

“After deparaffinization and hydration, the sections were stained with HE, and finally observed and photographed under a light microscope (Echo, USA).”

“observed and photographed under a fluorescence microscope (RVL-100-G, Echo laboratories, USA).”

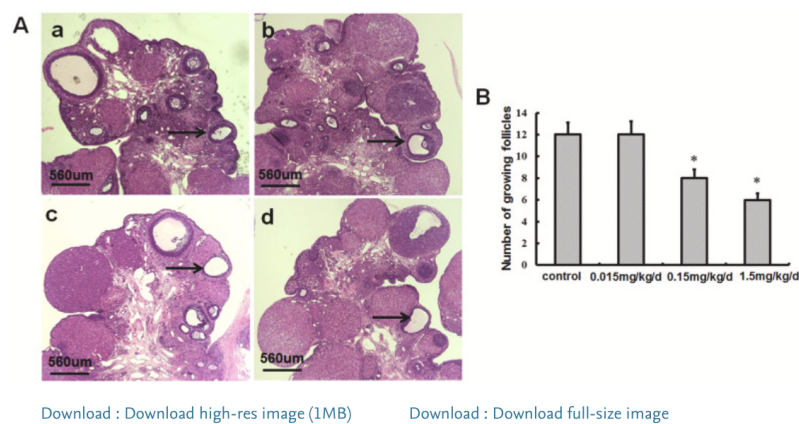


Fig. 2. Representative photographs of H&E (x 100) stained of ovary from rats exposed to polystyrene microplastics. (A) HE staining (x100). (a) Control group, (b) 0.015 mg/kg/d group, (c) 0.15 mg/kg/d group, (d) 1.5 mg/kg/d group. The arrows denote growing follicle (B) The number of follicles growing under different concentrations of microplastics, where * indicates a clear difference compared to the control group ($P < 0.05$). The arrows denote growing follicles. Data are presented as mean $\pm$ SEM.

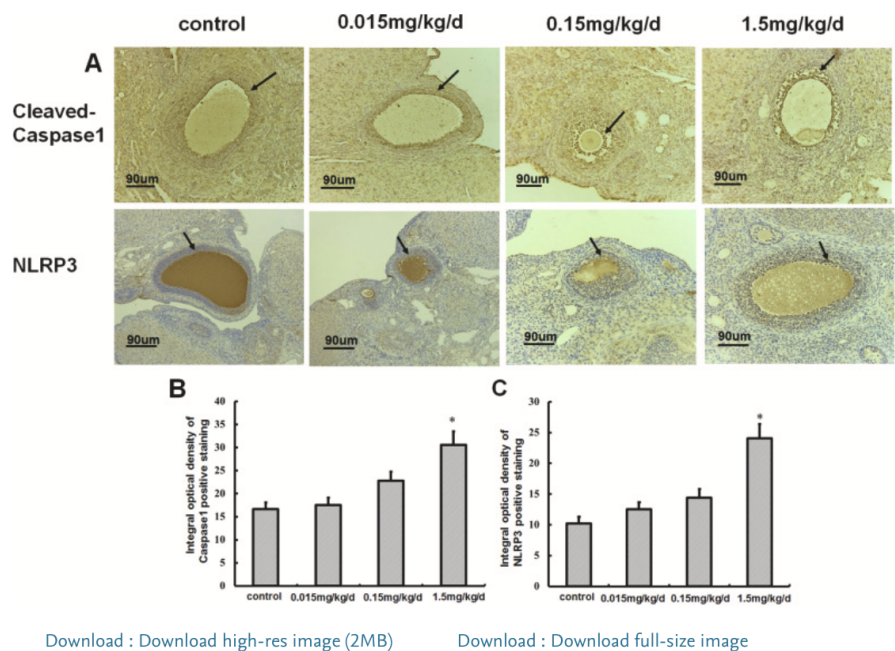
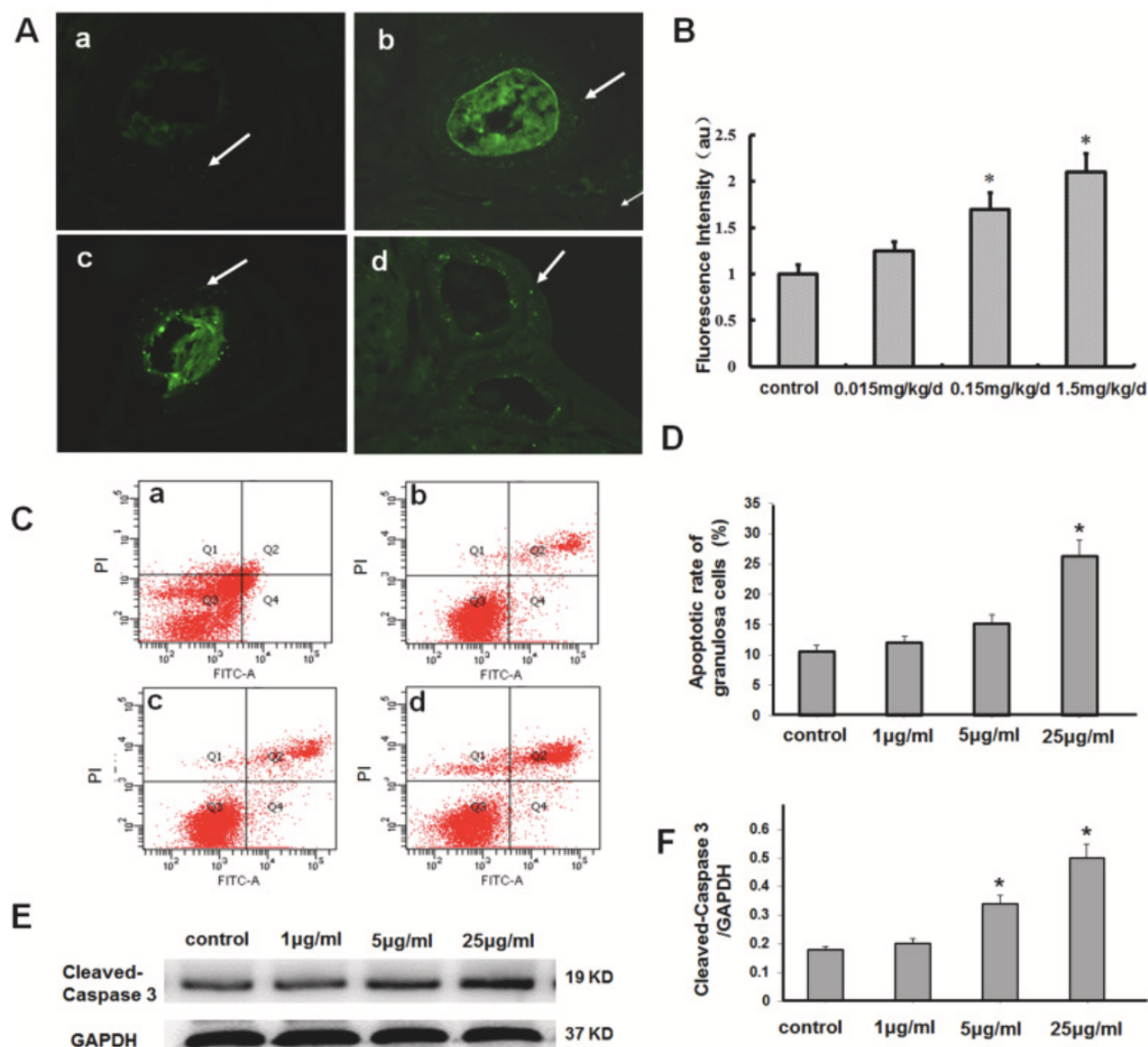


Fig. 4. Effects of polystyrene microplastics on the expressions of NLRP3 and cleaved-caspase-1 in ovarian granulosa cells detected by immunohistochemistry. (A) Expressions of NLRP3 and cleaved-caspase-1 in ovarian granulosa cells (x200). (a) Control group, (b) 0.015 mg/kg/d group, (c) 0.15 mg/kg/d group, (d) 1.5 mg/kg/d group. Arrows indicate ovarian granulosa cells. (B) (C) The integrated optical density of NLRP3 and cleaved-caspase-1 expressions in ovarian granulosa cells, where * indicates a clear difference compared to the control group ($P < 0.05$). The arrows denote growing follicles. Data are presented as mean $\pm$ SEM.



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Fig. 6. Results of ovarian granulosa cells after TUNEL staining. (A) Images of ovarian granulosa cells under a fluorescence microscope after TUNEL staining ($\times 200$), in which arrows indicate ovarian granulosa cells with positive reaction in TUNEL staining. (B) The Fluorescence Density Values of TUNEL staining positive. (C) Apoptosis of granulosa cells