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Comparison of fasting and post prandial lipid profile in patients of IHD

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Abstract

Background: Despite recent advancements in medical services and treatment regimens, ischemic heart disease (IHD) is still the leading cause of death in both developed and developing countries. While hypercholesterolemia and hypertriglyceridemia are considered separate risk factors, most recent research in this area have focused at fasting lipids and lipoproteins.

Aims and Objectives: To compare the fasting and post prandial lipid profile in patients of IHD.

Materials and Method: Upon receiving informed consent, 50 patients with IHD who were reporting to the Department of Medicine were enrolled in the current study. A previous history of myocardial infarction, ECG data, echocardiography, coronary artery bypass grafting surgery, or a coronary angiogram is used to diagnose CHD. For at least six months prior to the study, all of these patients had been free of some clinical incident. Both of the enrolled patients were given a thorough clinical review, with the results being entered into a prestructured proforma. After a twelve-hour overnight fast and two hours after a mixed diet, each subject's venous blood was obtained aseptically. Fasting samples and postprandial (PP) samples were analyzed for lipid profile and blood sugar; blood sugar was measured in 2 hour PP samples and lipids in 4 hour PP samples.

Results: Tobacco chewing (30%) was the most common risk factor observed followed by smoking and hypertension (20%). It was observed that mean fasting sugar level of the study subjects was 85.40 ± 21.25 mg/dl while post prandial sugar level was 112.60 ± 24.50 mg/dl. It was observed that mean fasting triglycerides was 210.02 ± 63.9 mg/dl and mean post prandial triglycerides 275.65 ± 48.0 mg/dl and the difference was statistically significant. Fall in post prandial total cholesterol (229.72 ± 53.9 mg/dl) was observed as compared to fasting level (245.87 ± 64.5 mg/dl) but the difference observed was not statistically significant. Mean fasting HDL was 42.71 ± 4.9 mg/dl while mean post prandial HDL was 40.65 ± 3.6 mg/dl. It was seen that mean fasting LDL was 156.45 ± 23.9 mg/dl and mean post prandial LDL was 145.76 ± 31.5 mg/dl. It was observed that post prandial VLDL levels (41.76 ± 28.55) were raised as compared to fasting VLDL levels (37.90 ± 17.6) but the difference was not statistically significant.

Conclusion: Except for TG, which was statistically significant higher post-prandially, there was no significant clinical disparity between fasting and nonfasting levels of total cholesterol, HDL, or LDL.

Keywords: IHD, lipid profile, fasting, post prandial, PP

Introduction

Ischemic heart disease (IHD) is a syndrome in which a part of the myocardium absorbs insufficient blood and oxygen; it normally happens when myocardial oxygen supply and demand are out of proportion^[1].

Ischemic heart disease (IHD) is a leading cause of death in the Western world, and its prevalence is increasing in the United States. Diabetes, smoking history, asthma, obesity, a family history of IHD, and hyperlipidemia are among the most important risk factors in people with IHD. New risk factors for IHD have emerged in recent years, including the prevalence of inflammation as shown by elevated highly susceptible C-reactive arthritis (RA), Antiphospholipid antibody syndrome, and systemic lupus erythematosus, both of which have a significantly increased risk of developing IHD^[2].

Fasting stage occurs after 8 hours of fast.³ Thus, most humans find themselves in the nonfasting state for the majority of a 24-hour period, perhaps with the exception of the early morning hours. Despite this fact, plasma lipids, lipoproteins, and apolipoproteins for cardiovascular risk prediction are usually measured in the fasting state^[3-5]. A main reason is the increase in triglyceride levels seen during a fat tolerance test, in which patients typically consume 1 g fat per 1 kg body weight^[6,7].

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However, levels of nonfasting triglycerides are better at predicting future cardiovascular events than levels of fasting triglycerides [8, 9]. Furthermore, it is possible that nonfasting levels of lipids, lipoproteins, and apolipoproteins differ only minimally from levels in the fasting state simply because most people consume far less fat at ordinary meals than during a fat tolerance test. Hypercholesterolemia and hypertriglyceridemia are considered the independent risk factors but most of the earlier studies in this area have considered only the fasting lipids and lipoproteins. Recently it has been proposed that postprandial lipoproteins may be better indicators of deranged lipoprotein metabolism and hence of atherosclerosis and CHD [10]. Postprandial hypertriglyceridemia (PHTG) and delayed triglyceride (TG) rich lipoprotein clearance have been found to impair endothelial function significantly either directly or by increasing superoxide anions. Since these lipoproteins are high in cholesterol and triglycerides, they can cause cholesterol-laden foam cells to shape when they are taken up by macrophages. The severity and extent of postprandial lipidaemia has also been linked to the pathogenesis and development of coronary heart disease [11, 12, 13, 14]. As a result, the aim of this study was to determine the function of postprandial lipid profile as an indicator of lipoprotein metabolism efficiency and its relationship to the production of IHD.

Materials and Methods

With the aim to study and compare the fasting and post prandial lipid profile in patients of IHD. For the purpose of study 50 patients of IHD reporting to the study institute were enrolled in the study after taking informed consent. The diagnosis of CHD was based on previous history of myocardial infarction, ECG evidence, echocardiography, coronary artery bypass grafting surgery or coronary angiogram. All these patients were free of any clinical event for a period of at least six months prior to the study.

Many of the patients who were admitted underwent a thorough clinical review, with the results being entered into a pre-structured proforma. After a twelve-hour overnight fast and two hours after a mixed diet, each subject's venous blood was obtained aseptically.

In addition, routine investigations like haematological profile, blood urea, serum electrolytes, etc were also carried out in fasting samples of all the subjects. Total cholesterol (TC), HDL- cholesterol (HDL-C) and TG, VLDL and LDL were done

Statistical Analysis: The collected data was entered in Microsoft excel and was analyzed and presented with appropriate tables and graphs.

Observation and Results

Table 1: Distribution of patients according to gender

Gender	No. of patients	Percentage
Male	32	64%
Female	18	36%
Total	30	100

It was observed that in the present study total 64% patients were male and 36% were female with male: female ratio of 1.73:1.

Table 2: Distribution of patients according to risk factors

Risk factors *	No. of patients	Percentage
Smoking	10	20%
Diabetes mellitus	10	20%
Hypertension	10	20%
Tobacco chewing	15	30%
Family history of PCAD	5	10%

While studying various risk factors of IHD in the study population it was observed that tobacco chewing (30%) was the most common risk factor observed followed by smoking (20%) and hypertension (20%).

Table 3: Distribution of patients according to Biochemical parameter

Biochemical parameter	Mean	Percentage
Blood sugar (F)	85.40	21%
Blood sugar (PP)	112.60	25%
Blood urea (mg/dl)	21.80	3%
Serum sodium	141.70	4%
Serum potassium	4.20	1%

It was observed that mean fasting sugar level of the study subjects was 85.40±21.25mg/dl while post prandial sugar level was 112.60±24.50mg/dl. Mean blood urea, serum sodium and potassium was 21.80±2.90mg/dl, 141.70±4.40meq/l and 4.20±1.20 meq/l respectively.

Table 4: Distribution of patients according to fasting and postprandial lipid profile

Parameter	Fasting	Postprandial	Statistical significance
Triglycerides	210.02±63.9	275.65±48.0	Significant
Total cholesterol	245.87±64.5	229.72±53.9	Not Significant
HDL	42.71±4.9	40.65±3.6	Not Significant
LDL	156.45±23.9	145.76±31.5	Not Significant
VLDL	37.90±17.6	41.76±28.55	Not Significant

It was observed that mean fasting triglycerides was 210.02±63.9mg/dl and mean post prandial triglycerides 275.65±48.0mg/dl and the difference was statistically significant. Fall in post prandial total cholesterol (229.72±53.9mg/dl) was observed as compared to fasting level (245.87±64.5mg/dl) but the difference observed was not statistically significant. Mean fasting HDL was 42.71±4.9mg/dl while mean post prandial HDL was 40.65±3.6mg/dl. It was seen that mean fasting LDL was 156.45±23.9mg/dl and mean post prandial LDL was 145.76±31.5mg/dl. It was observed that post prandial VLDL levels (41.76±28.55) were raised as compared to fasting VLDL levels (37.90±17.6) but the difference was not statistically significant.

Discussion

The present study was conducted in the department of medicine of tertiary care institute with the aim to compare the fasting and post prandial lipid profile in patients of IHD. Total 50 cases of IHD were studied and it was observed that total 64% patients were male and 36% were female with male: female ratio of 1.73:1. While studying various risk factors of IHD in the study population it was observed that tobacco chewing (30%) was the most common risk factor observed followed by smoking and hypertension (20%). It was observed that mean fasting sugar level of the study subjects was 85.41±21.24mg/dl while post prandial sugar

level was 112.65 ± 24.52 mg/dl. Thus, the patients of CHD had significantly higher levels of post prandial blood glucose as compared to fasting glucose level. Vijay Shankar¹⁹ observed 82.1 ± 15.0 mg/dl fasting glucose and 114.5 ± 20.3 mg/dl post prandial glucose with statistically significant difference. In their research, Jarret RJ^[20] and Balkau B^[21] found identical results. TG rich lipoproteins in PP state act adversely on vascular endothelium through increasing superoxide anion radicals or by direct impairment of vascular endothelium by decreasing coronary bioactivity^[13, 14, 22-24].

In another study, it was found that atherosclerosis was associated with PP TG levels independently of fasting TG suggesting that lipoprotein characteristics specific to PP state are atherogenic^[25]. Roche *et al.* Have shown that severity and length of PP lipemia is positively linked to the pathogenesis and development of CHD. An elevated lipemic response precipitates a number of adverse metabolic events by activating the coagulation factor VII and plasminogen activator inhibitor^[26, 27]. Fall in post prandial total cholesterol was observed as compared to fasting level but the difference observed was not statistically significant. Mean fasting HDL was 42.76 ± 4.7 mg/dl while mean post prandial HDL was 40.65 ± 3.5 mg/dl. It was seen that mean fasting LDL was 156.48 ± 23.8 mg/dl and mean post prandial LDL was 145.76 ± 31.4 mg/dl. It was observed that post prandial VLDL levels were raised as compared to fasting VLDL levels but the difference was not statistically significant. The postprandial VLDL levels followed the same trend as the TG levels. Similarly Ayyappan *et al.*^[28] in their study observed that VLDL had a significant postprandial rise and was considered as a component of postprandial lipemia as well. Boccalandro *et al.*^[29] They observed that people with coronary artery disease have a longer postprandial lipemia than healthy people. Hyperlipidemia is well known to be a risk factor for cardiovascular disease, and fasting lipoprotein measurements are now considered the standard of care when assessing a patient's lipid profile, according to ATP III recommendation guidelines^[30]. In a clinical setting this creates an inconvenience for patients and providers alike. However, recent studies have raised doubts as to whether fasting lipids should be measured and therefore clinical practice changed.

Conclusion

Thus we conclude that there was that there was no significant clinical difference between fasting and non-fasting levels of total cholesterol, HDL, and LDL except Triglycerides where TG was raised statistically significant post prandially.

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