Treated groups	Preantral	Antral	Atretic
	follicles	follicles	follicles
Young			
Wt	7.60 ± 2.07	8.60 ± 0.55	5.00 ± 1.41
Saline group	7.20 ± 2.17	8.40±1.34	4.40 ± 1.95
Low-dose/ rhGH	6.80 ± 1.64	8.20 ± 2.59	4.80 ± 1.48
Medium-dose/rhGH	8.00±1.73	8.00 ± 1.58	4.20±1.30
High-dose/rhGH	7.20 ± 1.48	8.60±1.52	4.00 ± 1.00
Total	7.36±1.73	8.36 ± 1.52	4.48±1.39
Aged			
Wt	1.60 ± 0.89^{a}	1.40 ± 0.55^{a}	1.40 ± 0.54 ^a
Saline group	2.00 ± 1.00^{a}	$1.80 {\pm} 0.84^{a}$	1.60 ± 0.55^{a}
Low-dose/ rhGH	1.80 ± 0.84^{a}	2.00 ± 1.00^{a}	1.20 ± 0.45^{a}
Medium-dose/rhGH	2.20 ± 1.09^{a}	$4.00 \pm 1.00^{ ab}$	1.40 ± 0.55^{a}
High-dose/rhGH	2.40 ± 1.67^{a}	$4.60 \pm 1.14^{ ab}$	1.20 ± 0.44 ^a
Total	2.00 ± 1.08^{a}	2.76 ± 1.56^{a}	$1.36 {\pm} 0.49^{a}$

Supplemental Table 1 Effect of rhGH on different classes of ovarian follicles in each group (average number per slide)

Note: Preantral follicles include primordial follicle, primary follicle and secondary follicle. Antral follicles inculde teritary follicle and mature follicle. Data expressed as Mean \pm SD of 5 random ovarian slides from five females in each group. a, b significantly different from control groups(a: compared with wt/young group; b: compared with wt/aged group),respectively at *P*<0.05 using one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey-Kramer as a post-hoc test.