



Journal of Andrology, Vol 5, Issue 3 223-226, Copyright © 1984 by The American Society of Andrology

JOURNAL ARTICLE

Testicular blood flow in young and old rats and influence of hCG

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To evaluate the influence of age, testicular capillary blood flow (TCBF) was measured, using the microsphere technique, in rats 3 to 24 months old, under basal conditions and after hCG stimulation (10 IU/d for two days). Despite a decline in plasma T levels, testicular capillary blood flow did not decrease with age, and hCG stimulation resulted in similar increases of approximately 50% (P less than 0.01) in testicular capillary blood flow in all age groups. We concluded that the age-associated decrease in testosterone secretion in rats is not the consequence of a decreased testicular blood flow.

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