

Therapeutic Effects of Micro-RNAs in Preclinical Studies of Acute Kidney Injury: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Sarah Zankar, Mayra Trentin-Sonoda, Jose L. Viñas, Rosendo A. Rodriguez, Adrian Bailey, David Allan and Kevin D. Burns

Supplementary information

Supplementary Table S1. Characteristics of studies included in the systematic review

Study	AKI model	Species	Sex	miRNA	Type of Intervention	Route of administration	SCr, BUN or Injury Scores	Pathway Category	Intervention Outcome
Du et al., 2020 ¹	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-21	MVs	I.V.	No	Apoptosis	Detrimental
Geng et al., 2020 ²	IRI + IPC	Mice	Male	miR-21	Gene deletion, antagomiR	Gene deletion, I.P.	Yes	Apoptosis	MiR-21 tg +/-0: Protective; AntagomiR: Detrimental
Wang et al., 2020 ³	IRI	Mice	NS	miR-218-5p	Gene deletion, mimic	Gene deletion, I.V.	Yes	Angiogenesis	Detrimental
Wei et al., 2020 ⁴	Sepsis	Mice	Male	miR-21	Mimic, antagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Mimic: Detrimental; AntagomiR: Protective

Study	AKI model	Species	Sex	miRNA	Type of Intervention	Route of administration	SCr, BUN or Injury Scores	Pathway Category	Intervention Outcome
Yan et al., 2020a ⁵	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-214	Gene deletion	Gene deletion	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Yan et al., 2020b ⁶	Acute Pancreatitis	Rats	Male	miR-214-3p	Mimic, antagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	Mimic: Detrimental; AntagomiR: Protective
Zhao et al., 2020 ⁷	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-27a-3p	Mimic, antagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Oxidative stress	Mimic: Detrimental; AntagomiR: Protective
Chen et al., 2019 ⁸	IRI	Mice	NS	miR-424	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Funahashi et al., 2019 ⁹	Sepsis	Mice	Male	miR-146a	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	Protective
Li et al., 2019 ¹⁰	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-23a	Exosomes, antagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	Exosomes: Detrimental; AntagomiR: Protective
Liu et al., 2019 ¹¹	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-377	Mimic, antagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	Mimic: Detrimental; AntagomiR: Protective
Ma et al., 2019 ¹²	Sepsis	Mice	Male	miR-590-3p	Mimic	I.V	Yes	Apoptosis, inflammation	Protective
Pan et al., 2019 ¹³	Sepsis + IPC	Mice	Male	miR-21	Gene deletion	I.V	Yes	Apoptosis, inflammation	Gene deletion: Detrimental

Study	AKI model	Species	Sex	miRNA	Type of Intervention	Route of administration	SCr, BUN or Injury Scores	Pathway Category	Intervention Outcome
Qin et al., 2019 ¹⁴	Sepsis	Rats	Female	miR-191-5p	Mimic	I.V	Yes	Apoptosis, inflammation	Protective
Tapparo et al., 2019 ¹⁵	Rhabdomyolysis	Mice	Male	miR-10a, miR-127 and miR-486	EVs	I.V.	Yes	Unclear	Protective
Wu et al., 2019 ¹⁶	Allograft renal transplantation	Rats	Male	miR-191	AntagomiR	Intra-rectal	No	Apoptosis	Protective
Yue et al., 2019 ¹⁷	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-187	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Zhang et al., 2019a ¹⁸	Nephrotoxic + IPC	Mice	Male	miR-144	AntagomiR	I.V.	No	Apoptosis	Detrimental
Zhang et al., 2019b ¹⁹	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-155	AntagomiR	NS	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Zhang et al., 2019c ²⁰	IRI	Rats	NS	miR-30c-5p	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	Protective
Zhu et al., 2019 ²¹	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-204-5p	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis, necrosis	Protective
Chen et al., 2018 ²²	Sepsis	Mice	NS	miR-155	AntagomiR	I.V.	No	Inflammation	Protective
Guo et al., 2018 ²³	Nephrotoxic	Mice	Male	miR-709	AntagomiR	I.P.	Yes	Mitochondrial function, apoptosis	Protective
Li et al., 2018a ²⁴	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-182	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective

Study	AKI model	Species	Sex	miRNA	Type of Intervention	Route of administration	SCr, BUN or Injury Scores	Pathway Category	Intervention Outcome
Li et al., 2018b ²⁵	Sepsis	Mice	Male	miR-124	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	Protective
Liu et al., 2018 ²⁶	Nephrotoxic	Mice	Male	miR-181a	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Mathia et al., 2018 ²⁷	Rhabdomyolysis	Mice	Male	miR-22	AntagomiR	S.C.	Yes	Oxidative stress	Detrimental
Song et al., 2018a ²⁸	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis, inflammation	Detrimental
Song et al., 2018 ²⁹	IRI	Mice	Male	multiple including miR-17-92 cluster	Gene deletion, mimic	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis, cell proliferation	Protective
Wei et al., 2018 ³⁰	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-668	Mimic, antagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Mitochondrial dynamics	Mimic: Protective; AntagomiR: Detrimental
Yu et al., 2018 ³¹	DHCA	Rats	Male	miR-106b-5p	Mimic	Intra-Renal	No	Apoptosis	Protective
Zhu et al., 2018 ³²	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-214	Mimic	I.P.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Amrouche et al., 2017 ³³	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-146a	Gene deletion	Gene deletion	Yes	Inflammation	Detrimental
Colbert et al., 2017 ³⁴	Sepsis (CLP, LPS, FS and MRSA)	Mice	Male	miR-223	Gene deletion	Gene deletion	Yes	NS	CLP: Protective; LPS: Detrimental; FS: Neutral; MRSA: Neutral
de Almeida et al., 2016 ³⁵	Nephrotoxic	Mice	Male	miR-377, miR-141	MSCs, MVs	I.P.	Yes	Multiple	Protective
Fu et al., 2017 ³⁶	Sepsis	Rats	Female	miR-21	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Hao et al., 2017 ³⁷	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-17-5p	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective

Study	AKI model	Species	Sex	miRNA	Type of Intervention	Route of administration	SCr, BUN or Injury Scores	Pathway Category	Intervention Outcome
Huang et al., 2018 ³⁸	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-146	Mimic, antagomiR	NS	Yes	Apoptosis	Mimic: Protective; AntagomiR: Detrimental
Jia et al., 2017 ³⁹	Sepsis + IPC	Mice	NS	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.P.	Yes	Apoptosis, inflammation	Detrimental
Jiao et al., 2017 ⁴⁰	IRI + IPC	Mice	Male	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Oxidative stress	Detrimental
Ranghino et al., 2017 ⁴¹	IRI	Mice	Male	multiple	EVs	I.V.	Yes	Multiple	Protective
Wang et al., 2017a ⁴²	Nephrotoxic	Mice	Male	miR-301a-5p	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Wang et al., 2017b ⁴³	Sepsis	Mice	Male	miR-107	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Wilflingseder et al., 2017 ⁴⁴	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-182-5p	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Cell cycle, inflammation	Protective
Xu et al., 2017a ⁴⁵	IRI + IPC	Mice	Male	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Detrimental
Xu et al., 2017b ⁴⁶	IRI + CoCl ₂ PC	Mice	Male	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Angiogenesis	Detrimental
Yuan et al., 2017a ⁴⁷	IRI	Mice	Female	miR-223	MSCs	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	miR suppression: Detrimental
Yuan et al., 2017b ⁴⁸	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-423-5p	Mimic, antagomiR	I.V.	Yes	ER, oxidative stress	Mimic: Detrimental; AntagomiR: Protective
Chen et al., 2016a ⁴⁹	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-16	Mimic, antagomiR	Left renal artery	Yes	Apoptosis	Mimic: Detrimental; AntagomiR: Protective

Study	AKI model	Species	Sex	miRNA	Type of Intervention	Route of administration	SCr, BUN or Injury Scores	Pathway Category	Intervention Outcome
Chen et al., 2016 ⁵⁰	Nephrotoxic	Mice	Male	miR-192-5p	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Dai et al., 2016 ⁵¹	IRI + LPS PC	Mice	Male	miR-146a	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	With LPS PC: Detrimental Without LPS PC: Neutral
Gu et al., 2016 ⁵²	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-30	EVs	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Vinas et al., 2016 ⁵³	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-486-5p	EVs	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Wei et al., 2016 ⁵⁴	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-489	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	Detrimental
Bhatt et al., 2015 ⁵⁵	IRI	Mice	NS	miR-687	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis, cell cycle activation	Protective
Collino et al., 2015 ⁵⁶	Rhabdomyolysis	Mice	Male	Multiple	MSCs, EVs	I.V.	Yes	Multiple	Detrimental
Jia et al., 2015 ⁵⁷	Sepsis + Xe PC	Mice	Male	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.P.	Yes	Apoptosis, inflammation	Detrimental
Liang et al., 2015 ⁵⁸	IRI	Mice	NS	miR-26a	Mimic	I.V.	Yes	Inflammation	Protective
Liu et al., 2015 ⁵⁹	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.P.	Yes	Autophagy	Protective
Ranganathan et al., 2015 ⁶⁰	IRI	Mice	NS	miR-150	Gene deletion	Gene deletion	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Bijkerk et al., 2014 ⁶¹	IRI	Mice	NS	miR-126	BM cells	I.V.	Yes	Vasculo-genesis	Protective
Li et al., 2014 ⁶²	Candidemia	Mice	NS	miR-204 and miR-211	Mimic, antagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Unclear	miR-204 and miR-211 mimic: Protective; AntagomiR: Detrimental

Study	AKI model	Species	Sex	miRNA	Type of Intervention	Route of administration	SCr, BUN or Injury Scores	Pathway Category	Intervention Outcome
Lorenzen et al., 2014 ⁶³	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-24	AntagomiR	I.P.	Yes	Apoptosis	Protective
Pellegrini et al., 2014 ⁶⁴	Nephrotoxic	Mice	Both	miR-155	Gene deletion	Gene deletion	Yes	Apoptosis	Detrimental
Jia et al., 2013 ⁶⁵	IRI + Xe PC	Mice	Male	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.P.	Yes	Apoptosis	Detrimental
Cantaluppi et al., 2012 ⁶⁶	IRI	Rats	Male	miR-126 and miR-296	MVs	I.V.	Yes	Angiogenesis, tissue repair	Protective
Lan et al., 2012 ⁶⁷	IRI	Mice	Male	miR-494	Mimic, antagomiR	Intra-arterial	Yes	Apoptosis, inflammation	Mimic: Detrimental; AntagomiR: Protective
Reis et al., 2012 ⁶⁸	Nephrotoxic	Rats	Female	Multiple	BMSCs, CM	I.V.	Yes	Unclear	Protective
Xu et al., 2012 ⁶⁹	IRI + IPC	Mice	Male	miR-21	AntagomiR	I.V.	Yes	Apoptosis	With IPC: Detrimental Without IPC: Neutral
Wei et al., 2010 ⁷⁰	IRI	Mice	Male	Multiple	Gene deletion	Gene deletion	Yes	Multiple	Protective

Abbreviations: AKI, acute kidney injury; BM, bone marrow; BMSC, bone marrow mesenchymal stromal cell; BUN, blood urea nitrogen; CLP, cecal ligation and puncture; CM, conditioned media; DHCA, deep hypothermic circulatory arrest; ER, endoplasmic reticulum; EV, extracellular vesicles; I.P. intraperitoneal; IPC, ischemic pre-conditioning; IRI, ischemia-reperfusion injury; I.V., intravenous; LPS, lipopolysaccharide; MRSA, methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus; MSC, mesenchymal stem cells; MV, microvesicle; NS, not specified; PC, pre-conditioning; S.C., subcutaneous; SCr, serum creatinine; Tg, transgenic; Xe, Xenon.

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Supplementary Table S2. Quality of Evidence (GRADE Method) for serum creatinine and injury score outcomes in studies used in the meta-analyses.

Intervention	Study design	Risk of Bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Publication bias	Upgrading factors	Quality of evidence
miRNA-21 (serum creatinine)	High quality	Serious (-1)	Very serious (-2)	Serious (-1)	Serious (-1)	Uncertain	None	Very low quality (+)
miRNA-21 (injury scores)	High quality	Serious (-1)	Not an issue	Serious (-1)	Serious (-1)	Uncertain	None	Very low quality (+)

Supplementary Table S3. PRISMA 2009 Checklist

Section/topic	#	Checklist item	Reported on page #
TITLE			
Title	1	Identify the report as a systematic review, meta-analysis, or both.	1
ABSTRACT			
Structured summary	2	Provide a structured summary including, as applicable: background; objectives; data sources; study eligibility criteria, participants, and interventions; study appraisal and synthesis methods; results; limitations; conclusions and implications of key findings; systematic review registration number.	2
INTRODUCTION			
Rationale	3	Describe the rationale for the review in the context of what is already known.	3
Objectives	4	Provide an explicit statement of questions being addressed with reference to participants, interventions, comparisons, outcomes, and study design (PICOS).	3
METHODS			
Protocol and registration	5	Indicate if a review protocol exists, if and where it can be accessed (e.g., Web address), and, if available, provide registration information including registration number.	12
Eligibility criteria	6	Specify study characteristics (e.g., PICOS, length of follow-up) and report characteristics (e.g., years considered, language, publication status) used as criteria for eligibility, giving rationale.	12-13
Information sources	7	Describe all information sources (e.g., databases with dates of coverage, contact with study authors to identify additional studies) in the search and date last searched.	12-13
Search	8	Present full electronic search strategy for at least one database, including any limits used, such that it could be repeated.	Supplementary file 1
Study selection	9	State the process for selecting studies (i.e., screening, eligibility, included in systematic review, and, if applicable, included in the meta-analysis).	13-14
Data collection process	10	Describe method of data extraction from reports (e.g., piloted forms, independently, in duplicate) and any processes for obtaining and confirming data from investigators.	13-14
Data items	11	List and define all variables for which data were sought (e.g., PICOS, funding sources) and any assumptions and simplifications made.	13-14,20
Risk of bias in individual studies	12	Describe methods used for assessing risk of bias of individual studies (including specification of whether this was done at the study or outcome level), and how this information is to be used in any data synthesis.	8, 14
Summary measures	13	State the principal summary measures (e.g., risk ratio, difference in means).	14
Synthesis of results	14	Describe the methods of handling data and combining results of studies, if done, including measures of consistency (e.g., I^2) for each meta-analysis.	14-15

Section/topic	#	Checklist item	Reported on page #
Risk of bias across studies	15	Specify any assessment of risk of bias that may affect the cumulative evidence (e.g., publication bias, selective reporting within studies).	9, Fig. 6
Additional analyses	16	Describe methods of additional analyses (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression), if done, indicating which were pre-specified.	14-15
RESULTS			
Study selection	17	Give numbers of studies screened, assessed for eligibility, and included in the review, with reasons for exclusions at each stage, ideally with a flow diagram.	4, Fig. 1
Study characteristics	18	For each study, present characteristics for which data were extracted (e.g., study size, PICOS, follow-up period) and provide the citations.	4-5, Fig. 2, S1
Risk of bias within studies	19	Present data on risk of bias of each study and, if available, any outcome level assessment (see item 12).	8, Fig. 6
Results of individual studies	20	For all outcomes considered (benefits or harms), present, for each study: (a) simple summary data for each intervention group (b) effect estimates and confidence intervals, ideally with a forest plot.	4-7, Table 1, Fig. 2, Fig. 4, Fig. 5, S1
Synthesis of results	21	Present results of each meta-analysis done, including confidence intervals and measures of consistency.	6-8, Fig. 4-5
Risk of bias across studies	22	Present results of any assessment of risk of bias across studies (see Item 15).	8, Fig. 6
Additional analysis	23	Give results of additional analyses, if done (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression [see Item 16]).	5, Table 1
DISCUSSION			
Summary of evidence	24	Summarize the main findings including the strength of evidence for each main outcome; consider their relevance to key groups (e.g., healthcare providers, users, and policy makers).	9-12
Limitations	25	Discuss limitations at study and outcome level (e.g., risk of bias), and at review-level (e.g., incomplete retrieval of identified research, reporting bias).	11-12
Conclusions	26	Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence, and implications for future research.	9-12
FUNDING			
Funding	27	Describe sources of funding for the systematic review and other support (e.g., supply of data); role of funders for the systematic review.	20

SUPPLEMENTARY FILE 1. Search Strategy

Search strategy. <1946 to April 30, 2020.

Database: Embase Classic+Embase <1947 to 2020 April 30>, Ovid MEDLINE(R) ALL <1946 to April 30, 2020>

1 exp MicroRNAs/ (186072)
2 (MicroRNA* or Micro RNA* or non coding rna* or noncoding rna* or Small Temporal
3 rna* or miRNA* or mir).tw,kw. (245314)
4 mir.kf. (11880)
5 (microparticle* or ectosome* or exosome* or microvesicle* or extracellular
6 vesicle*).tw,kw. (68208)
7 cell-derived microparticles/ or exosomes/ (26167)
8 or/1-5 (320418)
9 exp Acute Kidney Injury/ (118688)
10 (acute adj2 (renal or kidney)).tw. (115644)
11 ((acute or ischem* or ischaem* or reperfusion) and (kidney or renal)).kf. (8221)
12 ((ischem* or ischaem* or reperfusion) adj3 (renal or kidney)).tw. (21732)
13 aki.tw,kw. (26688)
14 ((acute or toxic or contrast induced) adj2 nephropath*).tw. (6320)
15 ((acute or toxic or contrast induced) and nephropath*).kf. (520)
16 nephrotoxi*.tw,kw. (53599)
17 or/7-14 (225622)
18 6 and 15 (1243)
19 limit 16 to yr="1990 -Current" (1236)
20 17 use medall (465)
21 exp microRNA/ (186072)
22 (MicroRNA* or Micro RNA* or non coding rna* or Small Temporal rna* or miRNA* or
23 mir).tw. (228445)
24 exosome/ (17725)
25 membrane microparticle/ (4096)
26 (microparticle* or ectosome* or exosome* or microvesicle* or extracellular vesicle*).tw.
27 (66231)
28 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 (303849)
29 exp Acute Kidney Injury/ (118688)
30 (acute adj2 (renal or kidney)).tw. (115644)
31 aki.tw. (26352)
32 kidney ischemia/ (10463)
33 contrast induced nephropathy/ (4241)
34 ((acute or toxic or contrast induced) adj2 nephropath*).tw. (6320)
35 ((ischem* or ischaem* or reperfusion) adj3 (renal or kidney)).tw. (21732)
36 nephrotoxicity/ (60934)
37 or/25-32 (238340)
38 24 and 33 (1161)
39 limit 34 to yr="1990 -Current" (1156)
40 35 use emczd (798)

47 37 18 or 36 (1263)
48 38 remove duplicates from 37 (882)
49 39 38 use medall (461) Medline
50 40 38 use emcxd (421) Embase
51 Web of Science – up to April 30, 2020
52