4 - Veterinary Anatomy

OC-044 - (23923) - DO WE REALLY KNOW THE NUMBER OF "OMENTUMS" IN AN EXPERIMENTAL ANIMAL'S BODY?

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No conflict of interest.

According to the literature, all mammals have two omentums, the greater and the lesser omentums. **The purpose** was to study the general plan of the structure, the number, and homology of serous formations of the peritoneum – omentums of white male rats.

30 male white rats were involved in the study and divided into two groups of 15 animals each. The first group was used to study the greater and lesser omenta, and the second – epididymal omenta.

Greater omentum is a free growth to a certain depth of peritoneal cavity of duplication of the serous membrane, which is characterized by composition of two structural formations: vascular-fatty arcades, which are associated with milky spots, and serous-reticulate membranes, which connect them. Lesser omentum is presented in the form of ligaments (hepato-duodenal and hepato-gastric), thus it mainly performs a connecting role and provides maintenance and stabilization of the organs between which it's located. It consists of vascular-fatty spurs, which contain single milky spots, and serous-reticulate membranes, has no mobile activity, and differs from the greater omentum in form, morphological structure, development, and function, even though they have similar names. The epididymal omentum is a free growth of duplication of the serous membrane, from head of the epididymis of testicle, consists of radial vascular-fatty tracts separated by serous-reticulate membranes - homologous to the greater omentum, has mobility and performs a similar function - immunological protection of animal's peritoneal cavity.

It was established that male white rats have the greater, the lesser, and two epididymal omentums.

Palavras-chave : greater omentum, lesser omentum, epididymal omentum