

LIPID METABOLISM AND THE EXPRESSION OF PROTEINS FOR LIPID REGULATION IN EXPERIMENTAL CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE

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OBJECTIVES

The uremic dyslipidemia might be associated with the altered regulation of proteins for lipid metabolism. We assessed the changes in level of sterol regulatory element binding protein-1 (SREBP-1) and liver X-receptor (LXR) and the effect of angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB) on the lipid metabolism using a murine 5/6 nephrectomy model.

METHODS

Male Sprague-Dawley rats ($n=30$) were randomly assigned to CRF and control groups. The CRF group underwent 5/6 nephrectomy and randomized to untreated (CRF group, $n=11$) and losartan-treated (ARB group, $n=9$) groups. The control group ($n=10$) underwent sham operation. After 4 weeks later, we collected physiological data such as blood pressure, amount of proteinuria, BUN, serum creatinine, triglyceride and LDL levels. We investigated histologic findings and examined the expression of TGF- β 1 by immunohistochemistry in renal tissues. Quantitative real-time PCR was performed to evaluate the mRNA expression of LXR α , TGF β and fibronectin. Western blotting and confocal microscopic examination were done to examine SREBP-1 expression in the kidney of each group.

RESULTS

Blood pressure, amount of proteinuria, serum triglyceride and LDL levels increased in CRF rats compared to control rats, and were down-regulated in ARB treated rats. The expression of LXR was up-regulated in CRF rats compared with control and ARB group as assessed by real-time PCR [Figure 1]. SREBP-1 was up-regulated in CRF group as evaluated with western blot [Figure 2] and confocal microscopy [Figure 3]. In control and ARB groups, the regulation of SREBP-1 showed the reciprocal patterns compared to that of CRF rats. The expressions of TGF- β and fibronectin were coincided with the changes of renal function and ARB treatment [Figure 4].

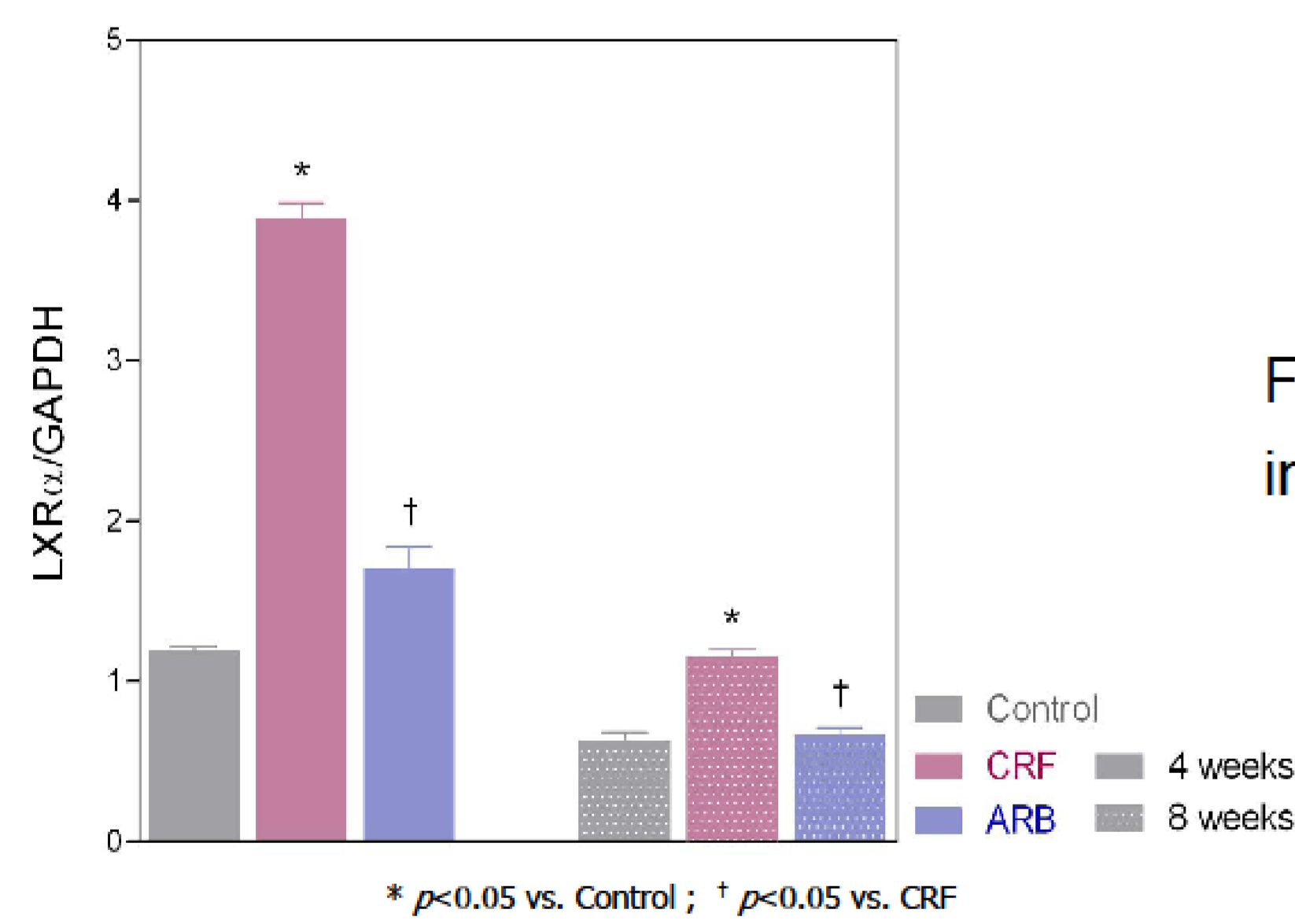


Fig.1 Renal LXR α mRNA expression in control, CRF, and ARB group

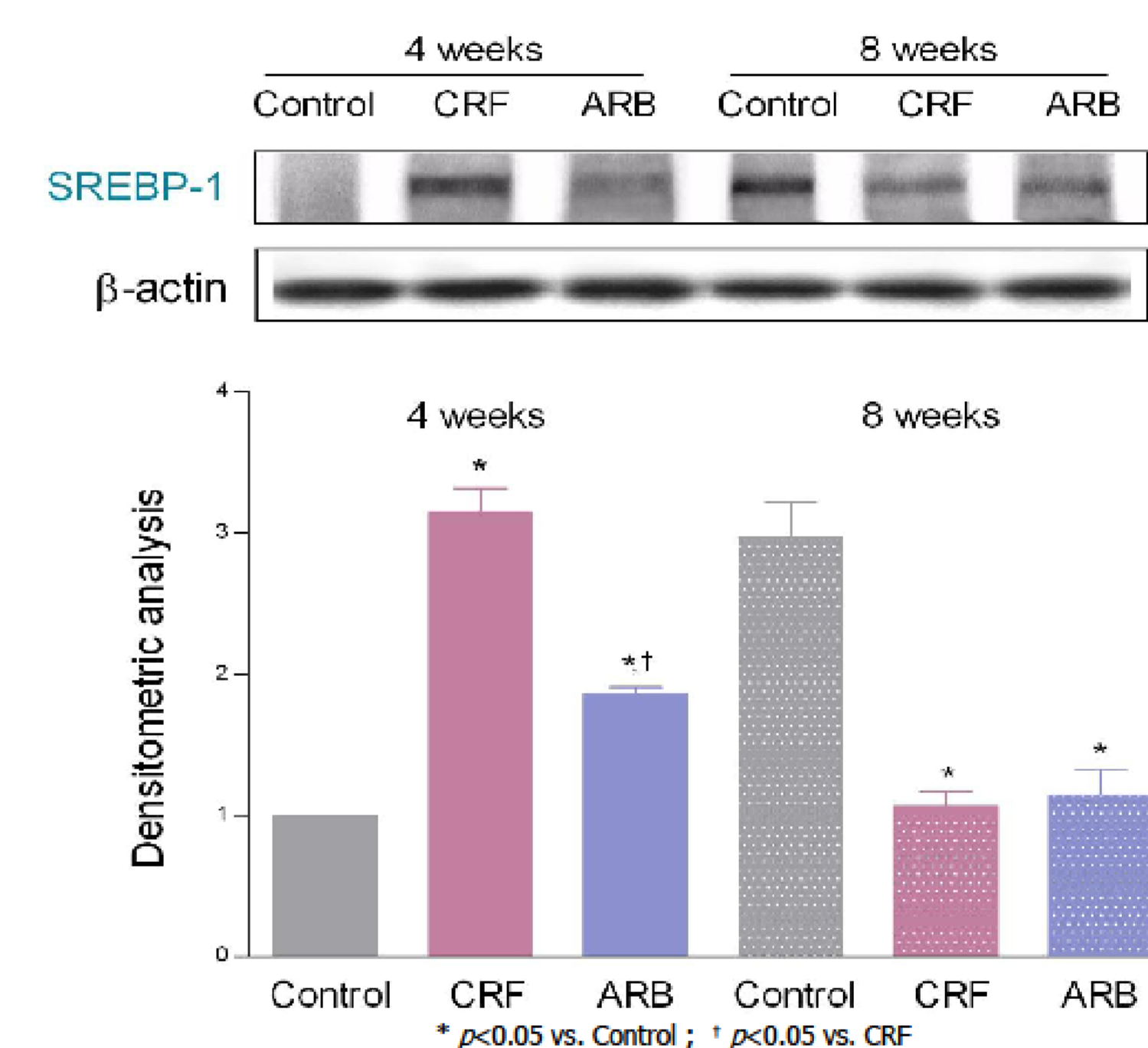


Fig.2 Western blot analysis for SREBP-1 proteins in control, CRF, and ARB group

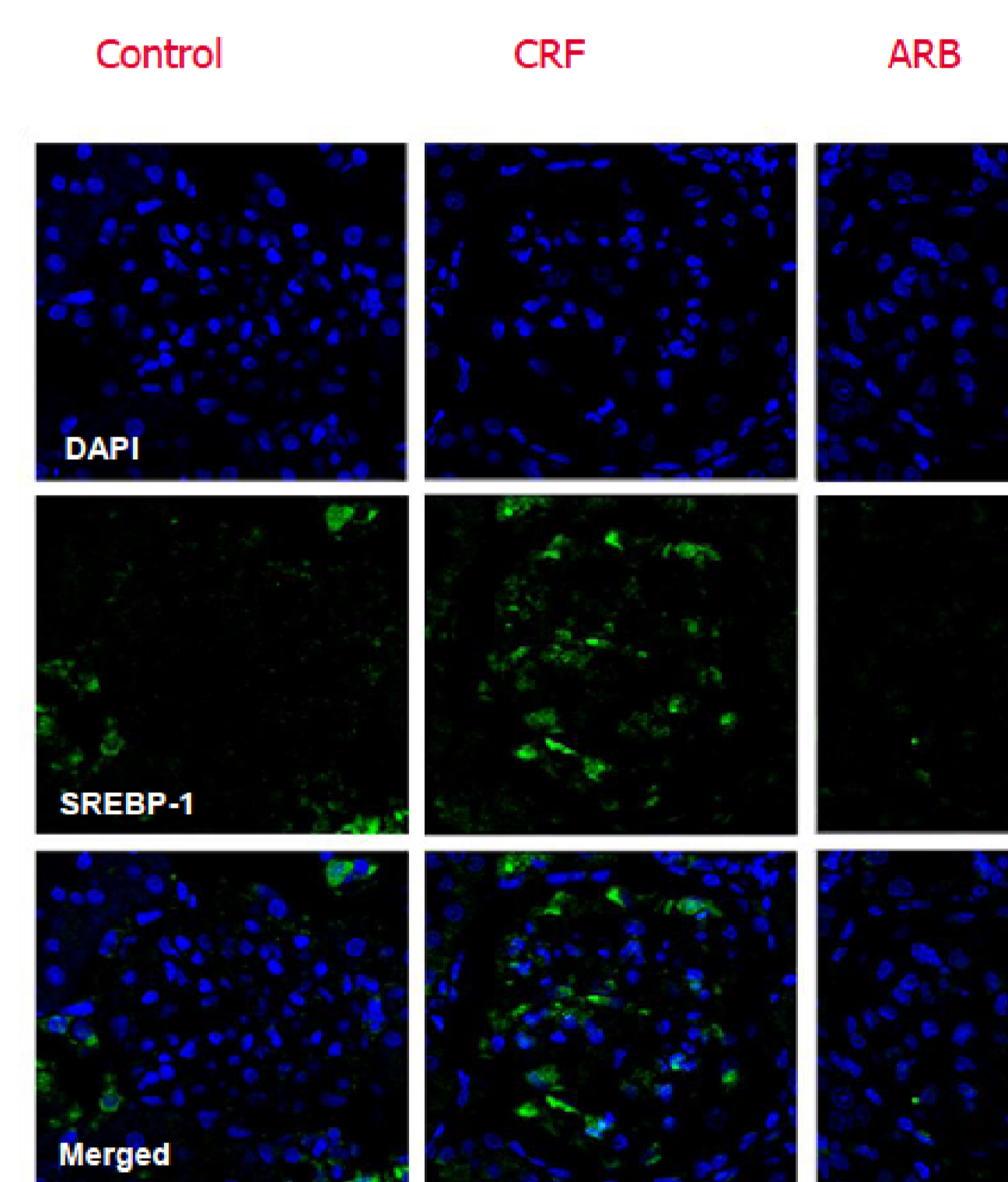


Fig.3 Confocal microscopic localization of SREBP-1 (green color). $\times 800$

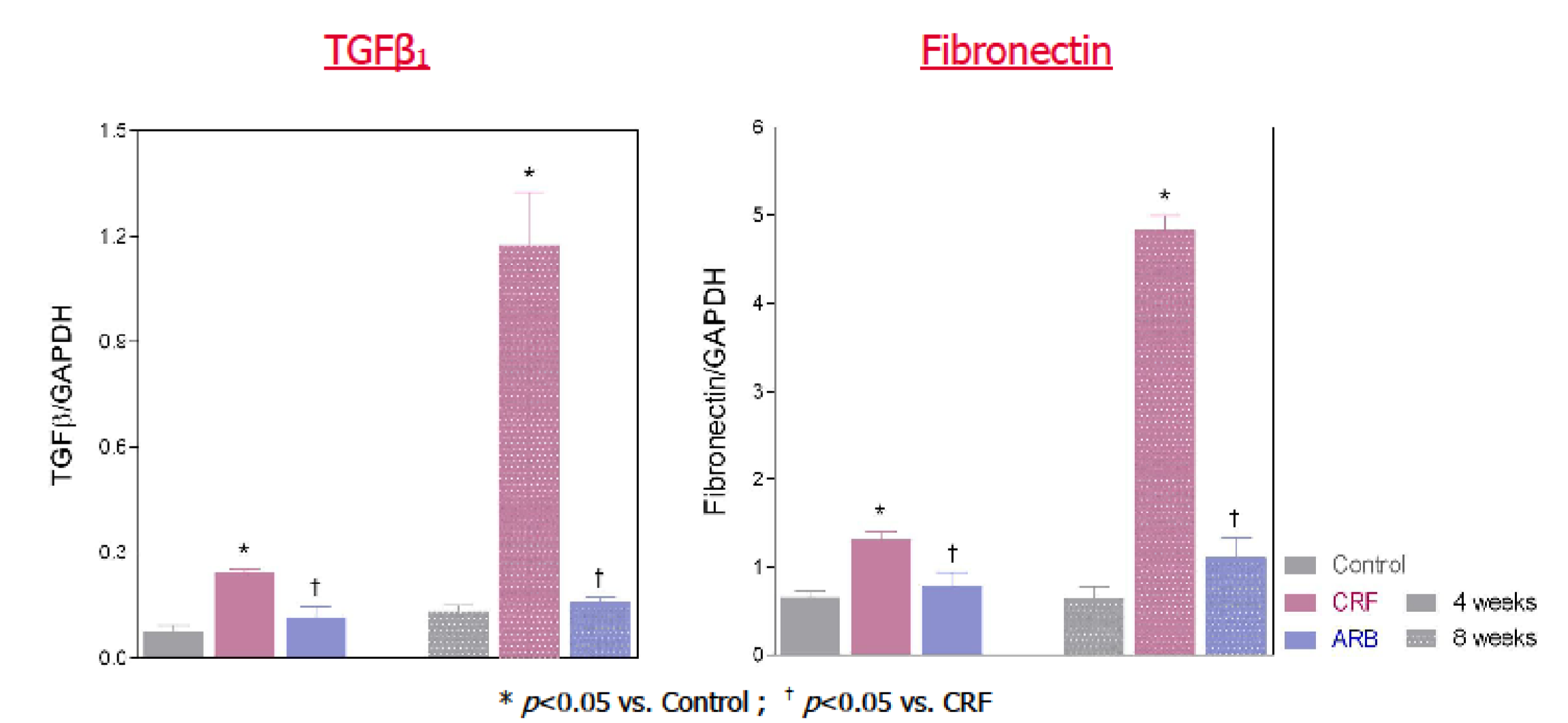


Fig.4 Renal TGF- β 1 and fibronectin mRNA expression in control, CRF, and ARB group

CONCLUSION

Chronic renal failure was directly related with the development of dyslipidemia through the differential expression of proteins for lipid regulation, and ARB may halt the deleterious process of dyslipidemia via normalization of regulators.

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