

سبح الله الرحمن الرحيم
قالوا سبحانك لا علم لنا
إلا ما علمتنا
أنت أنت العظيم الحكيم
صلى الله العظيم

سورة البقرة الآية ٣٢

**Comparative study between early second trimester maternal
serum homocysteine and leptin as predictors of
preeclampsia**

A thesis study Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of MS
Degree in Ob/Gyn

BY

Ayman Mostafa Abderlrahman Ahmed
Resident doctor
Elgalaa maternity teaching hospital

UNDER SUPERVISION

OF

Prof Dr/ Tharwat Mohamed Kamel Elahwany

Head of department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Kasr El Aini
Cairo university

Prof Dr/Manal Hamdy El-Said

Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Kasr El Aini
Cairo university

Faculty of Medicine
Kasr El Aini
Cairo university

2008

دراسة مقارنة لقياس مستوى الهيموسيستين
والليبتن في مصل الامهات للتنبؤ المبكر لحدوث
حالات ارتفاع ضغط الدم المصاحبة للحمل

دراسة مقدمة من الطبيب/ ايمن مصطفى عبد الرحمن احمد
طبيب مقيم النساء و التوليد
مستشفى الجلاء التعليمي

توطئة للحصول على درجة الماجستير في
أمراض النساء و التوليد
تحت إشراف:

ا.د/ ثروت محمد كامل الاهوانى

رئيس أقسام النساء و التوليد
كلية طب القصر العيني
جامعة القاهرة

ا.د/ منال حمدي السعيد

أستاذ مساعد أمراض النساء و التوليد
كلية طب القصر العيني
جامعة القاهرة

كلية طب القصر العيني
جامعة القاهرة

٢٠٠٨

Abstract

50 women were included into the statistical analysis and 26 (52%) of them developed pre-eclampsia during follow-up.

This study revealed a cutoff level of homocysteine and leptin which are 8.44 and 96.4 ng/ml respectively above which pregnant women are more prone to develop preeclampsia.

The present study qualitatively showed a more positive association between homocysteine and preeclampsia (PE) (sensitivity: 95.8%, specificity: 100%) than between leptin and PE (sensitivity: 58.33%, specificity: 66.67%). Thus our study reveals that homocysteine is a more useful predictor marker than leptin in predicting preeclampsia.

Keywords:

Homocysteine; pre-eclampsia; leptin; gestational age; pregnancy; Hypertension .

Contents

	<i>Page</i>	
INTRODUCTION	1	
CHAPTER I		
Preeclampsia	3	
CHAPTER II		
Homocysteine and Leptin	25	
CHAPTER III		
Patients and methods	42	
CHAPTER IV		
Results	48	
Discussion	58	
Conclusion	64	
SUMMARY	65	
REFERENCES	68	
ARABIC SUMMARY		

List of figures

Fig.N°	Figure title	Page N°
Fig.1	Abnormal placentation in preeclampsia	13
Fig.2	Possible pathways through which homocysteine is linked to preeclampsia	17
Fig.3	Possible pathways through which homocysteine is linked to preeclampsia	30
Fig.4	structure of leptin	33
Fig.5	Number of cases who developed PE in group I and II	48
Fig.6	Distribution of leptin level within group (I)	50
Fig.7	Distribution of leptin level among the 30 cases of group (I)	51
Fig.8	Distribution of leptin in both groups (G I) & G (II)	52
Fig.9	Distribution of leptin among the group G (I)	52
Fig.10	Distribution of homocysteine in group (I)	53
Fig.11	Distribution of homocysteine in group (I)	53
Fig.12	Distribution of Homocysteine ($\mu\text{mol/l}$) level among the 30 cases of group (I)	54
Fig.13	ROC curve of homocysteine	56
Fig.14	ROC curve for leptin	57
Fig.15	ROC curve for leptin indicating the cutoff level at 96.4	57

List of boxes

Box N°	Box title	Page N°
1	Risk factors for preeclampsia	5

List of tables

Table N°	Table title	Page N°
1	Classification of hypertensive disorders complicating pregnancy by NHBPEP	3
2	Classification of preeclampsia according to severity	4
3	Blood reference ranges for homocysteine	27
4	Mean , Standard deviation of both groups	49
5	Number of patients who develop and did not develop PE in both groups	54
6	Criterion values and coordinates of the ROC curve for homocysteine	55
7	Criterion values and coordinates of the ROC curve for Leptin	56

List of abbreviations

ACOG	American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology
ADAMTS13	A disintegrin and metalloproteinase with a thrombospondin type 1 motif, member 13.
ADPase	Adenosine diphosphatase
ADP	Adenosine diphosphate
AFI	Amniotic fluid index
Ag II	Angiotensin II
AgRP	Agouti-related peptide
ALT	Alanine transaminase
ANOVA	Analysis of variance
APCR-V	Activated protein C resistance – V
AST	Aspartate transaminase
AT III	Anti-thrombin III
ATP	Adenosine triphosphate
BAECs	Bovine aortic endothelial cells
BeWo	Choriocarcinoma cell
CAD	Coronary artery disease
CAM	Chorioallantoic membrane
CBS	Cystathionine beta-synthase
CD	Cluster of differentiation
CI	Confidence interval
COX-1	Cyclooxygenase -1
CVA	Cerebrovascular accident
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
ET	Essential thrombocytopenia
fl	falcon
FMV	Flow-mediated vasodilatation
FPIA	Fluorescence polarization immunoassay
G	Group
GA	Gestational age
GLM	General linear models
GP	Glycoprotein
H.S	High significance
hCG	Human chorionic gonadotropin
H2O2	Hydrogen peroxide
HELLP	Hemolytic anemia, elevated liver enzymes, low platelet count
HIT	Heparin-induced thrombocytopenia
HLA-G	Histocompatibility leucocyte antigen-G
HMEC-1	Human microvessel endothelial cell-1
HOPE-2	Heart Outcomes Prevention Evaluation-2
hsCRP	High sensitive C-reactive protein
IGF-1	Insulin-like growth factor-1
IL β	Interleukin β

IL6	Interleukin 6
ITP	Immune thrombocytopenic purpura
IUGR	Intra-uterine growth restriction
LDH	Lactate dehydrogenase
LDL	Low density lipoprotein
LEP	Leptin gene
LEPOB	Lifelong Educational Project on Brownfields
LEPRA	Leptin receptor-A
LEPRB	Leptin receptor-B
LEPRC	Leptin receptor-C
LEPRD	Leptin receptor-D
LIBS1	Ligand-induced binding site 1
LIGHT	Lymphotoxin-like Inducible protein that competes with Glycoprotein D for Herpesvirus entry mediator on T lymphocytes.
mcg	Microgram
MI	Myocardial infarction
ml	milliliter
mmHg	Millimeter of mercury
MS	Methionine synthetase
MTHFR	Methylenetetrahydrofolate reductase
ng	nanogram
NHBPEP	National High Blood Pressure Education Program
NO	Nitric oxide
NPV	Negative predictive value
NPY	Neuropeptide Y
NSAID	Non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs
O2	Oxygen
Ob/Gyn.	Obstetrics and Gynecology
ob/ob	Obese
Ob-R	Leptin receptor
P	Probability
PAC1	Postsynaptic density and cytoskeleton enriched -1
PAF	Platelet activating factor
PAOD	Peripheral artery occlusive disease
PAR-1	Protease activated receptor type 1
P2Y-1	Purinergic receptor, G-protein coupled,1
PDGF	Platelet derived growth factor
PDW	Platelet volume distribution
PE	Preeclampsia
PECAM	Platelet endothelial cell adhesion molecule
PGD2	Prostaglandin D2
PGI2	Prostacyclin
PIGF	Placental growth factor
PLT	Platelets
PPV	Positive predictive value
PRP	Platelet-rich plasma
PTG	Beta-thromboglobulin
PTHrP	Parathyroid hormone related peptide

PV	Prevalence
r	Correlation coefficient
RANTES	Regulated upon activation, normal T-cell expressed and secreted.
RIBS	Receptor-induced binding site
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
ROC	Receiver operating characteristic curve
ROS	Reactive oxygen species
RR	Relative risk
sCD40L	Serum soluble CD40 ligand
SAM	S-adenosyl methionine
SD	Standard deviation
sFlt-1	Soluble form tyrosine kinase like receptor type-I
T-test	Test for significance
Tct	Thrombocrit
TFG	Transforming growth factor
Th1	Helper T-cell type 1
Th2	Helper T-cell type 2
THF	Tetrahydrofolate
TNF- α	Tissue necrotic factor-alpha
Trc	Platelet count
TTP	Thrombotic thrombocytopenia
TXA2	Thromboxane A2
VEGF	Vascular endothelial growth factor
VLCD	Very low calory diet
vWF	Von willebrand factor
$\alpha\delta$ SPD	Alpha-delta platelet storage pool deficiency
α -MSH	Alpha-melanocyte stimulating hormone
μ mol/L	Micromole per liter
-CH2-	Methylene group
12-HETE	12-hydroxyeicosatetreanoate

Acknowledgment

First of all, I wish to express my sincere thanks to God for his care and generosity throughout of my life.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and my deep gratitude to Prof Dr/ Tharwat Mohamed Kamel Elahwany., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University, who assigned the work .

I would like to express my great thanks to Prof Dr/Manal Hamdy El-Said Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology faculty of medicine , Cairo university for his great support throughout the whole work.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS MY DEEPEST GRATITUDE TO Prof Dr /KAMAL ALI AHMED ATIA ,PHYSIOLOGY DEPARTMENT ,CAIRO UNIVERSITY ,PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL PATHOLOGY IN CAIRO LAB FOR HIS KIND ASSISTANCE , SUPPORT AND HIS INSTRUCTIVE SUPERVISION IN MY THESIS.

At last, I am indebted for family and friends for their great support, patience and continuous encouragement.

Ayman

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Preeclampsia (PE) is a pregnancy-specific multisystem disorder that is characterized by development of hypertension and proteinuria after 20 weeks of gestation, resolving by 6-12 weeks postpartum in a previous normotensive women (**Sibai et al., 2003**). It occurs in about 5% to 10% of all pregnancies and results in substantial maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality (**Cunningham et al., 2001**).

Although the etiology of preeclampsia is still unclear, recent studies and successive hypothesis have been proposed, each being challenged by subsequent publications, the current most plausible hypothesis involves abnormal placentation leading to placenta ischaemia (**Chun Lam et al., 2005**).

Preeclampsia has been reported to be associated with an increase in maternal plasma leptin concentrations. Leptin, a protein product of the obesity ;Lifelong Educational Project on Brownfields (Lepob) gene, is synthesized and secreted by adipocytes . It is also synthesized by the placenta and could contribute to circulating leptin during pregnancy . The significant increase in maternal circulating leptin during the first and second trimesters of normal pregnancy is suggested to be in response to the marked changes in maternal weight, energy expenditure, and hormonal status. Also, increased maternal Leptin will increase circulating free fatty acids and glucose, providing nutritional support for the fetus (**Masuzaki et al., 2004**).

Homocysteine is a demethylated metabolite of the essential amino acid methionine and is associated with increased oxidative stress and lipid peroxidation, smooth muscle proliferation, abnormalities of coagulation, and endothelial dysfunction. (**Granger et al., 2002**)

Homocysteine has been reported to inhibit endothelial cell proliferation, which is closely related to angiogenesis. However, the relationship between homocysteine and angiogenesis has been unknown. To clarify whether homocysteine would inhibit angiogenesis in vitro and in vivo, **Nagai** examined the effect of homocysteine on tube formation by bovine aortic endothelial cells (BAECs) and by human microvessel endothelial cell-1 (HMEC-1) in vitro, and on angiogenesis in vivo using the chorioallantoic membrane (CAM) assay, as well as on BAEC proliferation and migration. Homocysteine, but not cysteine, inhibited BAEC proliferation, migration, and tube formation in a dose-dependent

manner. It was suggested that homocysteine inhibited angiogenesis by preventing proliferation and migration of endothelial cells. (**Murakami S. et al., 2001**)

Most studies qualitatively showed a positive association between hyperhomocysteinemia and preeclampsia. Homocysteine concentrations were slightly increased in normotensive pregnancies that later developed preeclampsia and were considerably increased once preeclampsia is established. (**Zeeman GG. Et al., 2003**).

However, another study was unable to exhibit any difference in serum homocysteine levels at 16 weeks gestation between the 2 groups. They concluded that there were not major differences in homocysteine levels before the manifestation of preeclampsia. (**Vollset et al., 2000**).

Leptin stimulates angiogenesis resulting in maintaining energy homeostasis and its serum concentrations correlate highly with the amount of body fat (**Considine et al. 1996, Mantzoros & Moschos 1998**). Leptin may facilitate lipid release from the fat stores to maintain energy homeostasis (**Sierra-Honigmann et al. 1998**).

During pregnancy the maternal serum leptins levels are elevated about two to three times compared to the non pregnant state and the concentrations are highest during the second trimester of pregnancy (**Sattar et al. 1998, Sivan et al. 1998**). This extra production of leptin could be derived from adipocytes but placental trophoblasts must also be taken into account as a source of leptin production (**Masuzaki et al. 1997, Mise et al 1998**).

In PE the serum leptin levels of the mother are higher and the leptin gene (LEP) is upregulated in the placenta (**Iwagaki et al. 2004**).

Preeclampsia has been reported to be associated with an increase in maternal plasma leptin concentrations . In cross-sectional and longitudinal study, plasma leptin concentrations were significantly greater in women with preeclampsia than in normal control subjects. However some studies report the mild elevation of Leptin before 20 weeks of gestational age in patients who developed later on preeclampsia.

In this current thesis, we will emphasize, through an observational study, the role of homocysteine and leptin in preeclampsia and if they can be used as predictors of preeclampsia before 20 weeks of gestation.