

# **Value of Urinary Heme Oxygenase 1 as an Early Biomarker in Diabetic Nephropathy**

*A Thesis*

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قالوا

سبحانك لا علم لنا  
إلا ما علمتنا إنك أنت  
العليم العظيم

صدق الله العظيم

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✍ *Aya Mohamed Magdi Abdelalim*

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## List of Abbreviations

<i>Abbrev.</i>	<i>Full term</i>
<b>ACCORD trial:</b>	Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Type 2 Diabetes
<b>ACE</b>	: Angiotensin converting enzyme
<b>ACR</b>	: Albumin creatinine ratio
<b>AD</b>	: Alzheimer's disease
<b>ADA</b>	: American Diabetes Association
<b>ADVANCE</b>	: Action in Diabetes and Vascular Disease Preterax and Diamicron Modified Release Controlled Evaluation
<b>ALS</b>	: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
<b>Ang II</b>	: Angiotensin II
<b>ANP</b>	: Atrial natriuretic peptide
<b>ARBs</b>	: Angiotensin receptor blockers
<b>AREs</b>	: Antioxidant response elements
<b>BENEDICT</b>	: Bergamo Nephrologic Diabetes Complications Trial
<b>BMI</b>	: Body mass index
<b>BP</b>	: Blood pressure
<b>BR</b>	: Bilirubin
<b>BTB</b>	: Tramtrack and Broad complex
<b>BV</b>	: Biliverdin
<b>CANVAS</b>	: Canagliflozin Cardiovascular Assessment Study
<b>CKD</b>	: Chronic kidney disease
<b>CNC</b>	: Cap 'n' collar
<b>CNS</b>	: Central nervous system
<b>CO</b>	: Carbon monoxide
<b>COX-2</b>	: Cyclooxygenase-2

<b>CREDANCE</b>	: Evaluation of the Effects of Canagliflozin on Renal and Cardiovascular Outcomes
<b>CVD</b>	: Cardiovascular disease
<b>DAPA-CKD</b>	: A Study to Evaluate the Effect of Dapagliflozin on Renal Outcomes
<b>DIRECT</b>	: Diabetic Retinopathy Candesartan Trial
<b>DM</b>	: Diabetes mellitus
<b>DN</b>	: Diabetic nephropathy
<b>DPP-4</b>	: Dipeptidyl peptidase 4
<b>DRI</b>	: Direct renin inhibitors
<b>EDIC</b>	: Epidemiology of Diabetes Interventions and Complications
<b>ELISA</b>	: Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
<b>EMPAREG</b>	: Empagliflozin, Cardiovascular Outcomes, and Mortality in Type 2 Diabetes
<b>EPC</b>	: Endothelial progenitor cells
<b>ESRD</b>	: End-stage renal disease
<b>GBM</b>	: Glomerular basement membrane
<b>GFR</b>	: Glomerular filtration rate
<b>HD</b>	: Huntington's disease
<b>HDL</b>	: High-density-lipoprotein
<b>HIF-1</b>	: Hypoxia inducible factor
<b>HMW</b>	: High-molecular weight
<b>HOPE</b>	: Heart Outcomes Prevention Evaluation
<b>Hos</b>	: Heme oxygenases
<b>HRs</b>	: Hazard ratios
<b>IDNT</b>	: Irbesartan Diabetic Nephropathy Trial
<b>IFN-<math>\gamma</math></b>	: Interferon gamma
<b>IL-1</b>	: Interleukin-1
<b>iNOS</b>	: Inducible nitric oxide synthase
<b>IQR</b>	: Interquartile range
<b>IRFs</b>	: Interferon response factors

<b>IRMA-2</b>	: Irebesrtan in the Development of Diabetic Nephropathy in Patients with T2DM
<b>IVIG</b>	: Intravenous immunoglobulin G
<b>JNC</b>	: Joint National Committee
<b>JNK</b>	: C-Jun N-terminal kinase
<b>kDa</b>	: Kilodalton
<b>LDL</b>	: Low-density-lipoprotein
<b>LMW</b>	: Low-molecular weight
<b>LPS</b>	: Lipopolysaccharide
<b>MAPKs</b>	: Mitogen-activated protein kinases
<b>Nf- <math>\kappa</math>B</b>	: K nuclear factor
<b>NF-B</b>	: Nuclear factor
<b>PBS</b>	: Phosphate-buffered saline
<b>PD</b>	: Parkinson's disease
<b>PI3K</b>	: Phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase
<b>PMNs</b>	: Polymorphonuclear leukocytes
<b>PRA</b>	: Plasma renin activity
<b>PRC</b>	: Plasma renin concentration
<b>RAS</b>	: Renin-angiotensin system
<b>RASS</b>	: Renin-Angiotensin System Study
<b>RENAAL</b>	: Reduction in End-Points in Non-Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus With the Angiotensin II Antagonist Losartan
<b>REs</b>	: Regulatory elements
<b>RMPs</b>	: Renal mononuclear phagocytes
<b>ROADMAP</b>	: Randomized Olmesartan and Diabetes Microalbuminuria Prevention
<b>ROS</b>	: Reactive oxygen species
<b>RRT</b>	: Renal replacement therapy
<b>SD</b>	: Standard deviation
<b>SER</b>	: Smooth endoplasmic reticulum

<b>SGLT2</b>	: Sodium glucose cotransportor 2
<b>STZ</b>	: Streptozotocin
<b>T1/T2DM</b>	: Type 1 and type 2 DM
<b>TGF-beta</b>	: Transforming growth factor-beta
<b>TLR4</b>	: Toll-like receptor 4
<b>TNF-<math>\alpha</math></b>	: Tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$
<b>UAE</b>	: Urinary albumin excretion
<b>UKPDS</b>	: United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study
<b>VADT</b>	: VA Diabetes Trial
<b>VCAM-1</b>	: Vascular cell adhesion molecule- 1



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## Introduction

*M*icro albuminuria has been proven as a remarkably useful biomarker used for diagnosis of diabetic nephropathy (DN). Some other biomarkers (i.e., glomerular, tubular, inflammation markers, and biomarkers of oxidative stress) precede albuminuria. However, their usefulness is widely debated in the literature and has not yet led to the validation of a new "gold standard" biomarker for the early diagnosis of DN. Tubular biomarkers in DN seem to be of a paramount importance in the early diagnosis of DN since tubular lesions occur early.

Diabetic nephropathy is a chronic condition that develops over many years, and is typically characterized by a gradual increase in urinary albumin excretion (UAE), blood pressure and risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD), and decreasing glomerular filtration rate (GFR) leading to the development of end-stage renal disease (ESRD), and need for renal replacement therapy (RRT) (*Tang et al., 2016*).

Diabetic nephropathy can occur in patients with either T1DM or T2DM, and all patients with diabetes mellitus should therefore be examined regularly for renal dysfunction. Although intensive management of diabetes mellitus through concurrent control of glucose, lipids and blood pressure, can slow the progression of diabetic nephropathy, diabetes mellitus

remains the most common cause of ESRD (*Motlich et al., 2015*).

Good evidence suggests that early treatment delays or prevents the onset of diabetic nephropathy or diabetic kidney disease. This has consistently been shown in both type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus.

Regular outpatient follow-up is key in managing diabetic nephropathy successfully (*Andy, 2014*).

Patients in whom proteinuria did not develop have a low and stable relative mortality rate, whereas patients with proteinuria have a 40-fold higher relative mortality rate.

In addition to diabetic glomerular pathology, the lesion progresses in the tubulointerstitial compartment. Among them, tubulointerstitial injury is one of the most important factors in the pathophysiology and progression of diabetic nephropathy (*Satirapoj et al., 2012*).

Moreover, it has been proposed that tubular injury could precede glomerular injury in diabetic nephropathy, which may explain the early appearance of an increase in several urinary biomarker excretions compared with albumin, which has been used as a diagnostic marker for glomerular injury in diabetic patients (*White et al., 2013*).

Importantly, one third of patients with diabetic nephropathy lost renal function even during normal albuminuria or without any marker of glomerular injury (*Tabaei et al., 2001*).

Therefore, there is an urgency to find reliable biomarkers for tubulointerstitial injury, which could be used to monitor the early progression of diabetic nephropathy and facilitate its diagnosis and treatment.

Heme oxygenases (HOs) are essential enzymes in heme catabolism, which catalyze the rate-limiting step in the conversion of heme to biliverdin, carbon monoxide and iron.

HOs act as antioxidants and potent anti-inflammatory proteins during oxidative injury (*Nath, 2006*).

They consist of three isoforms, among which HO-1 is induced by oxidative stress (*Courtney et al., 2008*).

It has also been reported that HO-1 plays a pivotal role in maintaining renal function and protecting renal structure under conditions of oxidative stress such as proteinuria (*Yang et al., 2003*).

Additionally, uHO-1 is considered a valuable biomarker for studying oxidative damage to assess whether the injury may

progress to chronic kidney disease. The in situ histopathologic expression patterns in the kidney suggest that HO-1 participates in the pathogenesis of renal disease in response to transforming growth factor-beta (TGF-beta), and increases of HO-1 expression protected animals from renal injury (*Zarajou et al., 2012*).

Recent studies have demonstrated that HO-1 within the damaged cells is dropped off into the cavity of renal tubules in experimental animal models of chronic kidney disease (CKD) and patients with various kidney diseases (*Yokoyama et al., 2011*).

However, no quantitative information exists on the relationship between uHO-1 and clinical staging of diabetic nephropathy. The aim of the present study is to study the possible role of heme Oxygenase-1 as a potential marker in early diabetic nephropathy.

## **Aim of the Work**

The aim of the work is to study the possible role of heme Oxygenase-1 as a potential marker in early diabetic nephropathy.