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EFFECT OF BLOOD-LEAD LEVEL ON THE KIDNEY FUNCTIONS OF RENAL TRANSPLANTED PATIENTS

BY **Rasha Hamdy Aly Al Najjar**B.Sc. Community Health (Nutrition), King Saud University, 1993

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
Of
The Requirement for the Master Degree
In
Environmental Science

Department of Medical Science Institute of Environmental Studies and Research Ain Shams University

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APPROVAL SHEET

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Abstract

There is increasing evidence that health may be harmed by chronic exposure to lead present in the environment at levels insufficient to produce classical symptoms of lead poisoning. Chronic low level exposure to lead has been linked to a high incidence of renal dysfunction.

The aim of this study is to investigate the effect of environmental lead exposure on kidney functions, blood pressure (Bp), hemopioetic parameters in both renal transplanted recipients (RTxP) and normal volunteers. : Fiftyeight subjects were included in this study, 28 recipients and 30 healthy normal volunteers. A case report form was filled up for every participant. Blood lead level (BLL), serum (s.) creatinine, s. urea, s. uric acid, creatinine clearance (CrCl), hemoglobin % (Hb%), hematocrite (HCT), white (WBCs) and red (RBCs) blood cells were measured.

Statistical analysis of the results indicated the following: RTxP had higher systolic and diastolic Bp, suric acid, screatinine and surea levels and they had lower CrCI than the controls. Among normal control, there was a significant positive correlation between BLL and diastolic Bp. However, among recipient there was a significant positive correlation between BLL and both systolic and diastolic BP, and a positive significant correlation between BLL and WBCs and s.uric acid. On dividing recipients and controls according to BLL into high BLL group (BLL ≥ 40 µg / dl) and low BLL group (BLL < 40 µg/dl). Recipients with low BLL had significantly higher systolic and diastolic Bp, s. creatinine, s. urea and s. uric acid but they had lower CrCI than their respective controls. However, this significant difference was not observed between normal controls and recipients with BLL \geq 40 µg /dl and there was no significant difference observed regarding systolic blood pressure. In addition WBCs count in recipients with high BLL was significantly higher compared to that of normal control.

Conclusions: (1) All studied subjects had BLL above the WHO recommended value of 15 µg/dl. (2) Renal transplanted recipients seem to be more vulnerable to the toxic effects of lead exposure. (3) s. uric acid and diastolic Bp are recommended as tests to detect early health deviation due to lead exposure.

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List of Abbreviations

∎μg Microgram

6-phosphogluconate Dehydrogenase -6PGD

Arterial A

Delta-aminolevulinic Acid Dehydrase ALAD Delta-aminolevulinic Acid Synthetase **ALAS**

Blood Lead Level BLL **Blood Pressure** Bp

Continuos Ambulatory Peritoneal **CAPD**

Creatinine Clearance CrCl Chronic Renal Failure **CRF** Cyclosporin A CsA

Diastolic Blood Pressure DBp

Diciliter dl

End Stage Renal Disease **ESRD**

Female \mathbf{F}

Free Erythrocyte Protoporphyrin **FEP**

Gram

Glucose 6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase G6PD

Glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate Dehydrogenase GA3PD

Glomerular Filtration Rate **GFR** Glutathione S-transferase **GST**

Hematocrite HcT Hemoglobin Hgb Kilogram Kg

King Armestrong unit / L KU/L

L Liter

Lactate Dehydrogenase LDH

Male

 \mathbf{M} Microgram mcg Milligram mg Minuet min Milliliters ml

Mycophenolate Mofetil MMF Millimeter Mercury mmHg

■mumol Milli Mol

MWL Moderate Weight Loss

n Number

NAG Urinary N- Acetyl-glucosaminidase

NS Non Significant

Pb Lead

PbB Blood Lead

PbBp Lead Binding Proteins PCV Packed Cell Volume

POD Pyruvate oxaloacetate deaminase

ppm Part Per Million RBCs Red Blood Cells

RTxP Renal Transplanted patients
SBp Systolic Blood Pressure

SD Standard Deviation

SPSS Statistical package for the social science

SWL Substantial Weight Loss TCA Toxic chemical analysis

U International Unit of Enzyme Activity

µg Micrograms

USA United States of America

SPSS Venous Venous

WBCs White Blood Cells

WHO World Health Organization

WM Weight Maintenance

XRF X-Ray film

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Introduction

Lead is the heaviest of all base metals, it is a blue-gray metal with poisonous salts; it is very soft malleable and is easily cast, moulded and extruded; symbol, pb; atomic number, 82; atomic weight, 207.19

For all practical purposes, there are two forms of lead. The first is inorganic lead, in which the various salts and oxides are considered to act identically once absorbed into the systemic circulation. The second form is alkyl lead, notably tetraethyl lead and tetramethyl lead. These are clearly different from inorganic forms of lead, as to both absorption and disposition in the body. (John Doll et al. 1980).

The health status of an individual, a community or a nation is determined by, and related to the environment in which people live. The environment comprises two components, the internal environment of man and the external environment surrounding him. In the modern concept, disease is due to a disturbance in the balance between man and his environment (Robert W.Schrier and Carl W. Gottschalk 1988).

Lead and other metals are important group of environmental chemicals that have caused diseases in humans from ancient times to the present. (Carl A. Burtis and Edward R. Ashwood 1986)

Toxic effects of lead are seen from pica, industrial exposure, contaminated water, alcohol, mining or inhalation of smoke, or leaded gasoline. Chronic exposure to lead has also been linked to a high incidence of renal dysfunction, which is