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Cloning and Comparison of Prolactin Promoter in Galliformes

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To investigate the mechanism regulating transcription of the prolactin (*PRL*) gene in avian species, the *PRL* promoter region in Ceylon junglefowl, Japanese quail, ring-necked pheasant, turkey, Indian peafowl and helmeted guineafowl were cloned and sequenced. In each species, approximately 4,800-5,900bp were sequenced. The *PRL* promoters of 7 galliformes including red junglefowl were found to have, on average, 91.2% sequence identity over the entire region and 97% sequence identity was observed in the proximal promoter (from the initiation codon (+55) to -130). Moreover, average of sequence identities was 91.6% among 11 avian species (7 galliformes, duck, Java sparrow, budgerigar and ostrich). In the *PRL* proximal promoter, putative Pit-1 binding site and vasoactive intestinal peptide response element were conserved among avian species. These results suggest that that the mechanisms involved in gene expression of *PRL* may be conserved in Galliformes.

Keywords: Galliformes, prolactin, promoter

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