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Optimization of the timing for effective gene transduction into the chicken gonads.

To determine the best timing of viral injection for the expression and transduction of a transgene in the gonads, a viral solution was injected into chicken embryos at various stages of development after incubation for 50–60 h (stages 14–17).

The left panel shows embryonic developmental stage at the time of viral injection which was determined by microscopically assessing their size and shape; upper left, stage 14; upper right, stage 15; lower left, stage 16; lower right, stage 17.

The right panel shows the expression of *LacZ* in gonads isolated from manipulated embryos (just before hatching) after injecting a retroviral vector carrying *LacZ* gene at stage 15; upper, testis (L); middle, testis (R); lower, ovary.

Related article: Kawabe, Y., Naka, T., Komatsu, H., Nishijima, K., Iijima, S., and Kamihira, M., "Retroviral gene transduction into chicken embryo gonads through blood circulation", J. Biosci. Bioeng., vol. 106, 598–601 (2008).

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