

Table 1. *Chondrocyte volume per unit cartilage volume and average chondrocyte volume in superficial, middle and deep zones of articular cartilage in knee joints from control rabbits and rabbits injected intramuscularly with 5 mg/kg hydrocortisone daily for 4 wk*

	Zone	Control	Hydrocortisone
Chondrocyte volume per unit cartilage volume ($\times 10^{-2} \mu\text{m}^3/\mu\text{m}^3$ of entire articular cartilage)*	Superficial	1.0 \pm 0.11	1.1 \pm 0.14
	Middle	2.3 \pm 0.23	2.8 \pm 0.37
	Deep	7.5 \pm 0.56	8.7 \pm 0.59
Average chondrocyte volume (μm^3)	Superficial	86 \pm 15.4	100 \pm 11.4
	Middle	274 \pm 26.0	180 \pm 18.9**
	Deep	497 \pm 61.5	380 \pm 54.3

Values are means \pm S.E.M. for 6 animals. * The volume of chondrocyte per unit volume of each zone can be calculated by dividing these values by the volume of each zone per entire cartilage volume (superficial zone, 0.1; middle zone, 0.2; or deep zone, 0.7). ** $P < 0.05$, significantly different from control value.