

Figure 4. Expression of protein level of bone density-related genes. (A, B, C, D) Western blot was used to detect the expression of RANKL ($*p=0.042$, $**p=0.008$, and $***p<0.001$), RANK ($***p_{12}=0.009$, $**p_{34}=0.007$, and $***p<0.001$), and OPG ($*p=0.048$, $**p=0.006$, and $***p<0.001$) in maxillary and mandible alveolar bones as well as in the serum. The values are expressed as mean \pm SD from three independent experiments. Note: 1 (maxillary alveolar bone of unilateral nostril electrocautery group) vs. 2 (maxillary alveolar bone of the control group), 3 (mandible alveolar bone of unilateral nostril electrocautery group) vs. 4 (mandible alveolar bone of the control group), and 5 (serum of unilateral nostril electrocautery group) vs. 6 (serum of the control group)).

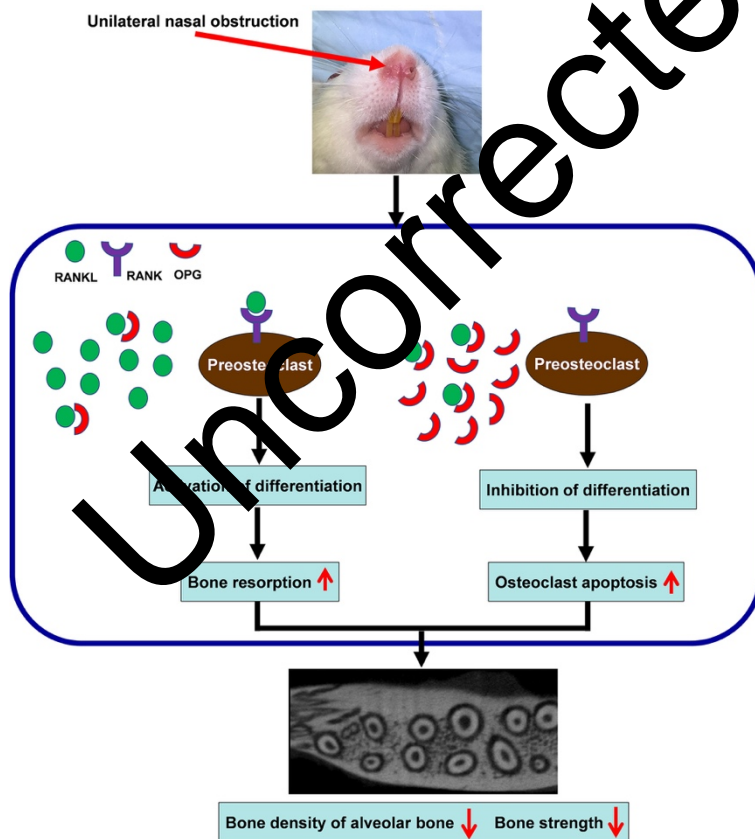


Figure 5. Possible mechanism of alveolar bone osteoporosis induced by nasal obstruction in SD rats.