

Table 1 Grouping of rats used in this study

Group	Feed (50 g/day)	Gavage (2 mL/day)
NC	Ordinary feed	Distilled water
MC	High fat feed	Distilled water
TPL	High fat feed	0.1 mg/mL CQAs
TPM	High fat feed	0.5 mg/mL CQAs
TPH	High fat feed	1 mg/mL CQAs

High-fat feed formula: basic ordinary powdered feed 788 mg/g, fresh lard 100 mg/g, egg yolk powder 100 mg/g, cholesterol 10 mg/g, bile salt 2 mg/g. NC: blank control. MC: model control. TPL: gavage of low dose caffeoylquinic acids (CQAs) from cell culture of *Saussurea involucreta* (CCSaul). TPM: gavage of medium dose CQAs from CCSaul. TPH: gavage of high dose CQAs from CCSaul.

Table 2 Primer and probe sequence design of key lipid metabolism genes examined in this study

Gene	Primer sequence (5'-3')
<i>FAS</i> (Fatty acid synthase)	Forward Primer: GGCATCATTGGGCACTCCTT
	Probe: CCATCTGCATAGCCACAGGCAACCTC
	Reverse primer: GCTGCAAGCACAGCCTCTCT
<i>LCAT</i> (Lecithin cholesterol ester acyltransferase)	Forward Primer: CTGGCTCCTCAATGTGCTCTTC
	Probe: CCGCACACCACGCCCAAGGC
	Reverse primer: AGGCCGTGTGTGGTTACTGAGT
<i>HMG-CoA</i> (Hydroxymethylglutaryl Coenzyme A)	Forward Primer: CCGGCAACAACAAGATCTGTG
	Probe: TGTCGCTGCTCAGCACGTCCTCTTC
	Reverse primer: ATGTACAGGATGGCGATGCA
<i>CYP7A1</i> (Cholesterol 7 α -hydroxylase)	Forward Primer: CAGGGAGATGCTCTGTGTTCA
	Probe: TGCAAAACCTCCAATCTGTCATGAGACCTCC
	Reverse primer: AGGCATCACTCCCTTCCGTGA
<i>PPARα</i> (peroxisome proliferators-activated receptor- α)	Forward Primer: ACTATGGAGTCCACGCATGTGA
	Probe: AGTTCGCCGAAAGAAGCCCTTGCAGC
	Reverse primer: TTGTCGTACGCCAGCTTTAGC
<i>β-actin</i>	Forward Primer: AGCCATGTACGTAGCCATCCA
	Probe: TGTCCTGTATGCTTCTGGTCGTACCAC

Reverse primer: TCTCCGGAGTCCATCACAATG
