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The image depicts a pheochromocytoma, PC12, culture that is spontaneously expressing the neuronal marker beta-tubulin III. Pheochromocytoma tumors are found in the adrenal medulla, and are derived from chromaffin cells responsible for secreting catecholamines. Interestingly, the chromaffin cells are neural crest-derived, and when treated with neuronal growth factor, they assume “pseudoneuronal” characteristics, and are often used for in vitro neuronal studies.

The green stain is the Tuj-1 (beta-tubulin III) neuronal marker, the red stain is the F-actin stained with phalloidin and blue stain is DAPI.

The image is a 10 μm slice at 200x magnification.

Credit: H K Bid and D Oswald, The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Columbus, OH, USA

Contents continued from outside back cover

hMRAPs specifically alters hMC4R molecular mass and N-linked complex glycosylation in HEK293 cells
Emma I Kay, Rikus Botha, Johanna M Montgomery & Kathleen G Mountjoy 217–227

Septic shock non-thyroidal illness syndrome causes hypothryoidism and conditions for reduced sensitivity to thyroid hormone
Isabel Castro, Leah Quisenberry, Rosa-Maria Calvo, Maria-Jesus Obregon & Joaquin Lado-Abeal 255–266

Exendin-4 protects endothelial cells from lipoapoptosis by PKA, PI3K, eNOS, p38 MAPK, and JNK pathways
Gizem Ergüten, Linnéa Eriksson, Hua Xu, Åke Sjöholm, Qimin Zhang & Thomas Nyström 229–241

Inflammatory and steroid receptor gene methylation in the human amnion and decidua

Exendin-4 protects endothelial cells from lipoapoptosis 243–253
E Grossini, C Molinari, L Sigaudo, M Biella, D A S G Mary & G Vacca

Calcium handling in porcine coronary endothelial cells by gastrin-17

THIS ISSUE’S COVER

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CONTENTS

VOLUME 50 NUMBER 2

REVIEWS

Adipokines in reproductive function: a link between obesity and polycystic ovary syndrome
Xinwang Chen, Xiao Jia, Jie Qiao, Youfei Guan & Jihong Kang
R21–R37

Classification of follicular cell-derived thyroid cancer by global RNA profiling
Maria Rossing
R39–R51

The role of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system in preeclampsia: genetic polymorphisms and microRNA
Jie Yang, Jianyu Shang, Suli Zhang, Hao Li & Huirong Liu
R53–R66

RESEARCH

Expression of tachykinin receptors (tacr1a and tacr1b) in zebrafish: influence of cocaine and opioid receptors
Roger López-Bellido, Katherine Barreto-Valer & Raquel E Rodríguez
115–129

Deciphering the calcitriol-induced transcriptomic response in keratinocytes: presentation of novel target genes
Raphaela Rid, Martin Wagner, Christina J Maier, Harald Hundtsbarger, Helmut Hinthner, Johann W Bauer & Kamil Önder
131–149

hCG-induced endoplasmic reticulum stress triggers apoptosis and reduces steroidogenic enzyme expression through activating transcription factor 6 in Leydig cells of the testis
151–166

Specific reduction of G6PT may contribute to downregulation of hepatic 11β-HSD1 in diabetic mice
Hanze Du, Limei Liu, Ying Wang, Yuichi Nakagawa, Alksei Lyzlov, Kabiruifah Lutfy, Theodore C Friedman, Xiaohong Peng & Yanjun Liu
167–178

Cloning of a novel insulin-regulated ghrelin transcript in prostate cancer
Inge Saim, Amy A Lubik, Melanie L Lehman, Nadine Tomlinson, Eliza J Whiteide, Adrian C Herrington, Colleen C Nelson & Lisa K Chopin
179–191

hMRAPα increases αMSH-induced hMC1R and hMC3R functional coupling and hMC4R constitutive activity
Emma I Kay, Rikus Botha, Johanna M Montgomery & Kathleen G Mountjoy
203–215