



Figs. 1C and D.
Legends, see the previous page.

The area density of the bladder was compared between smooth muscles and connective tissues. The 18-month-old placebo group (Group IV) showed a lower tendency of smooth muscle area than the 16-month-old control group (Group I). The increase in smooth muscle area density was significant ($P < 0.05$ both) in E2-supplied Groups II and III compared to Groups I and IV, and the increase was significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) in the 8-week-supplied Group III than in the 4-week-supplied Group II (Table 3). Examples of bladder specimens are shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

Table 3. Ratio of smooth muscle area/connective tissue area

Group	Smooth muscle area/connective tissue area
I	1.45 ± 0.39
II	2.33 ± 0.47
III	3.11 ± 0.48
IV	1.14 ± 0.08

Each value is mean \pm SE.
*Significant difference; $P < 0.05$.