

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Oral glucose tolerance test and continuous glucose monitoring to assess diabetes development in cystic fibrosis patients



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Received 19 June 2017; accepted 29 August 2017

### KEYWORDS

Cystic fibrosis;  
Cystic fibrosis-related  
diabetes;  
Continuous glucose  
monitoring;  
Diabetes

### Abstract

**Introduction:** Patients with cystic fibrosis (CF) undergo a slow and progressive process toward diabetes. Oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT) is recommended to diagnose impaired glucose levels in these patients. Continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) measures glucose profiles under real-life conditions.

**Objective:** To compare OGTT and CGM results in CF patients.

**Methods:** Paired OGTT and 6-day CGM profiles ( $146.2 \pm 9.1$  h/patient) were performed in 30 CF patients aged 10–18 years.

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**PALABRAS CLAVE**

Fibrosis quística;  
Diabetes relacionada  
con la fibrosis  
quística;  
Monitorización  
continua de glucosa;  
Diabetes

**Results:** According to OGTT, 14 patients had normal glucose tolerance (NGT), 14 abnormal glucose tolerance (AGT), and two cystic fibrosis-related diabetes (CFRD). In 27 patients (13 NGT, 13 AGT, 1 CFRD), CGM showed glucose values ranging from 140 to 200 mg/dL during similar monitoring times (2%–14% with NGT, 1%–16.9% with AGT, and 3% with CFRD). Glucose peak levels  $\geq 200$  mg/dL were seen in seven patients (3 NGT, 3 AGT, 1 CFRD).

According to CGM, two patients had all glucose values under 140 mg/dL (1 NGT, 1 AGT). Seventeen patients had glucose levels ranging from 140 to 200 mg/dL (10 NGT, 6 AGT, 1 CFRD). Ten patients (3 NGT, 7 AGT) had glucose values  $\geq 200$  mg/dL for  $\leq 1\%$  of the monitoring time and one (CFRD) for  $>1\%$  of the monitoring time.

**Conclusions:** OGTT results did not agree with those of the CGM. CGM allows for diagnosis of glucose changes not detected by OGTT. Such changes may contribute to optimize pre-diabetes management in CF patients.

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## Test de tolerancia oral a la glucosa y monitorización continua de glucosa para evaluar el desarrollo de diabetes en pacientes con fibrosis quística

**Resumen**

**Introducción:** Los pacientes con fibrosis quística (FQ) evolucionan lenta y progresivamente hacia la diabetes, siendo el test de tolerancia oral a la glucosa (TTOG) el método utilizado para diagnosticar sus alteraciones glucémicas. La monitorización continua de glucosa (MCG) proporciona perfiles de glucosa en condiciones de vida habituales del paciente.

**Objetivo:** Comparar los resultados del TTOG y de la MCG en pacientes con FQ.

**Métodos:** TTOG seguido de MCG ( $146,2 \pm 9,1$  h/paciente) en 30 pacientes con FQ (10-18 años de edad).

**Resultados:** Según el TTOG, 14 pacientes presentaron tolerancia normal a la glucosa (TNG), 14 tolerancia anormal a la glucosa (TAG) y 2 diabetes relacionada con la fibrosis quística (DRFQ). En 27 pacientes (13 con TNG, 13 con TAG, uno con DRFQ) la MCG mostró valores de glucosa 140-200 mg/dL durante periodos similares de tiempo (2-14%, 1-16,9% y 3%, respectivamente). Picos de glucosa  $\geq 200$  mg/dL se observaron en 7 pacientes (3 con TNG, 3 con TAG y uno con DRFQ).

Según la MCG, 2 pacientes tuvieron todos los valores de glucosa  $<140$  mg/dL (uno con TNG y otro con TAG); 17 pacientes entre 140-200 mg/dL (10 con TNG, 6 con TAG y uno con DRFQ); 10 pacientes  $\geq 200$  mg/dL durante  $\leq 1\%$  del tiempo valorado (3 con NGT, 7 con TAG) y uno  $\geq 200$  mg/dL durante  $>1\%$  del tiempo valorado (con DRFQ).

**Conclusiones:** Los resultados del TTOG no concuerdan con los de la MCG. La MCG permite el diagnóstico de anomalías de la glucosa no detectadas mediante el TTOG y sus resultados podrían contribuir a optimizar el tratamiento de la prediabetes en estos pacientes.

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**Introduction**

Cystic fibrosis (CF) patients undergo a slow and progressive process toward diabetes.<sup>1</sup> Cystic fibrosis-related diabetes (CFRD) is associated with impaired lung function and nutritional status and, consequently, higher mortality rates.<sup>1,2</sup> Moreover, decreased insulin secretion contributes to weight loss and lung function deterioration, even before CFRD is diagnosed.<sup>3-5</sup> Thus, it is of the utmost importance to establish the right time to start insulin therapy.<sup>6-9</sup>

CFRD is usually diagnosed by the oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT). The International Society of Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD)<sup>10</sup> and the American Diabetes Association<sup>11</sup> recommend annual OGTT screening in CF patients over 10 years of age.

Continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) provides glucose profiles under real-life conditions and has proved to be a useful clinical tool for evaluating changes in these profiles in CF patients<sup>12-14</sup> even before CFRD is diagnosed by the OGTT.<sup>15-18</sup> However, since the OGTT followed immediately by CGM maintained under real-life conditions for six days has not been reported to date, we aimed to compare OGTT and CGM profiles in this setting.

**Patients and methods****Patients**

Prospective study (November 2012–May 2015) to evaluate OGTT and CGM profiles in 30 CF children treated at the Cystic

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