

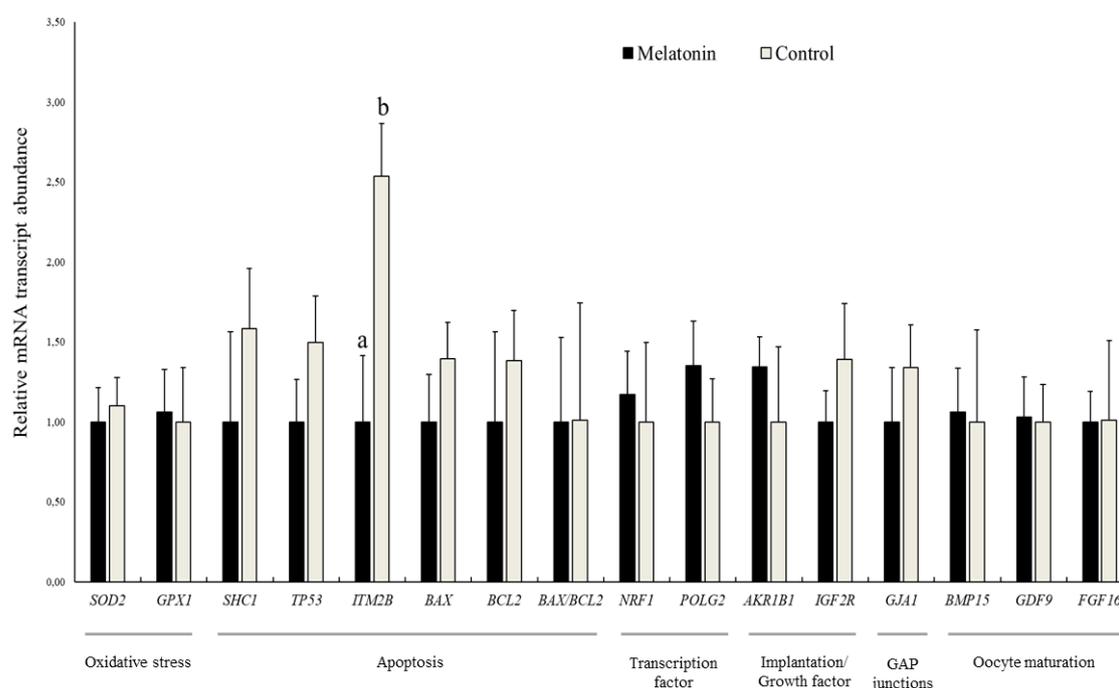
Supplementary materials


Figure S1. Relative mRNA transcript abundance in sheep oocytes collected from ovary stored with (Melatonin) and without melatonin (Control); Results are expressed as mean \pm SEM; ^{a,b} Different letters indicate differences ($p \leq 0.05$) among treatments.

Table S1. *In vitro* maturation of sheep oocytes retrieved from ovaries stored with and without melatonin.

Nuclear configuration after IVM				
Treatment	N ^o oocytes	GV (%)	GVBD/MI (%)	MII (%)
Melatonin	92	11.41 \pm 6.39	4.19 \pm 3.54	84.39 \pm 6.69
Control	90	8.68 \pm 6.39	3.12 \pm 3.54	88.19 \pm 6.69

Data expressed as mean \pm SEM; Results represent three replicates.

Table S2. Effect of melatonin supplementation during ovary transport on rates of cleavage and blastocyst development in sheep.

Treatment	n	Cleaved embryo at 48 hpi (%)	Expanded blastocyst (%)	
			Total	Cleaved
Melatonin	195	57.66 \pm 4.33	26.76 \pm 2.35	46.86 \pm 4.26 ^a
Control	195	67.97 \pm 4.51	23.13 \pm 2.26	30.34 \pm 4.10 ^b

Data expressed as mean \pm SEM; Results represent five replicates; ^{a,b} Different letters indicate differences ($P \leq 0.05$) among treatments

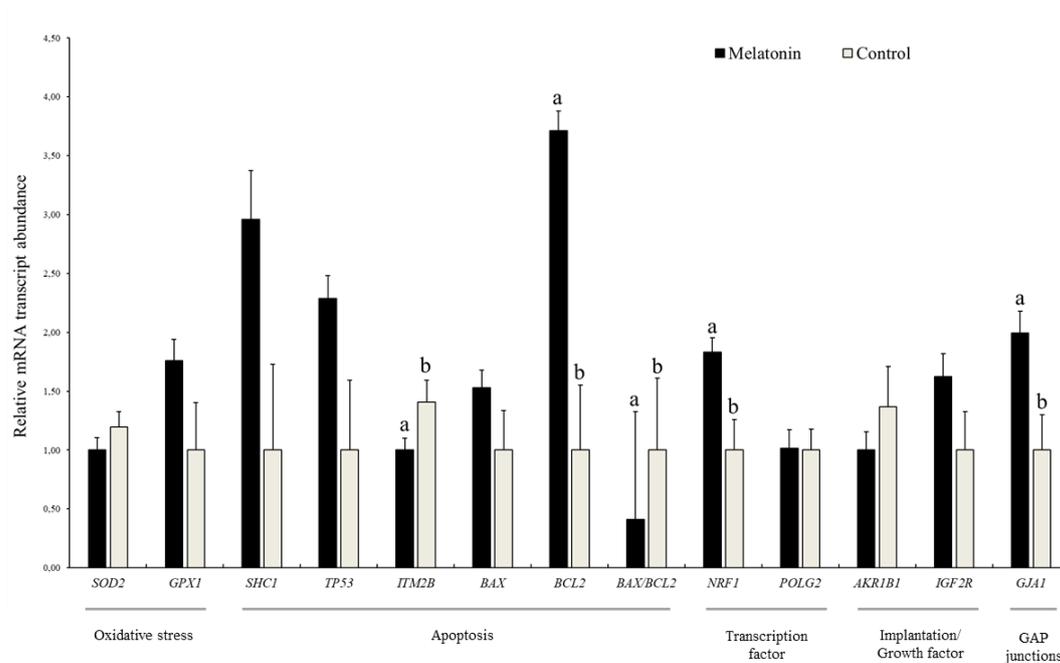


Figure S2. Relative mRNA transcript abundance in sheep blastocysts produced *in vitro* from ovary stored with (Melatonin) and without melatonin (Control); Results are expressed as mean \pm SEM; ^{a,b} Different letters indicate differences ($p \leq 0.05$) among treatments