

## INFLUENCE OF OPIOID GROWTH FACTOR [MET5]-ENKEPHALIN ON HEMATOLOGIC PARAMETERS OF *NU/NU* MICE

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**Summary.** Opioid growth factor [Met5]-enkephalin (MET) is known to effect the growth and differentiation of the cells and tissues. These effects are opioid receptor mediated, as opioid antagonist naltrexone (NTX) is capable of diminishing the effects of MET by blocking opioid receptors. We exposed *nu/nu* mice to intraperitoneal injections of 5 mg/kg of MET three times daily or 10 mg/kg of naltrexone (NTX) daily for 8 or 28 days. The examination of body weight, spleen index, and total and differential white blood cell counts suggest that neither MET nor NTX were able to cause any changes in the parameters under study.

**Keywords:** opioid growth factor, *nu/nu* mouse, naltrexone.