
Study of serum adiponectin level in obese and non-obese asthmatic patients

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Asthma is associated with airway inflammation and reversible airflow obstruction. Obesity has recently been identified as a major risk factor for the development of asthma. Obese asthma patients have more severe disease with increased asthma exacerbations, decreased asthma control, and decreased steroid responsiveness and is becoming a major public health issue in many countries. Adiponectin is a protein specifically secreted from adipose tissue. It circulates to influence other organs as the liver, skeletal muscles, and blood vessels. An auto/paracrine effect on adipose tissue also exists. It has antidiabetic (by promoting insulin sensitivity), anti-inflammatory and anti-atherogenic effects. Its secretion is influenced by different hormones and cytokines. Hypoadiponectinemia is observed in obesity, type 2 diabetes, hypertension, coronary artery disease and bronchial asthma. This work aimed to determine whether serum concentration of adiponectin change in asthmatic patients during acute attack and in remission and whether these changes correlate with the changes in ventilatory functions. This study included 55 cases. 40 patients with bronchial asthma (20 obese and 20 nonobese) and 15 age related healthy subject as a control (7 obese and 8 nonobese). The range of body mass index (kg/m²) in obese control subjects was from 31.7 to 35.8 (kg/m²) with the mean body mass index 34 ± 1.4 (kg/m²). While in nonobese control subjects from 22.6 to 24.9 (kg/m²) with the mean body mass index 23.7 ± 1 (kg/m²). In obese asthmatics the range was from 30.1 to 35.8 (kg/m²) with the mean body mass index 32.8 ± 1.6 (kg/m²). While in nonobese asthmatics the range was from 19.1 to 24.9 (kg/m²) with the mean body mass index 22 ± 1.7 (kg/m²). The range of age in obese control subjects was from 29 to 39 years with the mean age 34.5 ± 4.4 years while in nonobese control subjects from 33 to 50 years with the mean age 42.4 ± 7.35 years. In obese asthmatics the range was from 29 to 52 years with the mean age 39.5 ± 6.95 years while in nonobese asthmatics the range was from 25 to 51 years with the mean age 35.5 ± 7.2 years. The results also showed the sex distribution among the studied groups. 25 males included in this study, 3 obese control subjects, 4 nonobese control subjects, 8 obese asthmatics and 10 nonobese asthmatics. 30 females included in this study, 4 obese control subjects, 4 nonobese control subjects, 12 obese asthmatics and 10 nonobese asthmatics. In this study, statistical comparison of ventilatory function tests were done among all studied groups. The mean value of FVC, FEV₁(%pred), FEV₁/FVC, FEF₂₅₋₇₅(%pred) in obese control subjects was

86,81,94.1,90 respectively while in nonobese control subjects was 90,85,94.4,94 respectively. In obese asthmatics the mean value of FVC, FEV1(%pred), FEV1/FVC, FEF25-75(%pred) during attack was 65,27,41.5,35 respectively and during remission was 83.3,75,90,74, while in nonobese asthmatics the mean value of FVC, FEV1(%pred), FEV1/FVC, FEF25-75 (%pred) during attack was 65.2,30,46,41.2 respectively and during remission was 78.8,67,85,80 respectively. Serum adiponectin ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) in obese control subjects ($3.25 \pm 0.65 \mu\text{g/ml}$) was highly significant lower than that in nonobese control subjects ($10.51 \pm 1.55 \mu\text{g/ml}$), ($P = 0.05$) in obese control subjects. Also there was significant positive correlation value ($P = 0.05$) in between serum adiponectin ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) and FVC (%Pred) ($r = 0.91$, P -value nonobese control subjects). There was nonsignificant positive correlation between the changes in serum adiponectin ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) and the changes in FVC(%pred) ($r = 0.27$, P -value > 0.05) and highly significant positive correlation with changes in FEV1(%pred) ($r = 0.82$, P -value < 0.001), significant positive correlation with FEV1% ($r = 0.56$, P -value 0.05) and significant positive correlation with the changes in FEF25-75 ($r = 0.53$, P -value < 0.05) in nonobese asthmatics. The results showed significant positive correlation between age (years) and serum adiponectin ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) in obese ($r = 0.81$, P -value < 0.05) and nonobese control subjects ($r = 0.87$, P -value < 0.05). Also there was highly significant positive correlation between age (years) and serum adiponectin ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) in obese asthmatics during attack ($r = 0.91$, P -value < 0.001) and remission ($r = 0.88$, P -value