Gene co-expression network analysis identifies BRCC3 as a key regulator in osteogenic differentiation of osteoblasts through a β-catenin signaling dependent pathway

Lixiong Cai¹, Zhiqian Huo¹*, Haiyun Yang¹, Fengchun He², Zhenglin Cao¹, Feng Wu¹, Lianjun Liu³, Bingyin Sun⁴

¹Department of Traumatology and Orthopedics, Foshan Hospital of TCM, Foshan 528000, China
²Department of Spine Osteopathy, Nanhai Hospital of Southern Medical University, Foshan 528000, China
³Department of Ophthalmology Myopia Treatment, Foshan Aier Eye Hospital, Foshan 528000, China
⁴Department of Orthopaedics, Foshan Jiangxiang Hospital, Foshan 528000, China

Abstract

Objectives: The prognosis of osteoporosis is very poor, and it is very important to identify a biomarker for prevention of osteoporosis. In this study, we aimed to identify candidate markers in osteoporosis and to investigate the role of candidate markers in osteogenic differentiation.

Materials and Methods: Using Weighted Gene Co-Expression Network analysis, we identified three hub genes that might associate with osteoporosis. The mRNA expression of hub genes in osteoblasts from osteoporosis patients or healthy donors was detected by qRT-PCR. Using siRNA and overexpression, we investigated the role of hub gene BRCC3 in osteogenic differentiation by alkaline phosphatase staining and Alizarin red staining. Moreover, the role of β-catenin signaling in the osteogenic differentiation was detected by using β-catenin signaling inhibitor XAV939.

Results: We identified three hub genes that might associate with osteoporosis including BRCC3, UBE2N, and UBE2K. UBE2N mRNA and UBE2K mRNA were not changed in osteoblasts isolated from osteoporosis patients, compared with healthy donors, whereas BRCC3 mRNA was significantly increased. Depletion of BRCC3 promoted the activation of alkaline phosphatase and formation of calcified nodules in osteoblasts isolated from osteoporosis patients and up-regulated β-catenin expression. XAV939 reversed the BRCC3 siRNA-induced osteogenic differentiation. Additionally, inhibited osteogenic differentiation was also observed after BACC3 overexpression, and this was accompanied by decreased β-catenin expression.

Conclusion: BRCC3 is an important regulator for osteogenic differentiation of osteoblasts through β-catenin signaling, and it might be a promising target for osteoporosis treatment.

Introduction

Osteoporosis is a typical senile disease characterized by changes in bone microstructure, reduced trabecular bone density, thinning cortical bone, and fragile fracture (1). The increasing aging population of the world has led to osteoporosis, which has become the most prevalent and popular health problem, especially for women (2). This devastating disease causes an estimated 1.5 million fractures costing 16.9 billion dollars annually in the United States. It is estimated that osteoporotic fractures will increase by 48% to 3 million in 2025 and cost more than 25 billion dollars (3). Besides, only 25% of the patients with osteoporotic fracture can recover to pre-fracture functional levels (4). The prognosis of osteoporosis is very poor, which brings great burden to life and nursing. The gaining problem in China has become increasingly prominent, with increasing osteoporosis (5, 6). Thus, it is very important to identify a biomarker for prevention of osteoporosis (7).

Osteoporosis is mainly divided into primary, secondary, and idiopathic osteoporosis, of which secondary mainly includes endocrine, nutrition, drug, and genetics and so on. Postmenopausal osteoporosis belongs to primary osteoporosis (8, 9). Postmenopausal osteoporosis is associated with eating habits, heredity, and lifestyle habits, but the reduction of estrogen levels in postmenopausal women is the most important (10). Estrogen can promote osteogenic differentiation and osteogenesis of osteoblasts in many ways and play an important role in maintaining the balance between osteoblasts and osteoclasts (10-12). Estrogen plays an important regulatory role in bone growth, maturation, and metabolism. Postmenopausal increase in bone remodeling due to decreased levels of estrogen causes an imbalance between osteoblastic bone formation and osteoclastic bone resorption, which leads to a decrease in bone mineral density and an increased risk of fracture (11). Estrogen can promote osteoblast activity and has an anti-apoptotic effect on osteoblasts. Besides, estrogen can also inhibit osteoclast differentiation and maturation. Most of the functions of estrogen are achieved through estrogen receptor alpha and beta, both of these two receptors are widely expressed in bone marrow stromal cells and osteoclasts (13, 14). The level of estrogen is significantly reduced after menopause, the balance between osteoclasts and osteoblasts is broken.
and bone resorption exceeds bone formation, leading to bone loss, and ultimately induces and accelerates the development of osteoporosis (15, 16).

The Weighted Gene Co-Expression Network (WGCNA) is devoted to finding a co-expressed gene module and exploring the relationship between the gene module and the phenotypes concerned. As an efficient and accurate bioinformatics tool, the theory of WGCNA has been continuously developed and improved and has been widely used in biomedicine (17, 18). It has been successfully used for the identification of candidate markers in a variety of complex diseases including osteoporosis (19-21). Using mononuclear cell mRNA expression data from 12 low-bone-density and 14 high-bone-density premenopausal women detected by Dr. Leung Fung, Charles R Farber constructed the co-expression gene module and found that significant association exists between module 9 and bone mineral density (22).

In this study, we used WGCNA to identify the candidate markers in osteoporosis and reported an estrogen-independence molecular mechanism in differentiation and maturation of osteoclast isolated from osteoporosis patients.

**Materials and Methods**

**Isolation of primary human osteoblasts and culture**

The primary human osteoblasts were achieved from the redundant trabecular bone fragments of osteoporosis patients and healthy donors. This study was approved by Ethics Review Board of Southern Medical University. All participants signed written informed consent. After minced into small pieces, the bone fragments were washed in PBS and digested with 2 mg/ml collagenase type II (300 U/mg, Sigma) for 2 hr at 37 °C, and then placed in culture flasks with DMEM/F12 (Gibco, USA) containing 10% fetal bovine serum, 100 U/ml penicillin, and DNA sequence confirmation, cells received stable overexpression. At first, BRCC3 cDNA was prepared as previously described (23). In brief, the pCR3.1 TA mammalian expression vector was used to harbor the cDNA by cloning cDNA sequences between the restriction sites of BglII and Mlu1. After amplification and DNA sequence confirmation, cells received stable overexpression.

**Cell treatments**

With osteoblasts from healthy donors, BRCC3 were depleted studies, cells were transfected with NC or BRCC3 siRNA using Oligofectamine reagent (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer’s instructions. The siRNAs were synthesized by RiboBio Co, Ltd. (Guangzhou, China) and the sequences of BRCC3 siRNA were as follows: siRNA1-GCAGGAATTACAACAAGAA, siRNA2-CCGTCACAGGGGCTATTTGT-3′, reverse: 5′-GGCAGCCCCTAAAGTACGTT-3′, UBE2K forward: 5′-GCCGAGGGAGAGGGT-3′; UBE2N forward: 5′-GCAGCCTCATAAGTACGTT-3′, reverse: 5′-GCTTTATGCACTGCTAGGCC-3′; UBE2K forward: 5′-CCGTCAACCAGGCTATTTTG-3′; reverse: 5′-GAATGGCTCCGACACACTA -3′, GDPDH forward: 5′-CGAGTCAACGGTTTGTGCTAGTAT-3′, reverse: 5′-AGCC- TTCTCCAGGTGTGGAGAC-3′. The PCR was performed for 2 min at 94°C, 40 cycles consisting of 20 sec at 94°C, 20 sec at 58°C, 20 sec at 72°C, and 1 min at 65°C. The relative gene expression was calculated by the 2−ΔΔCt method and GAPDH was used as the reference gene.

**Western blot**

Proteins were extracted from cells in RIPA buffer supplemented with protease inhibitors according to the standard procedure and quantified by BCA assay. 30 μg proteins were separated by 10% SDS-PAGE and blotted onto nitrocellulose membranes (Millipore, USA). Blots were blocked in 5% non-fat milk, incubated with primary antibody β-catenin (1:200) and GAPDH (1:1000) overnight at 4 °C and horseradish peroxidase-conjugated secondary antibodies (1:5000) for 1 hr at 25 °C. ECL reagent (Beyotime, China) was used for imaging.

**Identification of osteoporosis-related genes**

We selected microarray data in GEO datasets GSE2208 (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE2208) and GSE7429 (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE7429). GSE2208 is the gene expression profile in 10 high bone mineral density (BMD) and 9 low BMD women. GSE7429 is the gene expression profile in 10 high BMD and 10 low BMD women. The shared genes were found out by Morpheus (https://software.broadinstitute.org/morpheus/) (24). Then, Gene Ontology (GO) term enrichment analysis and Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway analysis for these shared genes were performed using DAVID version 6.7 (DAVID; david.ncifcrf.gov). P<0.05 was considered to be significantly different. Protein-protein interaction (PPI) network analysis was performed using the Cytoscape software package (version 3.4.0) with Molecular Complex Detection (MCODE) plug-in. When meeting the criteria of MCODE score ≥4 and number of node >4, the genes were selected as hub genes.

**qRT-PCR**

Total RNAs were isolated from osteoblasts using Trizol (Invitrogen, USA) according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Quantification of RNA was performed using a Nanodrop spectrophotometer (Nanodrop, USA). RNA was reversely transcribed with Bestar qPCR RT Kit (ABI, USA) with a PCR instrument (ABI9700, ABI, USA). Then, PCR was performed with ABI Bestar® SybrGreen qPCR Master Mix (ABI, USA) using a Real-time PCR system (Stratagene Mx3000P, Agilent, USA). The used primers are listed below: BRCC3 forward: 5′-GAACCCACTGCTTACTGGCTT-3′, reverse: 5′-TCGAGACTGAGAGAGGGT-3′; UBE2K forward: 5′-GCAGCCTCATAAGTACGTT-3′, reverse: 5′-GCTTTATGCACTGCTAGGCC-3′; UBE2K forward: 5′-CCGTCAACCAGGCTATTTTG-3′; reverse: 5′-GAATGGCTCCGACACACTA -3′, GDPDH forward: 5′-CGAGTCAACGGTTTGTGCTAGTAT-3′, reverse: 5′-AGCC- TTCTCCAGGTGTGGAGAC-3′. The PCR was performed for 2 min at 94°C, 40 cycles consisting of 20 sec at 94°C, 20 sec at 58°C, 20 sec at 72°C, and 1 min at 65°C. The relative gene expression was calculated by the 2−ΔΔCt method and GAPDH was used as the reference gene.
BRCC3 siRNA promotes bone formation Cai et al.

Dyeing operation is referred to the alkaline phosphatase staining kit (Nanjing Jiancheng Bioengineering Institute, China) according to the manufacturer's instruction.

**Alizarin red staining (ARS)**

After culturing for 21 days, the opaque area was found under the microscope. Cells were washed 3 times in PBS and fixed with 10% neutral formaldehyde for 20 min. Then, cells were stained with 0.1% alizarin red-Tris-HCl (pH 8.3) for 30 min and washed in tap water. Images were obtained using CX21 Olympus light microscopy (Olympus, Japan).

**Statistical analysis**

Each experiment was performed at least three times independently. Data are presented as mean ± standard error (SEM). Statistical analysis was performed using GraphPad Prism 5 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) using Student’s t-test. A P<0.05 was considered statistically significant.

**Results**

**Identification of hub genes associated with osteoporosis**

To identify the osteoporosis-related genes, we analyzed the differential expressed genes in GEO datasets GSE2208 and GSE7429. Results showed there were 162 common genes (Figure 1A). Further GO term enrichment analysis showed significantly enriched GO terms including apoptotic process, intracellular signal transduction, negative regulation of inflammation response, RNA binding, translation initiation factor activity, and negative regulation of macrophage cytokine production (Table 1). KEGG pathway analysis showed significantly enriched estrogen signaling pathway and prolactin signaling pathway (Table 1). Those GO term and KEGG pathways play important roles in osteoporosis (25-27). Thus, there were 52 genes that might be associated with osteoporosis (Table 1). PPI network analysis showed protein and protein interactions among the 162 common genes (Figure 1B). Then, three hub genes that have strong protein and protein interactions and might be associated with osteoporosis were identified, including BRCC3, UBE2N, and UBE2K (Figure 1C).

**BRCC3 up-regulated in osteoblasts from osteoporosis patients**

Primary osteoblasts were isolated from osteoporosis patients and healthy donors. The cells have typical characteristics of osteoblasts that were fully extended, with shuttle, triangle, or irregular polygon morphology (Figure 2A). The osteoblasts were stained with ALP. Results showed brown or coffee granules in the cytoplasm, suggesting the isolated cells were osteoblasts (Figure 2B). The mRNA expressions of UBE2N (Figure 3A) and UBE2K (Figure 3B) not changed in osteoblasts from osteoporosis patients compared with healthy donors, while the mRNA expression of BRCC3 was significantly increased (Figure 3C).

**BRCC3 siRNA promoted differentiation of osteoblasts and up-regulated β-catenin**

After transfected with BRCC3 siRNA and cultured for 21 days, the cells were stained with ALP and ARS (Figures 4A and B). Results showed that BRCC3 siRNA induced activation of ALP (Figure 4A) and promoted growth of cells. The expression of β-catenin was significantly increased in the BRCC3 siRNA group compared with the control group (Figure 4B).

---

**Table 1. Enriched GO term and KEGG pathway associated with osteoporosis**

| Term                  | Description                                                                 | Count | P-value |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| GO:0006915            | Apoptotic process                                                          | 7     | 0.0007  |
| GO:0005556            | Intracellular signal transduction                                           | 10    | <0.0001 |
| GO:0007028            | Negative regulation of inflammatory response                               | 9     | 0.0010  |
| GO:000723             | RNA binding                                                                 | 8     | 0.0013  |
| GO:000743             | Translation initiation factor activity                                      | 5     | 0.0004  |
| GO:0019936            | Negative regulation of macrophage cytokine production                      | 5     | 0.0049  |
| KEGG:Estrogen signaling pathway |                                                                      | 4     | 0.0087  |
| KEGG:Prolactin signaling pathway |                                                                    | 4     | 0.0068  |

---

**Figure 1.** Identifying osteoporosis-related gene. (A) Wenn diagrams of differential expressed genes in GEO datasets GSE2208 and GSE7429; (B) PPI network among 162 common genes; (C) PPI network of hub genes BRCC3, UBE2N, and UBE2K.

**Figure 2.** Identification of isolated osteoblasts. Primary osteoblasts were isolated. (A) Cell morphology; (B) ALP staining.
the formation of calcified nodules (Figure 4B). After transfection with BRCC3 siRNA, the expression of β-catenin was significantly increased in both mRNA and protein levels (Figures 4C and D).

**BRCC3 overexpression suppressed differentiation of osteoblasts and β-catenin expression**

After transfection with BRCC3 cDNA and cultured for 21 days, the cells were stained with ALP and ARS (Figures 5A and B). Results showed that BRCC3 overexpression inhibited ALP activation (Figure 5A) and calcified nodules formation (Figure 4B). Additionally, BRCC3 overexpression significantly inhibited expressions of β-catenin at both mRNA and protein levels (Figures 5C and D).

**Inhibition of β-catenin reversed BRCC3 siRNA-induced osteogenic differentiation**

To test the role of β-catenin in BRCC3 siRNA actions, cells were treated with XAV939 to inhibit the activation of β-catenin signaling. Results showed that XAV939 inhibited the ALP activation and formation of calcified nodules induced by BRCC3 siRNA, suggesting that β-catenin signaling mediated the BRCC3 siRNA-induced osteogenic differentiation (Figure 6).

**Discussion**

As a highly dynamic tissue, bone tissue is constantly undergoing reconstruction. Its balance is maintained by osteoblasts and osteoclasts (28, 29). Osteoclasts originate from monocyte macrophages in hematopoietic cells. Osteoblasts are derived from mesenchymal stem cells. Although these two cells are different in origin,
they can regulate each other’s differentiation and function through interaction. Osteoblasts express two cytokines: macrophage colony-stimulating factor and receptor activator for the nuclear factor-kb ligand, all of which are necessary for osteoclastogenesis (30). Aging osteoporosis may be due to osteoblast growth disorders (31-33). In this study, we found BRCC3 mRNA and β-catenin mRNA were significantly increased in osteoblast isolated from osteoporosis patients. Moreover, depletion of BRCC3 promoted osteogenic differentiation of osteoblast through up-regulated β-catenin expression, whereas opposite effects were observed after BRCC3 overexpression.

BRCC3 is a polypeptide encoded by the BRCC3 gene, containing 316 amino acids and a molecular weight of 36 kDa (34, 35). It was originally found that BRCC3 is a subunit of the BRCA1-BRCA2-containing complex (BRCC), which is also referred to as C6.1A, Cxorf53, RP11-143H17.2. BRCC3 is a member of the JAMM / MPN + protease family that is characterized by its JAMM/MPN + domain, which contains two histidine residues and one aspartic acid residues and can stably bind to divalent zinc ions to form a catalytic center and thus plays an important role in deubiquitination (36). BRCC3 specifically recognizes ubiquitin chains formed by the linkage of ubiquitin lysine residues at K63 and hydrolyzes them to weaken the ubiquitylation (37). Studies have confirmed that ubiquitination mediated by K63 ubiquitin chain plays an important role in DNA damage repair, NF-κB signal transduction, cell cycle and ribosome function, and protein-targeted transport (38, 39).

BRCC3 functions intracellularly mainly through participation in the formation of both complexes of BRCC and BRISC (BRCC3 containing isopeptidase complex) (40); BRCC3 is involved in DNA damage repair (41). Researchers also found abnormally high expression of BRCC3 in tumor cells of patients with sporadic breast tumors that are characterized by tumor cells being less sensitive to radiotherapy, whereas depletion of BRCC3 results in increased sensitivity of cells to ionizing radiation (42). In this study, we found depletion of BRCC3 promoted the differentiation and activation of osteoblast, and β-catenin mediated this effect. BRCC3 may inhibit the activation of the TGF-β1 signaling pathway by regulating the ubiquitination of smad3 (43).

Osteoblasts differentiation is an extremely complex process involving the interaction of many cytokines, extracellular and extracellular matrix, as well as the cross-regulation of multiple signaling pathways (44). The enriched GO terms including apoptotic process, intracellular signal transduction, negative regulation of inflammation response, RNA binding, translation initiation factor activity and negative regulation of macrophage cytokine production, and enriched KEGG pathways including the estrogen signaling pathway and prolactin signaling pathway play important role in osteoporosis (25-27). It is generally believed that the Wnt/β-catenin signaling pathway and the TGF-β signaling pathway are involved in the regulation of osteoblast differentiation process (45). In the absence of Wnt signaling, β-catenin in the cytoplasm is mainly phosphorylated by the GSK-β complex and then degraded by ubiquitination, thereby maintaining the low level of β-catenin in the cytoplasm and closing the pathway (46). Consistently, depletion of BRCC3 increased the level of β-catenin and promoted osteogenic differentiation, and inhibitor XAV939 inhibited the BRCC3-induced osteogenic differentiation. Additionally, the differentiation and β-catenin expression were suppressed by BRCC3 overexpression.

**Conclusion**

In summary, BRCC3 is an important regulator for osteogenic differentiation of osteoblasts through β-catenin signaling, and it might be a promising target for osteoporosis treatment. However, the role of BRCC3 in osteogenic differentiation should be investigated by in vivo experiments.

**Acknowledgment**

This study was financed by the Foshan Municipal Bureau of Science and Technology Fund (2015AB00350).

**Conflicts of Interest**

The authors declare that no conflicts of interest exist.

**References**

1. Hodgson SF, Watts NB, Bilezikian JP, Clarke BL, Gray TK, Harris DW, et al. American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists medical guidelines for clinical practice for the prevention and treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis: 2001 edition, with selected updates for 2003. Endocr Pract 2003; 9:544-564.

2. Bosley AL, Imbert L. Bone quality changes associated with aging and disease: a review. Ann N Y Acad Sci 2017; 1410:93-106.

3. Kuehn BM. Better osteoporosis management a priority: impact predicted to soar with aging population. JAMA 2005; 293:2453-2458.

4. O’Connell MB, Madden DM, Murray AM, Heaney RP, Kerzner LJ. Effects of proton pump inhibitors on calcium carbonate absorption in women: a randomized crossover trial. Am J Med 2005; 118:778-781.

5. Zeng Y, Wu J, He X, Li L, Liu X, Liu X. Mechanical microenvironment regulation of age-related diseases involving degeneration of human skeletal and cardiovascular systems. Prog Biophys Mol Biol 2017; 27: 79-6107.

6. Hamrick I, Schrager S, Nye AM. Treatment of osteoporosis: current state of the art. Wien Med Wochenschr 2015; 165:54-64.

7. Ball AN, Donahue SW, Wojda SJ, Mcillraith CW, Kawcak CE, Ehrhart N, et al. The challenges of promoting osteogenesis in segmental bone defects and osteoporosis. J Orthop Res 2018; 36:1559-1572.

8. Chang Y, Huang C, Hwang J, Kuo J, Lin K, Huang H, et al. Fracture liaison services for osteoporosis in the Asia-Pacific region: current unmet needs and systematic literature review. Osteoporos Int 2017; 1-14.

9. Ganesan K, Roane D. Osteoporosis (Secondary). 2017.

10. Canalis E. Management of endocrine: Novel anabolic treatments for osteoporosis. Eur J Endocrinol 2018; 178:33-44.

11. Macknight JM. Osteopenia and osteoporosis in female athletes. Clin Sports Med 2017; 36:687-702.

12. Swedish Council on Health Technology A. SBU Systematic Review Summaries: Osteoporosis - Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment: A Systematic Review. Stockholm: Swedish Council on Health Technology Assessment (SBU); 2003.

13. Black DM, Rosen CJ. Clinical practice. Postmenopausal osteoporosis. N Engl J Med 2016; 374:254-262.

14. Rachner TD, Khosla S, Hofbauer LC. Osteoporosis: now and
the future. Lancet 2011; 377:1276-1287.
15. Kikuta S, Tanaka N, Kazama T, Kazama M, Kano K, Ryu J, et al. Osteogenic models of bone defect and ovariectomy-induced osteoporosis. Tissue Eng Part A 2013; 19:1792-1802.
16. Shafiee H, Wang S, Inci F, Toy M, Henrich TJ, Kuritzkes DR, et al. Emerging technologies for point-of-care management of HIV infection. Annu Rev Med 2015; 66:387-405.
17. Langfelder P, Horvath S. WGCNA: an R package for weighted correlation network analysis. BMC Bioinformatics 2008; 9:559-579.
18. Liu J, Jing L, Tu X. Weighted gene co-expression network analysis identifies specific modules and hub genes related to coronary artery disease. BMC Cardiovasc Disord 2016; 16:54-62.
19. Chen YC, Guo YF, He H, Lin X, Wang XF, Zhou R, et al. Integrative analysis of genomics and transcriptome data to identify potential functional genes of BMDs in females. J Bone Miner Res 2016; 31:1041-1049.
20. Hu Y, Tan LJ, Chen XD, Liu Z, Min SS, Zeng Q, et al. Identification of novel Potentially-pleiotropic variants associated with osteoporosis and obesity using cFDR method. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 2011; 25:1325-1338.
21. Zhang L, Liu YZ, Zeng Y, Zhu W, Zhao YC, Zhang JG, et al. Network-based proteomic analysis for postmenopausal osteoporosis in caucasian females. Proteomics 2016; 16:12-28.
22. Farber CR. Identification of a gene module associated with BMD through the integration of network analysis and genone-wide association data. J Bone Miner Res 2010; 25:2359-2367.
23. Boudreau HE, Broustas CG, Gokhale PC, Kumar D, Mewani RR, Rone JD, et al. Expression of BRCC3, a novel cell cycle regulated molecule, is associated with increased phospho-ERK cell proliferation. Int J Mol Med 2007; 19:29-39.
24. Starruß J, de Back W, Brusch L, Deutsch A. Morpheus: a user-friendly modeling environment for multiscale and multicellular systems biology. Bioinformatics 2014; 30:1331-1332.
25. Diaz de Barboza G, Guizzardi S, Tolosa de Talamoni N. Molecular aspects of intestinal calcium absorption. World J Gastroenterol 2015; 21:7142-7154.
26. Sanz-Salvador L, Garcia-Perez MA, Tarin JJ, Cano A. Bone metabolic changes during pregnancy: a period of vulnerability to osteoporosis and fracture. Eur J Endocrinol 2015; 172:53-65.
27. Sarli M, Hakimi MA, Chen X, Kumaraswamy E, Cooch NS, Godwin AK, et al. Regulation of BRCC3, a holoenzyme complex containing BRCA1 and BRCA2, by a signalosome-like subunit and its role in DNA repair. Mole Cell 2008; 102:67-76.
28. Robertson H, Hayes JD, Sutherland C. A partnership with the proteasome; the destructive nature of GSK3. Biochem Pharmacol 2018; 147:77-92.
29. Yang L, Guo W, Zhang S, Wang G. Ubiquitination-proteasome system: A new player in the pathogenesis of psoriasis and clinical implications. J Dermatol Sci 2017; 89:219-225.
30. Clague MJ, Urbé S. Endocytosis: the DUB version. Trends Cell Biol 2006; 16:551-559.
31. Feng L, Wang J, Chen J. The lys63-specific deubiquitinating enzyme BRCC36 is regulated by two scaffold proteins localizing in different subcellular compartments. J Biol Chem 2011; 286:11734-117345.
32. Corrado A, Sanpaolo ER, Di Bello S, Cantatore FP. Osteoblasts and cell vaccine. Cancer Res 2006; 66:7285-7292.
33. Marie P. Growth factors and bone formation in osteoporosis: roles for IGF-I and TGF-beta. Rev Rhum Engl Ed 1997; 64:44-53.
34. Hu X, Kim JA, Castillo A, Huang M, Liu J, Wang B. NAB1/MERIT40 and BRE interaction is required for the integrity of two distinct deubiquitinating enzyme BRCC36-containing complexes. J Biol Chem 2011; 286:11734-117345.
35. Dong Y, Hakimi MA, Chen X, Kumaraswamy E, Cooch NS, Godwin AK, et al. Regulation of BRCC3, a holoenzyme complex containing BRCA1 and BRCA2, by a signalosome-like subunit and its role in DNA repair. Mole Cell 2003; 12:1087-99.
36. Chen Z. Ubiquitin signaling in the NF-kB pathway. Nat Cell Biol 2005; 7:758-765.