

TRACE ELEMENTS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SEQUELAE IN RENAL DISORDERS

Thesis

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DEDICATION

TO MY BELOVED FAMILY

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First of all thanks to "GOD"

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	
LIST OF FIGURES	
LIST OF TABLES	
INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK	1
REVIEW OF LITERATURE	3
● TRACE ELEMENTS	3
✕ COPPER	13
✕ ZINC	17
✕ SELENIUM	20
✕ MAGNESIUM	22
● COMMON RENAL DISEASES	27
✕ ACUTE GLOMERULONEPHRITIS	27
✕ NEPHROTIC SYNDROME	37
✕ CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE	49
● TRACE ELEMENTS AND RENAL DISEASES	55
● PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDERS	70
✕ STRESS AND PSYCHIATRY	70
✕ PSYCHIATRIC PROBLEMS IN CHRONIC ILLNESS	73
✕ PSYCHIATRIC DISTURBANCES AND RENAL DISEASES	77
✕ TRACE ELEMENTS AND PSYCHIATRIC DISTURBANCES	80
PATIENTS AND METHODS	84
RESULTS	98
DISCUSSION	142
SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS	160
REFERENCES	163
APPENDIX	190
ARABIC SUMMARY	

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

A.I.C.G.N.	: Acute immune complex-mediated glomerulonephritis
C.R.F.	: Chronic renal failure
Cu.	: Copper
E.S.R.D.	: End stage renal disease
G.B.M.	: Glomerular basement membrane
G.F.R.	: Glomerular filtration rate
G.H.Q.	: General health questionnaire
G.P.X.	: Glutathione peroxidase
H.D.L.	: High-density lipoprotein
L.D.L.	: Low-density lipoprotein
Mg.	: Magnesium
P.P.m.	: Parts per million
P.S.G.N.	: Post streptococcal glomerulonephritis
R.B.C.	: Red blood corpuscle
Se.	: Selenium
V.L.D.L.	: Very low-density lipoprotein
Zn.	: Zinc

LIST OF FIGURES

No.	Title	Page
1.	Serum copper levels in different groups	113
2.	Serum zinc levels in different groups	115
3.	Serum selenium levels in different groups	117
4.	Serum magnesium levels in different groups	119
5.	Trace elements levels before and after steroid treatment in group I	121
6.	Psychological score in the different groups	126
7.	Relation between psychological score and age in all groups	128
8.	Relation between psychological score and serum copper levels in all groups	129
9.	Relation between psychological score and serum zinc levels in all groups	130
10.	Relation between psychological score and serum selenium levels in all groups	131
11.	Relation between psychological score and serum magnesium levels in all groups	132

No.	Title	Page
12.	Relation between serum copper and selenium in all groups	136
13.	Relation between serum zinc and selenium in all groups	137
14.	Relation between serum selenium and magnesium in all groups	138
15.	Relation between serum zinc and magnesium in all groups	139

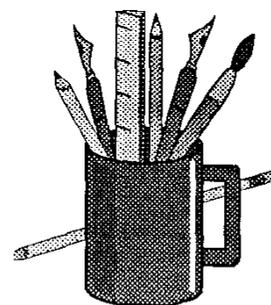
LIST OF TABLES

No.	Title	Page
1.	Serum copper levels	13
2.	Serum selenium levels	20
3.	Serum magnesium levels	22
4.	Classification of immune mediated glomerulonephritis	28
5.	Proposed nephritogenic immune mechanisms of postinfectious AICGN	29
6.	Laboratory investigations of PSGN	35
7.	A classification of the disease states associated with the development of nephrotic syndrome	38
8.	Pathophysiology of chronic renal failure	52
9.	Factors underlying abnormal zinc metabolism in CRF	59
10.	Clinical data in 15 patients of nephrotic syndrome	101
11.	Clinical data in 15 patients of acute glomerulonephritis	102
12.	Clinical data in 15 patients of chronic renal failure	103
13.	The clinical data of the studied groups	104
14.	Ultrasonographic findings in some of the studied patients	105
15.	The levels of serum trace elements in control group	106
16.	The levels of serum trace elements in 15 patients of nephrotic syndrome before and after steroid therapy	107

No.	Title	Page
17.	The levels of serum trace elements in 15 patients of acute glomerulonephritis	108
18.	The levels of serum trace elements in 15 patients of chronic renal failure	109
19.	Statistical analysis of the mean levels of serum copper in the different studied groups	112
20.	Statistical analysis of the mean levels of serum zinc in the different studied groups	114
21.	Statistical analysis of the mean levels of serum selenium in the different studied groups	116
22.	Statistical analysis of the mean levels of serum magnesium in the different studied groups	118
23.	Statistical analysis of the mean levels of serum trace elements before and after steroid therapy in the group of nephrotic syndrome	120
24.	The psychological score in the different studied groups ..	123
25.	The psychological disturbances in the different studied groups	124
26.	Statistical analysis of the mean psychological score in the different studied groups	125
27.	Correlation coefficients between psychological score and both of patient's age and duration of illness	127

No.	Title	Page
28.	Correlation coefficients between psychological score and serum trace elements levels in the different studied groups	127
29.	Correlation coefficients between copper and other trace elements in the different studied groups	134
30.	Correlation coefficients between zinc and other trace elements in the different studied groups	134
31.	Correlation coefficients between selenium and other trace elements in the different studied groups	134
32.	Correlation coefficients between magnesium and other trace elements in the different studied groups	135
33.	Correlation coefficients between serum albumin and serum trace elements levels in the different studied groups	135

INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF THE WORK



INTRODUCTION

Trace elements constitute less than 0.01% of the human body weight.

Despite their relative scarcity, their atoms are present in large numbers and each is believed to play an important role in human growth and development (**Shaw, 1980**).

Trace elements can be divided from the dietary point of view into 3 groups: essential, possibly essential and non essential. Essential trace elements have several important functions as participation in oxidation-reduction reactions, catalytic functions, stabilization of lysosomal membrane, and may also act as a coenzyme (**Maritin et al., 1985**).

During the last decades, kidney has emerged as a key organ in the homeostasis of trace elements and disturbances of trace elements metabolism have been described in several renal diseases (**Labeeuw and Pozet, 1988**), for example; prior results have shown that chronic renal failure patients (dialyzed or not) present serious disturbances in the status of trace elements especially those involved in the antioxidant system i.e. copper, zinc and selenium, thus reduces the efficacy of antiradical defense mechanisms and increases the susceptibility of the organism to damage caused by these radicals (**Richard et al., 1991**).

The kidney is also the target organ of many drugs and increased trace elements excretion can be observed either as an obligatory side effect or as a sign of nephrotoxicity (**Labeeuw and Pozet, 1988**).

Psychiatric disturbances have for long known to occur frequently in relation to many different medical diseases, in some of these conditions, for instance renal diseases, the risk of various disturbances in the metabolism of trace elements and serum electrolytes have been reported to be associated with psychiatric symptoms (**Rasmussen et al., 1989**).

Aim Of The Work

The aim of our study is to detect the effect of different renal diseases on the serum levels of copper, zinc, selenium and magnesium and to find out any correlation between the changes in trace elements levels and psychological troubles (if any).

These changes, if present, may be of aetiologic, diagnostic, prognostic or of therapeutic values.