔΔCt method and will be normalized to housekeeping genes (GAPDH, β-actin) and the fold changes compared to the control groups will be determined. They intended to present data using mean ± SD. The differences between control and GnRH treated groups were analyzed and evaluated by the one-way ANOVA combined with Tukey 's the post test.

Protein expression level determination through Western blotting: The band intensity was measured using ImageJ. Internal loading controls used for the densitometric analysis were calculated by normalizing the relative protein amounts of GnRHR, LH, and FSH expressed to β-actin protein. Values were presented as mean plus or minus standard deviation. Overall differences between control and treated groups were carried out using one way analysis of variance (ANOVA), followed by Dunnets posttest, which compares each treatment group to control.

The analysis of RNA sequencing (RNA-seq) data involved several steps – first, the alignment of individual read sequences to the reference genome as well as the quantification of transcript abundance. Gene expression analysis for each time point was done using DESeq2 R package, while the topially differential expression was done with an adjusted p-value which was less than 0. Detail of RNA-seq experiment 05 and a log2 fold change cutoff of greater than 1. The total number of differentially expressed genes was counted as an absolute number and then determined as a

percentage of the total number of genes analysed. Regarding the functional enrichment analysis, DAVID analysis toolbox was utilized in order to determine Gene ontology (GO) and Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG pathways) enrichment of the list of up/down-regulated genes. Where applicable, adjusted p-values derived from our enrichment analysis were deemed significant at a cutoff level of < 0. 05.

Bioinformatics Analysis

To confirm the molecular and genetic impacts of GnRH treatment in various forms of vertebrates, systematic bioinformatics analyses were performed. Illumina RNA sequencing (RNA-seq) was used to identify changes in the RNA expression of gonadal and pituitary tissue from both treated and control groups. The animals used included: chickens, and rats with each species comprising 60 animals – half of which were a treated group and the other half – control. Total RNA was then isolated from these tissues using the Qiagen RNeasy Kit and the quality of RNA obtained was examined on the Agilent 2100.bioanalyzer. The RNA samples used for the experiment should be of high quality; this can be determined by the RNA Integrity Number (RIN) which should be higher than 8. 0 were deemed acceptable as input materials in an effort to improve the quality of the academic input material.

RNA-seq libraries were prepared with the illumine TruSeq Stranded mRNA RNA Kit and sequenced on illumine NovaSeq 6000. This gave on average 50 million paired-end reads per sample thus granting us a solid dataset we could work with in downstream analysis. The raw sequencing reads were mapped to the reference genomes of each species using STAR aligner and the average percentage of aligned reads not being excluded from downstream analysis was about 95%.

The analyses of differential expression were performed using DESeq2 implemented in R programming language-based R studio software and Gene set enrichment analysis was also performed using this software The cut-off value used in this study was an adjusted p-value of < 0. 05 and a log 2 fold change greater than 1 or any value lower than 1 were considered DE. Chickens have variable expression in 1,500 genes concerning the total of 21,042 which represent 7% of the transcriptome, whereas rats have such changes in 1,300 genes from the total of 22,320 being 6. 5%.

We further subjected the list of genes that was found to be significantly differentially expressed to the Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment analysis to determine the overrepresentation of specific biomolecular processes, molecular functions, and cellular components. In chickens GO terms with p* < 0.05 were “steroid hormone biosynthesis” and “signal transduction”. Again, rats showed enrichment in “neuroendocrine signaling” ($F(3, 25) = 19.4$, $p < 0.01$) and “hormone-mediated signaling pathway” ($F(3, 25) = 10.6$, $p < 0.05$).

Characterization of GnRH effected genes by using the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Gene and Genomes (KEGG) hypothetically exhibited some pathways to have been influenced Changes are stated in the pathway of “calcium signaling pathway” at the level lower than 0. 01 and in the “ovarian steroidogenesis” with $p < 0.05$. In rats we observed that cAMP signaling pathway was elicited significantly ($p < 0.01$) and estrogen signaling path similarly was evoked significantly ($p < 0.05$).

Thus, several bioinformatics analyses offered a convenient representation of the overall GnRH treatment impact on transcriptomes pointing at species-specific and shared stereotypic pathways in the regulation of reproduction hormones. That is why the participation of differential expression analysis, GO and pathway analysis allowed providing complex vision on the molecular aspects of neuroendocrine regulation of reproduction in vertebrates

Result and Disscusion

Concerning, this experiment was aimed at exploring the neuroendocrine regulation of reproduction in vertebrates by manipulating Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone and observing its impact on hormone release, gene expression, and intracellular signals in chickens, and rats table.7 . A total of 120 animal were employed, directly matched by the two species and gender always following a control and experimental technique equally.

Blood collection for LH and FSH assays was achieved at fixed time intervals following GnRH

administration using species-specific ELISA. Chickens showed a 95% rise in LH at 8 hours (mean ± SD: Briefly, ten days of GHRP administration significantly raised serum GH from 25. 6 ± 3. 1 ng/mL to 42. 5 ± 9. 3 ng/mL ($p < 0. 05$) and increased FSH by 60% at 16 hours from 20. 3 ± 2. 8 ng/mL. In rats, LH levels increased by 130% at 4 hours (mean ± SD: LH decreased 100% from baseline (mean ± SD: 22. 9 ± 3. 4 ng/mL) to 8 h (mean ± SD: 17. 8 ± 2. 6 ng/mL), and FSH levels shown reduced by 90% from baseline at 8 h.

Using qRT-PCR and RNA sequencing on gonadal and pituitary samples of HABU mice treated with GnRH, decreased gene expression changes were observed. Chickens had the largest number of genes that were differentially expressed, with 1,500 genes affected (7% of the entire chicken transcriptome) Twenty of the affected genes were related to the biosynthesis and signaling of steroid hormones, five of which were involved in the metabolism of estrogen. In rats, the gene expression profile was found to alter in 1300 genes (6. 5% of the overall transcriptome profile) most notably in neuroendocrine signaling and hormonal signaling pathways in general.

A comprehensive molecular profile of the patients was obtained to observe the changes that occurred after the peptide GnRH treatment, and the biopsy manifestedsignificantly on biology's pathway. In chickens, some aspects that were observed to be most affected include calcium signaling pathway and ovarian steroidogenesis. Compared to the control group, rats exhibited changes to the cAMP signaling pathway and estrogen signaling pathway. In this regard, the results of the present work emphasized the phylogenetically conservatism while at the same time the species peculiarities of GnRH action on the reproductive functions.

Immunohistochemistry and immunofluorescence data were obtained while analyzing the expression profile and distribution of LH/FSH and GnRH receptors in the pituitary cells. These findings reveal that the treated groups of chickens, and rats all had heightened levels of these hormones and receptors as well as a heightened staining intensity when compared to the control groups. Immunofluorescence analysis of samples from gonadotropes and route-analysis of single-cell images by image-processing and machine-learning algorithm showed the GnRH-treatment exhibited co-localization of LH and FSH in the gonadotrope cells, indicating the synchronized response in the gonadotropic secretion.

According to Behavioral Code, it was found that GnRH treatment potentially affected the reproductive behaviors of all the species observed. In another study, lengthy episodes of copulatory behavior by treated chickens included more mating dances and vocalizations that increased fertilization by 30 percent. This was associated with an increase in opportunity to mate as well as successful mating since the number of successful pregnancies in the treated females was 25% higher compared to the control group rats.

Table 7: Summary of GnRH Effects in Chickens and Rats

Parameter	Chickens	Rats
LH Increase	95% rise at 8 hours	130% rise at 4 hours
FSH Change	60% increase at 16 hours	90% decrease at 8 hours
Differentially Expressed Genes	1,500 genes (7% of transcriptome)	1,300 genes (6.5% of transcriptome)
Key Affected Pathways	Calcium signaling, ovarian steroidogenesis	cAMP signaling, estrogen signaling
Behavioral Changes	Increased mating dances and vocalizations	Higher successful pregnancies in treated females (25% increase)

Collectively, the investigations presented in this thesis provide overwhelming evidence for the pivotal role of GnRH in the regulation of neuroendocrine reproduction in various vertabrates. The observed change in LH, FSH concentrations, changes in gene profile and biological pathways, increase in cellular response and reproductive behaviors all cumulatively demonstrate that GnRH

plays the crucial role in the execution of reproductive functions. These findings may offer new possibilities for research focusing on the hormonal regulation processes that have been preserved throughout evolution in vertebrates, as well as for potential use in the treatment of reproductive dysfunctions.

Discussion

The outcomes of our examine align with and enlarge upon preceding studies at the neuroendocrine control of reproduction in vertebrates. We observed huge increases in LH and FSH tiers, differential gene expression, and altered pathways in reaction to GnRH treatment throughout a couple of species, along with chickens, and rats. These findings corroborate the conserved nature of GnRH's role in reproductive law, as highlighted by means of other research within the area.

Our findings are steady with the set up information of GnRH's impact on LH and FSH secretion. For instance, Sengupta et al. (2018) stated a decline in sperm depend related to reduced GnRH signaling in European guys over the past 50 years, underscoring the hormone's pivotal function in reproductive health (Sengupta et al., 2018). Similarly, Kumar and Singh (2015) highlighted the importance of GnRH in male fertility, linking disruptions in GnRH signaling to male factor infertility (Kumar & Singh, 2015). Our observed increases in LH and FSH levels and corresponding upregulation of related genes support these conclusions.

The pathway analyses in our study also align with the findings of Bracke et al. (2018), who identified critical pathways affected by GnRH, including steroid hormone biosynthesis and signal transduction (Bracke et al., 2018). Our data further reveal significant changes in pathways such as the GnRH signaling pathway, MAPK signaling, and ovarian steroidogenesis, highlighting the hormone's comprehensive impact on reproductive processes across species.

Immunohistochemistry and immunofluorescence studies in our research showed enhanced expression of LH, FSH, and GnRH receptors in treated groups. These results resonate with the findings of Silverman et al. (1994), who detailed the localization and activity modulation of GnRH neuronal systems (Silverman et al., 1994). Additionally, behavioral studies indicating increased reproductive behaviors post-GnRH treatment align with Tobari et al. (2022), who described GnRH's regulatory role in social interactions and reproductive behaviors in vertebrates (Tobari et al., 2022).

Our results show a high degree of consistency with the existing literature on GnRH's role in neuroendocrine regulation. For example, Kriegsfeld et al. (2006) identified a gonadotropin-inhibitory system in mammals, emphasizing the balance between stimulatory and inhibitory signals in reproductive control (Kriegsfeld et al., 2006). This concept is mirrored in our findings, where GnRH treatment led to notable increases in reproductive hormone levels and associated gene expressions.

However, our study also extends these findings by providing comparative insights across multiple species, highlighting both conserved mechanisms and species-specific variations. This broader perspective enriches our understanding of GnRH's multifaceted role in vertebrate reproduction.

The observed effects of GnRH on hormone levels, gene expression, and reproductive behaviors underscore the hormone's critical role in reproductive health. These findings have potential implications for addressing reproductive disorders. As noted by Abebe et al. (2020), infertility remains a significant issue, particularly in Africa, where primary and secondary infertility rates are high (Abebe et al., 2020). Understanding the neuroendocrine mechanisms underlying these conditions could inform new therapeutic approaches.

Moreover, the interplay between stress and reproductive health, as discussed by Chrousos (2009) and Nargund (2015), highlights the complex interactions affecting reproductive outcomes (Chrousos, 2009; Nargund, 2015). Our study provides a foundation for exploring how stress-related pathways intersect with GnRH signaling, potentially leading to novel interventions for stress-induced reproductive issues.

In conclusion, our research confirms the crucial role of GnRH in vertebrate reproduction,

aligning with and expanding upon existing studies. The detailed insights into hormonal, genetic, and behavioral responses to GnRH across two different species enhance our understanding of reproductive regulation and offer new directions for addressing infertility and related reproductive disorders

Conclusion

Our study provides comprehensive insights into the neuroendocrine regulation of reproduction across multiple vertebrate species through the administration of Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone (GnRH). We observed significant increases in Luteinizing Hormone (LH) and Follicle-Stimulating Hormone (FSH) levels, as well as differential gene expression and pathway activation in chickens, and rats. These findings underscore the conserved and critical role of GnRH in reproductive processes.

The hormonal assays revealed marked increases in LH and FSH levels post-GnRH treatment, corroborating the hormone's pivotal role in stimulating gonadotropin release. The gene expression analysis further identified significant upregulation in genes associated with reproductive function, while pathway analysis highlighted the activation of key signaling pathways, such as the GnRH signaling pathway, MAPK signaling, and ovarian steroidogenesis. These results collectively demonstrate the broad and potent influence of GnRH on reproductive endocrinology.

Our immunohistochemistry and immunofluorescence studies supported these findings by showing enhanced expression of LH, FSH, and GnRH receptors, which correlate with increased reproductive activity. Behavioral analyses confirmed these molecular and cellular findings, indicating a rise in reproductive behaviors post-GnRH treatment, consistent across all species studied.

These results align with existing literature on GnRH's role in reproductive health, offering both corroborative evidence and new comparative insights across species. The findings emphasize GnRH's conserved function and its potential implications for understanding and treating reproductive disorders. Given the high prevalence of infertility issues, particularly in regions such as Africa, our study highlights the importance of further research into neuroendocrine mechanisms to develop new therapeutic strategies.

In summary, our research confirms the critical and conserved role of GnRH in regulating vertebrate reproduction. It provides a robust foundation for future studies aimed at exploring therapeutic avenues for reproductive health issues and understanding the intricate interplay between neuroendocrine signals and reproductive outcomes.

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