

Serum level of Receptor Activator of Nuclear Factor-Kappa B ligand in Children with Nephrotic Syndrome

Thesis

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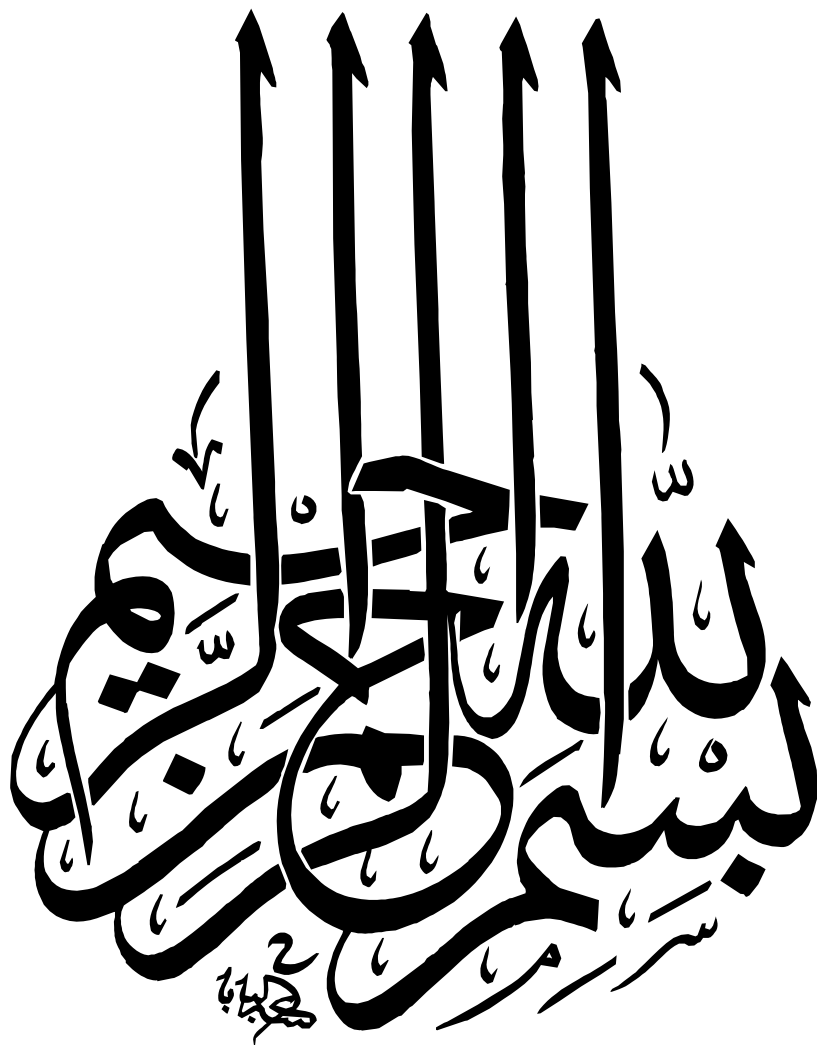
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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

”سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا
إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ“

صدق الله العظيم

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Mohamed El_Sonbaty

Abstract

Nephrotic syndrome (NS) is considered as a common chronic disorder. Its prevalence in children is 15 times greater than adults. RANKL is one of proteins in the tumor necrosis factor (TNF)/TNF receptor families required for the control of bone remodeling. The aim of this study was to assess the serum level of RANKL in children with idiopathic nephrotic syndrome (INS) treated with glucocorticoids and its relation to the different stages of the disease (remission & relapse) all compared to normal children. The study comprised 40 children diagnosed as having INS. Twenty children were in relapse and the other 20 were in remission. Another 20 healthy children served as control group who were matching in age and sex involved in the study. They were screened for their anthropometric measurements (height, weight, Body mass index (BMI) for-age Z-score), clinical parameters and laboratory assessment (serum RANKL, Albumin, cholesterol, A/c ratio, calcium, phosphorus, ALP, urea, creatinine). Results of this work revealed that sRANKL concentration was significantly higher in relapse group as compared to control group ($p=0.002$). No similar difference was noted between remission and control. Also results showed a significant positive correlation between duration of glucocorticoids (GCS) treatment and concentration of sRANKL in both groups of NS patients. It was concluded from this study that treatment with GCS for long time results in bone affection so sRANKL can be used as a detector of bone affection and abnormality and accordingly early intervention and prevention of complications can take place.

Key Words: Nephrotic syndrome, Glucocorticoids, sRANKL, TNF

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (1):	Chromatin and histone modifications	4
Figure (2):	Atopy mechanism	6
Figure (3):	Cytokine bias	8
Figure (4):	Electron microscopic appearance of normal glomerular epithelial cells in normal epithelial cells and nephrotic syndrome, and mutations in podocyte proteins	11
Figure (5):	podocyte structure	13
Figure (6):	Histopathology slides from children with MCNS, FSGS, and membranous nephropathy	27
Figure (7):	Management of childhood nephrotic syndrome	33
Figure (8):	Glucocorticoids effects and target cells	35
Figure (9):	Schematic immunosuppressive and anti-inflammatory mechanisms of action of glucocorticoids on T-cells	36
Figure (10):	Mechanisms of glucocorticoid-induced growth suppression	40
Figure (11):	Current understanding of preosteoblastic/stromal cell regulation of osteoclastogenesis	57
Figure (12):	OPG/RANK-L/RANK system	59
Figure (13):	Anthropometric parameters of study population (INS) versus control.	82
Figure (14):	Comparison between male and female patients as regards anthropometric parameters	83
Figure (15):	Glucocorticoids duration in relapse and remission	84
Figure (16):	Comparison between the relapse (G1) and the control (G3) as regards the mean level of RANKL	85
Figure (17):	Comparison between the relapse group and the remission group as regards the mean level of RANKL	86
Figure (18):	Comparison between minimal change nephrotic syndrome (MCNS) and Non minimal change nephrotic syndrome (Non MCNS) in the relapse group (group 1) as regards the mean level of RANKL.	87
Figure (19):	Comparison between minimal change nephrotic syndrome (MCNS) and Non minimal change nephrotic syndrome (Non MCNS) in the remission (group 2) as regards the mean level of RANKL	88
Figure (20):	Comparison between the mean levels of RANKL in relation to the number of relapses in the relapse group	88
Figure (21):	Comparison between SRNS and SDNS as regard the mean level of RANKL	89
Figure (22):	Correlation between the duration of glucocorticoids (GCS) treatment and measurements of RANKL in the relapse group (group 1) patients	90

Figure (23):	Correlation between the duration of glucocorticoids (GCS) treatment and measurements of RANKL in the remission group (group 2) patients	90
Figure (24):	Correlation between age and sRANKL mean in the Control group (group3)	91

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Title	Page No.
Table (1):	Hypotheses on idiopathic nephrotic syndrome	3
Table (2):	Nephrotic syndrome in children due to genetic disorders of the podocyte	12
Table (3):	Features suggesting a diagnosis other than idiopathic MCNS	18
Table (4):	Common definitions to define the course of nephrotic syndrome	24
Table (5):	Histological lesions in idiopathic nephrotic syndrome	27
Table (6):	Etiological classification of nephrotic syndrome in the first two decades of life	29
Table (7):	Regimens for treatment of steroid resistant nephrotic syndrome	46
Table (8):	Factors regulating OPG and RANKL production in vitro	62
Table (9):	Factors influencing serum OPG and sRANKL in humans	66
Table (10):	Demographic and anthropometric parameters of nephrotic patients (INS) versus control	82
Table (11):	nutrition status of nephrotic patients and control	82
Table (12):	Comparison between male and female patients as regards anthropometric parameters	83
Table (13):	Demographic and anthropometric parameters of the nephrotic patients (Relapse group versus Remission group)	83
Table (14):	Clinical characteristics of the relapse group (G1) and the remission group (G2)	84
Table (15):	Comparison between the relapse group and the control group as regards the biochemical parameters	85
Table (16):	Comparison between the remission group and the control group as regards the biochemical parameters	85
Table (17):	Biochemical parameters of the two nephrotic syndrome groups	86
Table (18):	Difference between males and females as regards the mean level of RANKL in the 3 studied groups	87
Table (19):	The mean level of RANKL in the pathological types of nephrotic patients	87

Table (20):	Comparison between the mean level of RANKL in patients with relapse in relation to the number of relapses	88
Table (21):	The mean level of RANKL in patients with SDNS and patient with SRNS	89

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACEI	Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors
A/C Ratio	Albumin creatinine ratio
APCs	Antigen-presenting cells
ARB	Angiotensin receptor blockers
BMD	Bone mineral density
CKD	Chronic kidney disease
BUN	Blood urea nitrogen
Cbfa1	Core binding factor α 1
CMI	Cell mediated immunity
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CS	Corticosteroids
CsA	Cyclosporine A
DMP	Diffuse Mesangial proliferative glomerulonephritis
ELISA	Enzyme linked immune sorbent assay
ESRD	End stage renal disease
FSGS	Focal segmental glomerulosclerosis
GBM	Glomerular basement membrane
GC	Glucocorticoid
GCs	Glucocorticoids
GCW	Glomerular capillary wall
GFR	Glomerular filtration rate
GH	Growth hormone
GIO	Glucocorticoids-induced osteoporosis
GnRH	Gonadotropin releasing hormone
GR	Glucocorticoid receptor
GRE	Glucocorticoid response element
GWAS	Genome-wide association studies
hsp90	90-kda heat-shock protein
IGF-1	Insulin-like growth factor-1
IgM	Immunoglobulin M
IL	Interleukin
INS	Idiopathic nephrotic syndrome
ISKDC	International Study of Kidney Diseases in Children
JNK	Jun N-terminal kinase
MCD	Minimal change disease
MCNS	Minimal-change nephrotic syndrome
M-CSF	Macrophage colony-stimulating factor

MesPGN	Mesangioproliferative glomerulonephritis
MN	Membranous nephropathy
MPGN	Membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis
NF- κ B	Nuclear factor- κ B
NSAIDS	Non steroidal inflammatory drugs
NS	Nephrotic syndrome
OCIF	Osteoclast inhibitory factor
OB	Osteoblast
OPG	Osteoprotegerin
OPG-L	Osteoprotegerin ligand
PTH	Parathyroid hormone
PTHrP	PTH- related peptide
RANK	Receptor activator for nuclear factor kappa B
RANKL	Receptor activator for nuclear factor kappa B ligand
ROD	Renal osteodystrophy
SSNS	Steroid sensitive nephrotic syndrome
SDNS	Steroid dependant nephrotic syndrome
Teff	T cell effector
TH2	Type 2 helper T cells
TGF	Tumor growth factor
TNF	Tumor necrosis factor
TRAF	TNF receptor-associated family
TRANCE	TNF-related activation induced cytokine
TRAIL	TNF-related apoptosis-inducing ligand
Tregs	Regulatory T-cells

TABLE OF THE CONTENTS

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Page</i>
Acknowledgement.	I
Abstract	III
List of Figures	IV
List of Tables	VI
List of abbreviations	VIII
Introduction and Aim of the work	X
Review of Literature	
Chapter (1): <i>Nephrotic Syndrome.</i>	1
Chapter (2): Treatment of Nephrotic Syndrome in Children.	30
Chapter (3): <i>OPG/RANK-L/RANK system.</i>	51
Subjects and Methods	75
Results	81
Discussion	92
Conclusion and Recommendations	98
References	99
Summary	136
Arabic summary	138

INTRODUCTION

Nephrotic syndrome (NS) is considered as a common chronic disorder which is characterized by alterations of permselectivity at the glomerular capillary wall, resulting in its inability to restrict the urinary loss of proteins (**Bagga and Mantan, 2005**). Important biological consequences such as reduced bone mineral density (BMD) and abnormal bone histology have been documented. The latter include osteomalacia of variable degrees as well as excessive bone resorption (**Bonilla-Felix et al., 2009**).

Corticosteroids are the standard first-line of treatment in nephrotic children. Children are given high doses over a long period due to the chronic and recurrent nature of the disease (**Neuhaus et al., 2010**). This increases the risk of osteoporosis (steroid induced osteoporosis) which in turn has long term complications (**Gulati et al., 2009**).

Although it was reported that intermittent treatment with glucocorticoids in children does not significantly alter bone metabolism, still it seems reasonable to provide calcium supplements to patients with frequent relapses, steroid dependence or resistance who are likely to receive long term therapy with corticosteroids (**Leonard et al., 2007**).

A set of proteins in the tumor necrosis factor (TNF)/TNF receptor families were reported to be required for the control of bone remodeling. These receptors, namely, receptor activator for nuclear factor kappa B (RANK), osteoprotegerin (OPG), and the RANK ligand (RANKL), were identified as forming a critical molecular triad that controlled bone remodeling (**Hofbauer et al., 2000**). The binding of RANKL to its receptor (RANK) induces differentiation, activation, and the prevention

of osteoclast apoptosis, leading to enhanced bone resorption and bone loss (**Khosla, 2001**).

Serum levels of RANKL in some pediatric disorders requiring therapy with glucocorticoids (GCS) were assessed. **Oelzner et al (2007)** demonstrated that high serum levels of RANKL were associated with osteoporosis in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. However, **Turk et al (2009)** found that free sRANKL and OPG showed a highly inverse relationship in patients with reduced bone density in the course of Crohn disease. Recently **Wasilewska et al (2010)** observed that INS children treated with GCS had an increased serum RANKL level, decreased serum osteoprotegerin (OPG) level, increased RANKL/OPG ratio. Their results also revealed a significant positive correlation between the cumulative dose of GCS and the serum RANKL. They also found that concurrent GCS treatment increased the serum RANKL level and the latter correlated negatively with the BMD Z-score.