Macroscopic study of lymph nodes development in sheep fetus

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Abstract

Due to the importance of immune system and important roles of lymph nodes against pathogens and with regard to there were not any study about the anatomy of lymph nodes in sheep fetuses, This research was conducted to study macroscopic developmental growth of lymph nodes in fetal period. Also, anatomical specifications and estimating time of formation of some important lymph nodes evaluated. For this purpose, sixty sheep fetuses collected from slaughterhouse of Ahvaz, after fixation in 10% formalin solution and sex determination, were divided into four groups according to CRL. Mandibular, superficial cervical (prescapular), caudal mediastinal, jejunal mesenteric and popliteal lymph nodes from five lympho centers included head, neck, thorax, abdominal viscera and pelvic limb was evaluated, respectively. In each sample, appearance formation of nodes was studied and in the case of formation, gross shape, location, and their number were checked. In this research, a morphological study of the lymph nodes in the sheep fetuses showed that mandibular, prescapular and jejunal mesenteric lymph nodes, commonly had and ovoid shape in all groups. However, with regard to the mesenteric lymph node, other forms were seen with age increasing.

Key words: Fetus, Lymph Nodes, Sheep, Morphology, Macroscopic development

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