

LIPID PROFILES AND LIVER FUNCTIONS TESTS IN KIDNEY STONE FORMERS

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ABSTRACT

This study included 106 stone former patients (60 males with 46 females), who attended the Teaching Hospital in Sulaimani Governorate between April to June 2012. The diagnosis of the cases were done in the hospital, based on history, clinical examination followed by Kidney x-ray, ultrasonography, and urinalysis, also the study included 28 healthy (14 male with 14 female) person as control. The investigations included measurement of the liver function tests and renal functions tests beside the lipid profile in stone formers.

Automatic chemical analyzer (Benchtop automatic biochemistry analyzer, ELITech) used for measuring total serum glucose, serum cholesterol, triglycerides (TG), cholesterol-HDL, serum LDL, serum VLDL, serum albumin, alkaline phosphatase (ALP), Aspartate transferase (AST), Alanine aminotransferase (ALT), gamma glutamyltransferase (GGT), serum bilirubin and serum bilirubin.

The results demonstrated significant elevation in the levels of the serum cholesterol, triglyceride, LDL-cholesterol, VLDL-cholesterol, glucose, ALP, AST, GGT and LDH concentrations in renal stone former patients of both sex groups, with non significant lowering of the HDL-cholesterol in renal stone former patients. While albumin is lowered significantly with non significant differences in the serum ALT and bilirubin concentrations between renal stone former patients and controls groups. In conclusion, the results showed physiological relations of lipid metabolism and liver function with state of kidney dysfunction.

Keywords: Renal Stone Formers, Lipid Profiles, Liver function test.

INTRODUCTION

Kidney stone disease or as nephrolithiasis is a common problem defined as aggregate of crystals mixed with protein matrices, which are formed in the kidney or in the ureter, may cause obstruction of urine flow in the renal collecting system, ureter or urethra local erosion of kidney tissue (Tiselius *et al.*, 2002). In this condition, the kidneys fail to remove metabolic products from the blood and regulate the fluid, electrolyte, and pH balance of extracellular fluids. Renal stone disease is an increasing and major public health problem, urinary stones can cause two problems, when it moves or when it grows to disrupt renal functions and damage occurs, therefore a history of kidney stones may be a risk factor for chronic kidney disease (CKD), as even moderate renal dysfunction is associated with increased long-term cardiovascular morbidity (Weiner *et al.*, 2004).

With respect to the lipid profile in stone formers, lipid abnormalities are common in patients with renal disease, probably contributing to the high incidence of cardiovascular diseases in this population. Hypertriglyceridemia is the most common plasma lipid abnormality in patients with renal failure, coexisting with cholesterol levels within the normal range. In a study triglyceride levels were increased in the plasma

and in erythrocyte membranes of CRF patients compared to healthy subjects, whereas plasma polyunsaturated fatty acids decreased and the levels of the HDL-cholesterol and LDL-cholesterol were similar to those of healthy controls (Nelva *et al.*, 2001).

Because the liver has many crucial roles in the maintenance of a healthy body, any level of liver dysfunction can be problematic. The most commonly used serum liver function tests include serum ALT and AST activities that reflect hepatocellular injury and serum ALP and gamma glutamyltransferase (GGT) that reflect impaired bile excretion and bile flow and serum albumin that represent the synthetic function of the liver. Previous study showed that, in calcium oxalate stone forming rats a significant increase in liver glyoxal oxidase (GAO) activity and moderate elevation in LDH activity were observed, also lowering of ALT and AST activities were observed, whereas a reduction in the inorganic pyrophosphatase and aminotransferases were observed (Subha and Varalakshmi, 1992). This study was aimed the investigation of the changes in liver function and lipid metabolism in kidney stone formers.

Materials and Methods

Patients

The current study included (106) patients of renal stone former (60 males with 46 females), who attended the Teaching Hospital in Sulaimani Governorate between April to June 2012. The diagnosis of the cases were done in the hospital, based on history, clinical examination followed by KUB x-ray, ultrasonography, and urinalysis, farther more 28 healthy (14 male with 14 female) healthy person at same ages, they were randomly selected as control group. The patients were grouped according to the age and sex.

Collection of blood samples

Five mL of venous blood samples was withdrawn by sterile disposable syringe from an median cubical vein, and transferred to vacuonner tube without ante coagulant. After coagulation of the blood, the blood sample was centrifuged for 10 minutes at 4000 rpm to get a clear and cell free serum. The serum samples were isolated with proper labeling, and used for biochemical measurements.

Biochemical measurements

The enzymatic colorimetric Elitech Diagnostic kits (France), were used for measuring total serum glucose , serum cholesterol, TG, cholesterol-HDL, serum albumin, ALP, AST, ALT, serum bilirubin, total protein, serum urea and creatinine , 1 ml of serum added to Flexor tube and the concentrations were analyzed using automatic chemical analyzer Bench top automatic biochemistry analyzer (ELITech) (FLEXOR EL200, ELITech clinical systems, France). Whereas, cholesterol-LDL was determined by applying the formula (LDL (mg/dl) = Total cholesterol – HDL-cholesterol – TG/5), and the VLDL-C level was determined by derivation from the formulas (VLDL-cholesterol (mg/dl) = Triglycerides/5).

GGT, was measured using Biolabo kit, France), in which 1 ml of reagent was mixed with 0.5 ml of the serum, the initial absorbance after 30 seconds was measured at 405 nm every minutes during 3 minutes using spectrophotometer (Angstrom Advanced Inc. Model UV 1600/1800 UV/VIS- Scanning Spectrophotometer Braintree, Massachusetts, USA). The absorbance change per minute mean abs/min) was calculated using this formula (IU/L = (mean abs./min.) x 2121.

Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), was measured using (Spectrum /Egypt Kit), in which 1 ml of reagent was mixed with 0.02 ml of the serum, the initial absorbance after 30 seconds was measured at 340 nm every minutes during 3 minutes using Uv/Vis spectrophotometer. The absorbance change per minute (mean abs/min) was calculated using the formula (IU/L = (mean abs./min.) x 8095.

The result of this study are represented as mean \pm stander error (M \pm S.E.) and statistical analysis was performed by using statistically available software SPSS for comparisons parameters between groups, a two sample T-test was performed for evaluation the correlation between parameters the person correlation method was used $p < 0.05$ considered statistically significant.

RESULTS

Lipid profiles

The results of this study demonstrated significant elevation ($P < 0.05$) in the levels of the serum cholesterol, TG, LDL- cholesterol and VLDL- cholesterol, with no significant lowering of the HDL- cholesterol in renal stone former male patients when compared with their levels in the control healthy subjects at studied age groups (Table-1).

Table (1) Serum lipid profiles in man with renal stone former patients.

| Serum lipid profile | Age group(year) | Control mean \pm S.E. | Patient mean \pm S.E. |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cholesterol | 1 – 40 | 107.80 \pm 3.382 | 155.74 \pm 5.052* |
| | 41 – 80 | 147.44 \pm 5.455 | 193.09 \pm 6.842* |
| Triglyceride | 1 – 40 | 55.40 \pm 6.210 | 155.24 \pm 7.367* |
| | 41 – 80 | 73.22 \pm 4.536 | 184.05 \pm 14.270* |
| HDL | 1 – 40 | 39.800 \pm 1.4629 | 35.618 \pm 0.7984 |
| | 41 – 80 | 40.578 \pm 0.9472 | 37.932 \pm 1.1668 |
| LDL | 1 – 40 | 56.920 \pm 5.3481 | 89.071 \pm 5.2103* |
| | 41 – 80 | 92.222 \pm 5.0574 | 118.314 \pm 7.4960* |
| VLDL | 1 – 40 | 11.080 \pm 1.2419 | 31.047 \pm 1.4735* |
| | 41 – 80 | 14.644 \pm 0.9072 | 36.809 \pm 2.8540* |

*Mean significant at ($P < 0.05$)

In female patients significant elevation ($P < 0.05$) in serum cholesterol, TG, LDL- cholesterol and VLDL concentrations of renal stone former patients was observed as compared with those of the control group in both different age groups,

while HDL- cholesterol was non significantly lowered ($P < 0.05$) in renal stone former patients as compared with those of the control group in both different age groups as shown in the (Table -2).

Table (2) :Serum lipid profiles in woman with renal stone former .

| Serum lipid profile | Age group (year) | Control mean \pm S.E. | Patient mean \pm S.E. |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cholesterol | 1 – 40 | 106.5 \pm 3.519 | 149.56 \pm 8.102* |
| | 41 – 80 | 139.5 \pm 2.5 | 190.1 \pm 4.792* |
| Triglyceride | 1 – 40 | 59.33 \pm 4.787 | 138.2 \pm 12.726* |
| | 41 – 80 | 94.0 \pm 5.0 | 179.05 \pm 6.322* |
| HDL | 1 – 40 | 38.66 \pm 2.76 | 34.27 \pm 1.24 |
| | 41 – 80 | 39.05 \pm 2.05 | 36.46 \pm 0.97 |
| LDL | 1 – 40 | 55.96 \pm 4.068 | 87.52 \pm 7.22* |
| | 41 – 80 | 81.65 \pm 5.55 | 117.81 \pm 4.8* |
| VLDL | 1 – 40 | 11.86 \pm 0.95 | 27.64 \pm 2.54* |
| | 41 – 80 | 18.8 \pm 1.0 | 35.81 \pm 1.26* |

*Mean significant at ($P < 0.05$)

Liver function tests

The result of the current study showed significant elevation ($P < 0.05$) in serum glucose, ALP, AST, GGT, LDH concentrations in renal stone former patients when compared with concentrations in the control group of both sex groups, while albumin is lowered significantly (

$P < 0.05$) in renal stone former patients as compared with control group in both sex groups. Farther more results showed non significant differences ($P < 0.05$) in the serum ALT and bilirubin concentrations between renal stone former patients and controls groups as shown in (Table -3).

Table (3): Liver function test parameters in renal stone former patients.

| Parameter | Sex group | Controlmean \pm S.E. | Patientsmean \pm S.E. |
|-----------|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Glucose | Male | 83.71 \pm 2.31 | 106.97 \pm 2.78 * |
| | Female | 95.25 \pm 2.25 | 111.83 \pm 4.771 * |
| Albumin | Male | 4.19 \pm 0.064 | 3.65 \pm 0.112 * |
| | Female | 4.15 \pm 0.073 | 3.7375 \pm 0.12 * |
| ALP | Male | 134.43 \pm 9.96 | 203.85 \pm 7.35 * |
| | Female | 132.25 \pm 8.83 | 202.46 \pm 8.97 * |
| ALT | Male | 18.64 \pm 0.959 | 22.25 \pm 2.24 |
| | Female | 18.25 \pm 2.336 | 21.72 \pm 1.78 |
| AST | Male | 20.07 \pm 1.361 | 26.52 \pm 0.97 * |
| | Female | 16.88 \pm 1.60 | 23.0 \pm 1.201 * |
| Bilirubin | Male | 0.71 \pm 0.12 | 0.767 \pm 0.048 |
| | Female | 0.57 \pm 0.067 | 0.51 \pm 0.033 |
| GGT | Male | 5.106 \pm 0.420 | 18.024 \pm 1.313 * |
| | Female | 5.21 \pm 0.59 | 15.196 \pm 1.574 * |
| LDH | Male | 149.83 \pm 2.035 | 328.52 \pm 2.02 * |
| | Female | 148.07 \pm 6.98 | 336.14 \pm 2.520 * |

Discussion

Urolithiasis may result in loss of function by two general mechanisms, the first mechanism include episodic events, such as urethral obstruction during stone passage, or because of procedures needed for stone removal, and their attendant complications, and the second mechanism include continuous events, as a result of a disordered physiology that underlies stone formation (Gambaro, *et al.*, 2001).

Lipid profiles

The results of this study demonstrated significant elevation in serum Cholesterol, TG, LDL and VLDL concentrations, while HDL was non significantly lowered in renal stone former patients of both sexes. The results of the current investigation is in confirm with those mentioned by (Attman and Alaupovic, 1991). Previous study revealed that hypertriglyceridemia is the most common plasma lipid abnormality in patients with renal failure, coexisting with cholesterol levels within the normal range (Nelva, 2001).

Lipid abnormalities are common in patients with renal disease, probably contributing to the high incidence of cardiovascular diseases in this population. In previous study comparing lipid profiles in renal stone and healthy persons, the results revealed increasing in the TG level in renal stone formers, whereas total cholesterol, HDL and LDL levels were not changed (Nelva, *et al.*, 2001). Recently it has been observed that total cholesterol and TG levels were significantly higher in stone formers as compared with the control group; this elevated hypercholesterolemia, and hyperlipidemia, which are leading components of metabolic syndrome, may be associated with different types of urinary stone formation (Inci, 2012). Mean while Weam, (2008) stated significant elevation in serum triglycerides, cholesterol, LDL, VLDL concentration in renal failure patients and non significant lowering in the serum HDL and albumin concentration. Serum TG concentration is frequently elevated in patients with critical renal failure, this elevation is accompanied by increased plasma concentration and impaired clearance of VLDL, which is associated with the accumulation of atherogenic VLDL remnants. Fasting hypertriglyceridemia is a well known abnormality in chronic renal failure, (Vaziri and Liang, 1996). It has been found that down regulation of skeletal muscle and adipose tissue hepatic lipase, and VLDL receptor is collectively

responsible for hypertriglyceridemia, impaired clearance, and elevated plasma levels of VLDL and chylomicron remnants (Vaziri, 2003). Serum HDL concentration in renal failure patients is found to be reduced, because chronic renal failure results in profound dys-regulation of several key enzymes and receptors involved in the metabolism of lipoproteins, particularly those of HDL. Peuchant *et al.*, (1998), observed higher cholesterol levels in renal disease patients than in normal healthy persons.

Liver function tests

The results of the current study showed significant elevation in serum glucose, ALP, AST, GGT, LDH concentrations in renal stone former patients, while albumin was lowered significantly, on the other, the results showed non significant differences in the serum ALT and bilirubin concentrations in both renal stone formers and healthy persons. In other study, it has been found that calcium oxalate stone formers have low ALT and AST activity compared to healthy individuals. As ALT and AST convert alanine and aspartic acid respectively into glutamic acid, a possible mechanism of retardation of kidney stone formation involving enzyme steps via glutamic acid creation in situ is suggested (Azoury, *et al.*, 1982).

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الخلاصة

اشتملت الدراسة هذه مائة وستة مريضا من المصابين بحصى الكلى (ستون منهم ذكرا وست واربعون انثى)، من المراجعين للمشفى التعليمي في مدينة السليمانية للفترة بين نيسان الى ايلول عام 2012. شخصت الحالات المرضية في المشفى اعتمادا الفحوصات السريرية والاشعة السينية للكلى وفحص السونار وتحليل الادرار. وكذلك تضمنت الدراسة هذه على 48 شخصا سليما (اربعة عشر منهم ذكرا و اربعة عشر انثى) اعتمدت كمجموعة ضابطة.

بحث في هذه الدراسة قياس مستويات انزيمات اختبار وظائف الكلى ومستويات الدهون المصلية في المصابين بحصى الكلى. استخدم جهاز التحليل الكيمياوي الالي (Benchtop automatic biochemistry analyzer, ELITech) لقياس مستوى سكر الكلوكوز والكوليسترول والكليسيريدات الثلاثية والبروتين الدهني عالي الكثافة والبروتين الدهني الواطى الكثافة والبروتين الدهني الواطى الكثافة جدا وانزيم الفوسفاتيز القاعدي وانزيم اسبارتيت ترانسفيريز و الانين امينوترانسفيريزوكاما كلوتاميل ترانسفيريز والبليروبين في مصل الدم.

اظهرت النتائج زيادة معنوية في مستويات الكوليسترول والكليسيريدات الثلاثية والبروتين الدهني الواطى الكثافة والبروتين الدهني الواطى الكثافة جدا ومستوى سكر الكلوكوز وانزيم الفوسفاتيز القاعدي وانزيم اسبارتيت ترانسفيريز وانزيم كاما كلوتاميل ترانسفيريزوانزيم اللاكتيت ديهيدروجينيز في مصل دم المصابين بحصاة الكلى في كلا الجنسين ، وخفض غير معنوي في مستوى البروتين الدهني العالي الكثافة ، في حين اظهرت النتائج خفضا معنويا في مستوى الالبومين المصلي وعدم تغير معنوي في مستويات انزيم الانين ترانسفيريز والبليروبين في مصل دم المصابين بحصاة الكلى كلا الجنسين . يستنتج من نتائج هذه الدراسة وجود علاقات فسلجية لائض الدهون و وظائف الكبد بحالة تكون الحصى في الكلى.

پوخته

ئەم توێژینهوه 106 نەخۆشی بەردی گۆرچیلەى له خو کرد له هەردوو رەگەز (60 نیر و 46 م) له دۆخوخانەى فیرکردنى سلیمانی له وانەى سەردانى نەخۆسخانەکهیان کردوه له نیوان مانگی نیسان و ایلول سالی 2012 . و دەستنیشان کردنى نەخۆشیەکه پشت بەست بو بە نیشانەکهانى نەخۆشى و تیشکی سینی و اقیکردنەوهى میز . وەر وها ئەم توێژینهوه 28 تاکی تەندروست له هەر دوو رەگەز له هەمان تەمەن لو خو کرد وک گروپی کۆنترۆل . له ئەم توێژینهوه پارامیته رەکانی پەپهوندی دار به فەرمانهکانی جەرگ و ناستی پارامیته رەکانی چەوری وەرگیرا به بەکار هینانی پیوهری ئوتوماتیکی کیمیاوی بو پیوانی رێژهی گشتی کۆلیسترۆل و ترايگلیسیراید رێژهی شەکری کلۆکوز رێژهی گشتی (LDL, HDL, VLDL and) والبۆمین و بلیرۆبین وئەنزیمەکانی (ALP,AST,GGT) له زرداوی خوین.

ئەنجامەکانی لیکۆلینهوهکه بەرزبوونەوهیهکی بەرچاوی دەرخواست له رێژهی گشتی کۆلیسترۆلی خوین و رێژهی گشتی و ترايگلیسیریدات به بەراورد له گەڵ کۆنترۆلدا و (LDL, VLDL) وشەکریکلۆکوز و ناستی ئەنزیمەکانی (ALP,AST,ALT,GGT, LDH) له زرداوی خوینی تۆشبوەکان به بەردی گۆرچیلە بەراورد به تاکە ساخەکان ،له کاتیک دەرئەنجامەکان پێشانیان دا که وا دابەزینی هەبوه له ناستەکانی البۆمین له زرداوی خوین و نەگۆرانیکی له ناستەکانی بلیرۆبین وئەنزیمی (ALT) له زرداوی خوینی تۆشبوەکان به بەردی گۆرچیلە بەراورد به تاکە ساخەکان.