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Veterinari Medicina

Macroscopic distribution of the renal artery and intrarenal arteries in mole rats (*Spalax leucodon*)

Yoldas A, Aydin A, Ilgun R:

Veterinari Medicina, 59 (2014): 382-387

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A study was conducted of the kidneys of adult mole rats (*Spalax leucodon*) to describe the macro- and mesoscopic morphology of the renal arterial distribution and some additional anatomical features. The kidneys of the mole rat lay alongside the vertebral column in the abdominal region, the right kidney situated more cranial than the left. Covered by a thin connective tissue capsule, the kidney was bean-shaped, smooth, and reddish-brown. The mean live weight of the studied mole rats was 203.6 ± 15.05 g. The mean kidney weight was 0.636 ± 0.048 g. The mean weight of the right kidney (0.641 ± 0.039 g) was significantly ($P < 0.01$) heavier than that

of the left one ($0.630 \pm 0.057\text{g}$). Sixteen three-dimensional endocasts of the renal artery and intrarenal arteries were prepared using standard injection-corrosion techniques and examined. A single renal artery was observed in 100% of the specimens. The renal arteries divided, forming a dorsal and a ventral branch; these bifurcated forming cranial and caudal segmental branches. No anastomoses were observed between any of these branches.

Keywords:

anatomy; kidney; endocast; renal arteries; mole rat (*Spalax leucodon*)

[[fulltext](#)]

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