

Relation between Homocysteinemia and Diabetic Retinopathy in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes

**Thesis Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of Master
Degree in Endocrinology**

By

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Introduction:

Homocysteine, a substance the body normally turns into amino acids by vitamin B12 and folic acid, came into the limelight few years ago. **(John Walsh et al., 2003).**

An association between severely increased serum Homocysteine and the early atherosclerotic disease has long been recognized. **(Giles et al., 2000)**

Recent researches discovered that Homocysteine can directly damage blood vessels and is strongly associated with heart attacks, strokes, and peripheral vascular disease. Homocysteine attaches to LDL and modifies its structures much like oxidation and glycosylation do. This modification of LDL by Homocysteine seems to accelerate heart disease. **(John Walsh et al., 2003).**

As macrovascular disease is a common complication of diabetes, studies have been directed to the role of Homocysteine and incidence of cardiovascular disease in diabetes. **(Looker et al., 2003)**

In addition, associations have been suggested between Homocysteine in diabetic subjects and the prevalence of micro vascular disease, such as retinopathy. **(Vaccaro, 2000)**

There is evidence that Homocysteine can cause apoptosis in retinal ganglion cells in mice. In vitro work has suggested that this damage could be potentiated in the presence of hyperglycemia. (Vaccaro, 2000)

Aim of the work:

Is to assess the role of plasma homocysteine as a risk factor for retinopathy in type 2 diabetes.

Subject and Methods:

This study will be conducted on 4 groups:

Group I: 15 type 2 diabetic patients without retinopathy (noDR)

Group II: 15 type 2 diabetic patients with non proliferative retinopathy (NPDR)

Group III: 15 type 2 diabetic patients with proliferative retinopathy (PDR)

Group IV: 15 control subject

All were subjected to:

-Full history taken

With special stress on:

- Age to be above 40 yrs.
- Sex.
- Duration of diabetes.
- History of hypertension and antihypertensive medications.

-Full clinical examination

With special stress on:

- blood pressure
- B M I
- Estimation of Retinopathy by fundus examination.

-The following investigations were done:

- Glycated hemoglobin.
- Serum creatinine.
- Vitamin B12.
- Plasma Homocysteine.

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العلاقة بين الهوموسيستين وإعتلال الشبكية

النتائج عن مرض السكر في المرضى من النوع الثاني

تامر فوزى زكى الجوهري

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مدرس الباطن والغدد الصماء
كلية الطب - جامعة عين شمس

2005

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