

Equine embryo size does matter!

Emilie Derisoud, Luc Jouneau, A. Margat, C. Gourtay, C. Dubois, Catherine Archilla, Y. Jaszczyszyn, Michèle Dahirel, N. Daniel, Nathalie N. Peynot, et al.

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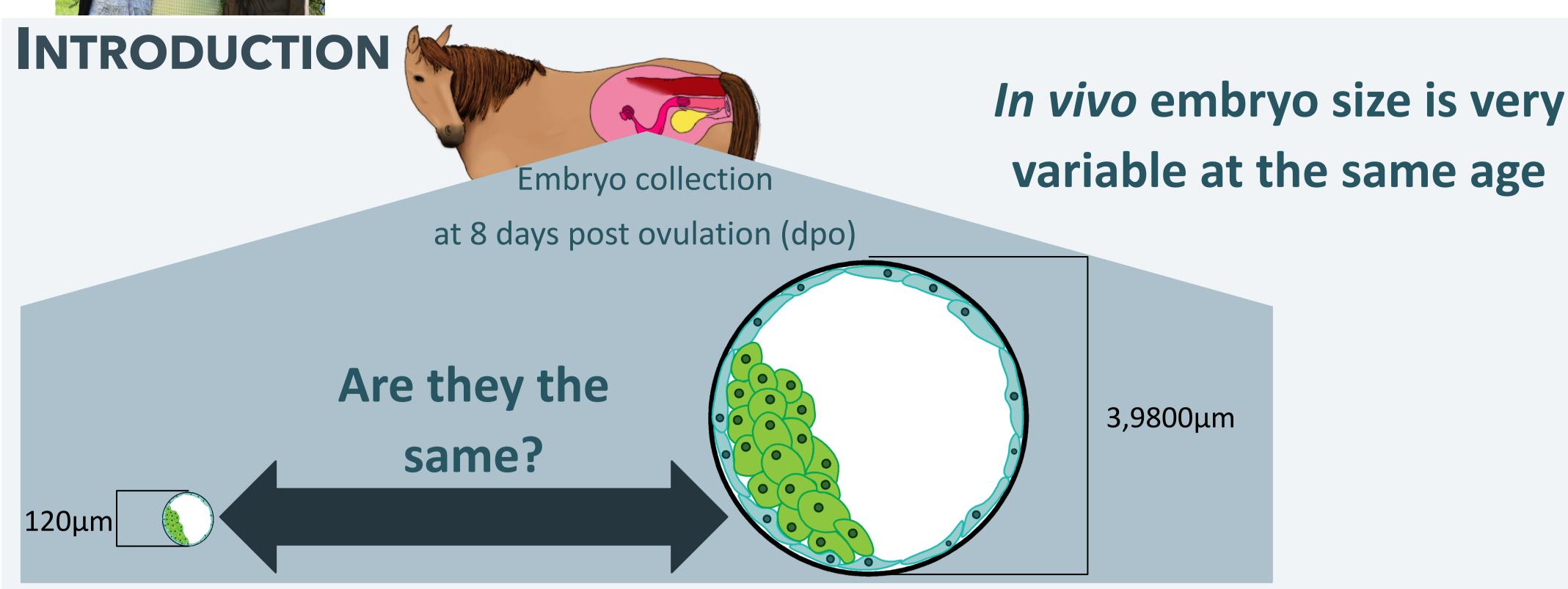
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NRΔØ Equine embryo size does matter!

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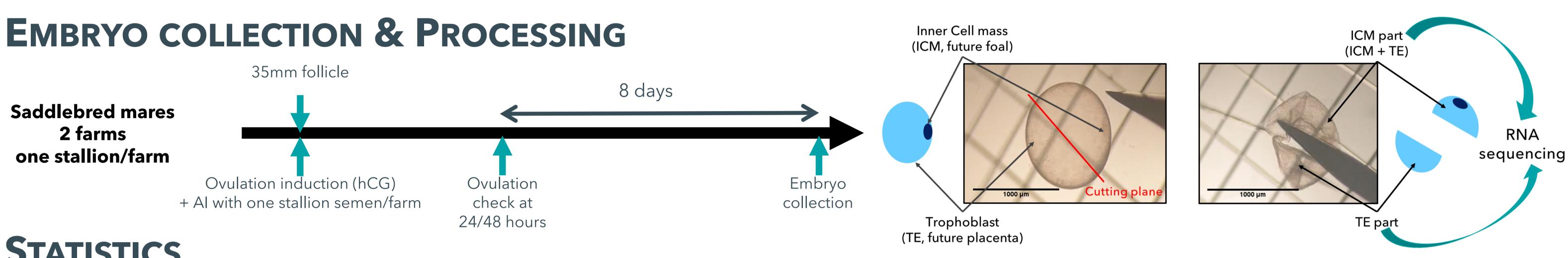
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Day Postovulation	Number of Embryos	Embryo Diameter (mm)	
		Mean	Range
6	121	0.208	0.132-0.756
7	144	0.406	0.136-1.460
8	142	1.132	0.120-3.980
9	41	2.220	0.730-4.520
Collins, CO, Colorado State Un mission.	iversity, Animal Reprodu	uction Laboratory,	Bulletin no. 1, 1985; with pe
	Clinics of North Ar	nerica: Eauin	e Practice. 1996
/anderwall, Veterinary	Clinics of North Ar	merica: Equin	e Practice, 1996

Factors	Embryo diameter (μm , average \pm SD)	
Day of flushing		
7 (N = 12)	404.91 ± 306.50^{a}	
8 (N = 189)	660.29 ± 329.33^{b}	
9 (N = 10)	912.39 ± 665.11^{c}	
10 (N = 4)	$1224.50 \pm 821.04^{\rm d}$	

OBJECTIVE: STUDY THE EFFECT OF EMBRYO SIZE ON GENE EXPRESSION

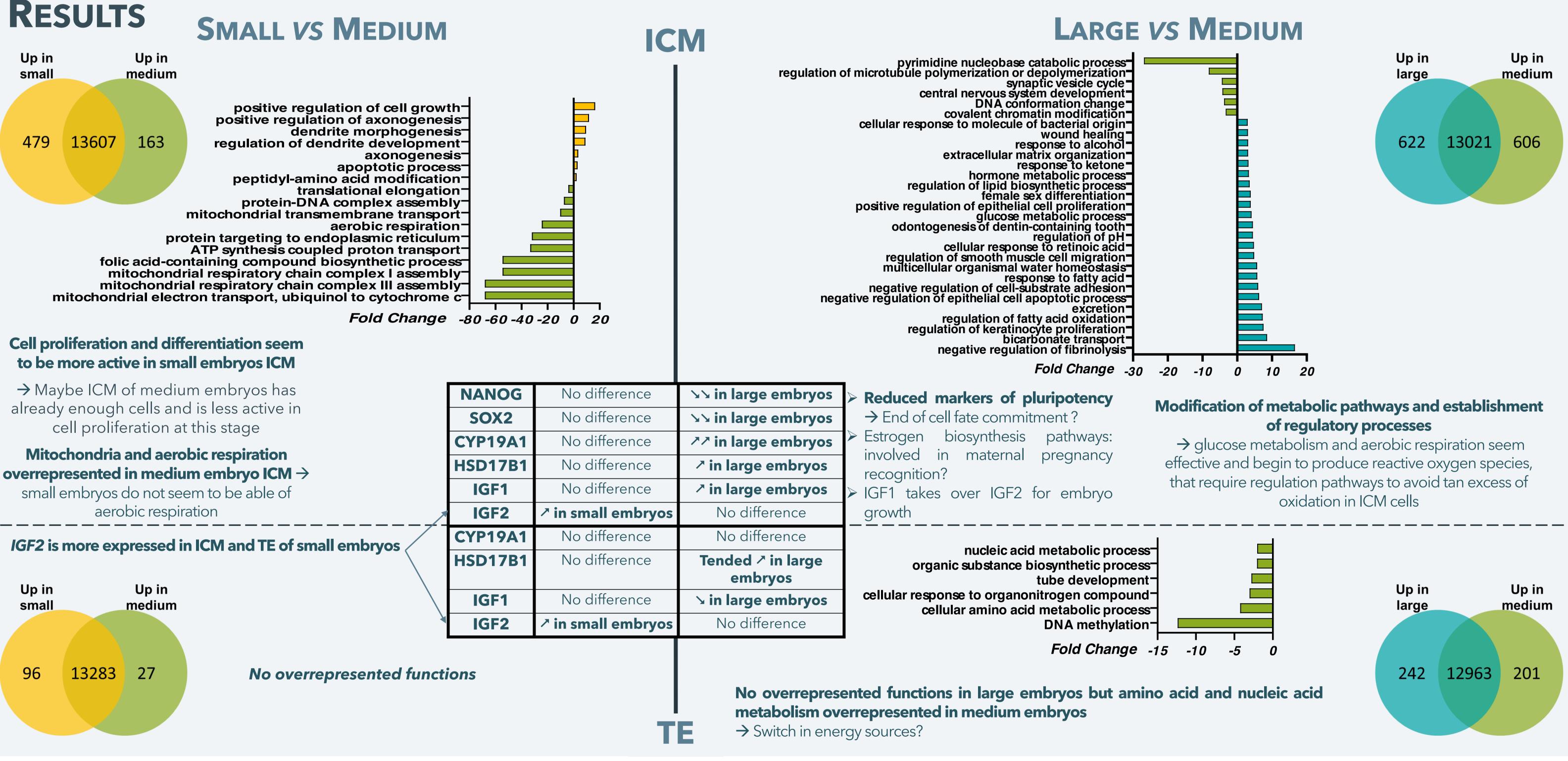


STATISTICS

<u>Deconvolution:</u> DeMixT package; estimation of ICM and TE cells in ICM + TE part \rightarrow Deconvolution of gene expression RNAseq differential analysis: DESeq2 package on R software with farm and embryo sex as cofactors; padj<0.05 for significance Pluripotency markers: Nanog Homeobox (NANOG) & SRY-Box Transcription Factor 2 (SOX2); Hormone metabolism: cytochrome P450 aromatase (CYP19A1), 17β-Hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase (HSD17B1), Insulin Like Growth Factors 1 & 2 (IGF1 & IGF2) Overrepresentation test (PANTHER web software): on differentially expressed genes using GO BP databases; Fold change < 0 indicated overrepresentation in medium size embryos

Croup size	Number of	Embryo diameter			
Group size	embryos	Mean ± SD	Min	Max	
Small	9	560 ± 85μm	409	676	
Medium	11	886 ± 160μm	703	1169	
Large	8	1,719 ± 488µm	1255	2643	

Panzani et al., Theriogenology, 2014



CONCLUSIONS

Gene expression is different between Day 8 small, medium and large embryos, with larger differences in the ICM

Developmental stage appears different

- → Does a reduced speed growth or a later fertilization explain the differences? → What are consequences for further development and implantation?
- → Role of steroid biosynthesis pathways for maternal recognition of pregnancy?

Embryo size is important to consider when studying embryo gene expression





