

Impact of Iron Status on Phagocytic Lytic Index in Egyptian Pregnant Females

Thesis

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List of Contents

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
List of Abbreviations.....	I
List of Tables.....	IV
List of Figures.....	V
List of Photos.....	VIII
Introduction.....	1
Aim of the Work.....	4
Review of Literature.....	5
Chapter (1): Normal Iron Metabolism.....	5
Chapter (2): Effect of Iron Status on Neutrophil Functions in Pregnancy.....	41
Materials and Methods.....	55
Results.....	67
Discussion.....	89
Conclusion.....	99
Recommendations.....	101
Summary.....	102
Appendix.....	106
References.....	124
Arabic Summary.....	—

List of Abbreviations

Abb.	Full term
ABCB10	ATP-binding cassette, subfamily B, member10.
ALA	δ -aminolaevulinic acid.
ALAS2	δ -aminolaevulinic acid synthase 2.
ATP	Adenosine triphosphate.
BMP	Bone morphogenetic protein.
2, 3-BPG	2, 3-biphosphoglycerate mutase.
CBC	Complete blood count.
CO	Carbon monoxide.
DHR 123	Dihydrorhodamine 123.
DLC	Differential leucocytic count.
DMSO	Dimethyl sulfoxide.
DMT1	Divalent metal transporter 1.
2, 3 – DPG	2, 3 – diphosphoglycerate.
ESR	Erythrocyte sedimentation rate.
FCM	Flowcytometry.
Fe	Iron.
FITC	Fluorescein isothiocyanate.
FLVCR	Feline leukemia virus, subgroup C receptor.
fMLP	N-formyl-Met-Leu-Phe.
G-CSF	Granulocyte colony-stimulating factor.
GDF 15	Growth differentiation factor 15.
G-6-P	Glucose-6-Phosphate.
Hb	Hemoglobin.
Hct	Hematocrit.
HFE	Human hemochromatosis protein.
HIF	Hypoxia inducible factor.
HJV	Hemojuvelin.
HOX	Hemoxygenase.

List of Abbreviations (Cont...)

Abb.	Full term
HMS	Hexose monophosphate shunt.
IL	Interleukin.
IREs	Iron-responsive elements.
IRP	Iron-regulatory protein.
K₂-EDTA	Ethylenediamine tetra-acetic acid, dipotassium salt.
MCH	Mean corpuscular hemoglobin.
MCHC	Mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration.
MCV	Mean corpuscular volume.
Mdx	Median intensity.
MFI	Median peak fluorescence intensity.
Mfrn1	Mitoferrin 1.
MPO	Myeloperoxidase.
MPO abs.	Absolute myeloperoxidase.
NADP	Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate.
NBT	Nitroblue tetrazolium.
NK	Natural killer cells.
O₂	Oxygen.
PB	Peripheral blood.
PBA	Phosphate buffered saline with azide.
PBS	Phosphate buffered saline.
PE	Phycoerythrin.
PLT	Platelets.
PMA	Phorbol 12-myristate 13-acetate.
PMN	Polymorphonuclear leukocytes.
PS	Post stimulation.
RBCs	Red blood cells.
RDW	Red cell distribution width.

List of Abbreviations (Cont...)

Abb.	Full term
RNI	Reactive nitrogen intermediates.
ROC	Receiver operating characteristic curve.
ROM	Reactive oxygen metabolites.
SLC11A2	Solute carrier family 11, member 2.
SOD	Superoxide dismutase.
sTfR	Soluble transferrin receptor.
TfR	Transferrin receptor.
TFRC	Transferrin receptor gene.
TIBC	Total iron binding capacity.
TLC	Total leucocytic count.
TWSG1	Twisted gastrulation protein homolog 1.

List of tables

Table	Title	Page
Table (1)	The distribution of body iron.	9
Table (2)	Normal haemoglobins in adult blood.	13
Table (3)	Causes of iron deficiency.	32
Table (4)	Iron Balance in Pregnancy.	35
Table (5)	Clinical groups of all studied populations.	68
Table (6)	Quantitative data of all studied populations.	69
Table (7)	Comparison between cases and controls as regards different clinical findings.	71
Table (8)	Comparison between cases and controls as regards routine hematological data.	73
Table (9)	Comparison between cases and controls as regards functional microphage assay.	74
Table (10)	Comparison between cases and controls as regards flowcytometric measurements.	76
Table (11)	Performance characteristics of flowcytometric studies of neutrophil myeloperoxidase & oxidative burst in relation to % saturation.	85
Table (12)	Performance characteristics of functional microphage assay in relation to % saturation.	86
Table (13)	Performance characteristics of flowcytometric studies of neutrophil myeloperoxidase & oxidative burst in relation to phagocytic functions.	88

List of figures

Figure	Title	Page
Figure (1)	Daily iron cycle.	9
Figure (2)	Regulation of Systemic Iron Homeostasis.	11
Figure (3)	Haemoglobin synthesis in the developing red cell.	14
Figure (4)	Model of oxyhaemoglobin and deoxyhaemoglobin.	15
Figure (5)	The haemoglobin oxygen (O ₂) dissociation curve.	16
Figure (6)	Foundations of ferritin biology: IRE/IRP and iron-mediated regulation.	21
Figure (7)	Hepcidin regulation by erythroid- iron- and hypoxia-related signals in iron-loading anemias.	24
Figure (8)	Endocytosis of the complex of iron, transferrin and the transferrin receptor.	27
Figure (9)	Iron deficiency anaemia.	33
Figure (10)	The peripheral blood film in severe iron deficiency anaemia.	36
Figure (11)	Bone marrow iron assessed by Perls' stain.	39
Figure (12)	Investigation of causes of iron deficiency anaemia.	40
Figure (13)	Types of adaptive immunity.	43
Figure (14)	Neutrophil white blood cells (leukocytes).	44
Figure (15)	The entire process of extravasation from leukocyte rolling to migration into the tissues.	48
Figure (16)	Simplified diagram of the stages of phagocytosis.	49
Figure (17)	Phagocytosis & lysis of an organism by neutrophil.	64
Figure (18)	Comparison between cases & controls as regards absolute lymphocyte count.	74
Figure (19)	Comparison between cases & controls as regards phagocytic & lytic indices.	75

List of figures (Cont...)

Figure	Title	Page
Figure (20)	Histogram of MPO positive resting cells for case no 1.	77
Figure (21)	Histogram of MPO positive resting cells for case no 6.	77
Figure (22)	Histogram of MPO positive cells for case no 16: A) MPO positive resting cells. B) MPO positive cells at 10 min. post stimulation C) MPO positive cells at 40 min. post stimulation	78
Figure (23)	A) Correlation between TIBC & TLC. B) Correlation between TIBC & % of MPO positive cells at 10 min. post stimulation. C) Correlation between TIBC & % of MPO positive cells at 40 min. post stimulation. D) Correlation between TIBC & phagocytic index. E) Correlation between TIBC & % of MPO positive resting cells.	80
Figure (24)	A) Correlation between ferriin & TLC. B) Correlation between ferriin & absolute neutrophil count. C) Correlation between ferriin & absolute count of MPO positive resting cells.	81
Figure (25)	A) Correlation between % saturation & TLC. B) Correlation between % saturation & absolute neutrophil count. C) Correlation between % saturation & HCT. D) Correlation between % saturation & Hb.	82
Figure (26)	A) Correlation between phagocytic index & lytic index. B) Correlation between phagocytic index & % of MPO positive resting cells. C) Correlation between phagocytic index & % of MPO positive cells at 10 min. post stimulation.	84

List of figures (Cont...)

Figure	Title	Page
Figure (27)	ROC curve of flowcytometric studies in relation to % saturation.	86
Figure (28)	ROC curve of functional microphage assay in relation to % saturation.	87
Figure (29)	ROC curve of flowcytometric studies in relation to phagocytic functions.	88

List of Photos

Photo	Title	Page
Photo (1)	Photo 1: shows phagocytosis and lysis of candida by neutrophils stained by leishman stain	75

Introduction

Experimental evidence in the last decades shows that iron is a fundamental element for normal development of the immune system. Its deficiency affects the capacity to have an adequate immune response. An increased susceptibility to infections has been observed in some patients with iron deficiency. Iron plays an essential role in immunosurveillance, because of its growth promoting and differentiation inducing properties for immune cells as well as its interference with cell-mediated immune effector pathways and cytokines activities (*Weiss, 2002*).

Reported immune defects in iron deficiency include decreased cell-mediated immunity, mitogen responsiveness, natural-killer cell activity and lymphocyte bactericidal activity (*Ekiz et al, 2005*).

Despite proven reversible functional immunological defects, a clinically important relationship between states of iron deficiency and susceptibility to infections remain controversial. Macrophage phagocytosis is generally unaffected by iron deficiency, but bactericidal activity of these macrophages is shown to be attenuated in some studies (*Hallquist et al, 1992*). Neutrophils have a reduced activity of the iron-containing enzyme, myeloperoxidase, which produces reactive oxygen intermediates

responsible for intracellular killing of pathogens (*Ekiz et al, 2005*). Iron is also required for monocyte / macrophage differentiation and macrophages require iron as a cofactor for the execution of important antimicrobial effector mechanisms, including the NADPH-dependent oxidative burst (*Kramer et al, 2002; Collins, 2003*). Humoral immunity appears to be less affected by iron deficiency than is cellular immunity. Little is known concerning the effects of clinical iron deficiency on cytokines, although it has been reported that the in vitro production of interleukin (IL)-2 by lymphocytes of iron-deficient children may be impaired (*Jason et al, 2001*).

A high proportion of women in both industrialized and developing countries become anemic during pregnancy. Estimates from the world health organization report that from 35% to 75% (56% on average) of pregnant women in developing countries are anemic. However many of these women were already anemic at the time of conception, with an estimated prevalence of anemia of 43% in non-pregnant women in developing countries. There is a dearth of information on the rates and severity of infection of anemic pregnant women or iron-deficient anemic pregnant women. The major concern about the adverse effects of anemia on pregnant women is the belief that this population is at greater risk of perinatal mortality and morbidity (*Allen, 2000*).

Because of doubts concerning the benefits of iron supplementation on pregnancy outcome, therefore we considered it beneficial to evaluate the iron status of pregnant females as well as their neutrophil count and phagocytic lytic function.