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Original Article

Increased malondialdehyde vs. reduced sirtuin 1 in relation with adiposity, atherogenicity and hematological indices in metabolic syndrome patients with and without prediabetes

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ABSTRACT

Background: Sirtuin 1 (SIRT 1) and malondialdehyde (MDA) were implicated in metabolic syndrome (MetS) and type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) pathophysiology.

Aims and methods: This cross-sectional study aimed to investigate both SIRT 1 and MDA in 30 lean healthy control, 31 normoglycemic MetS subjects and 30 MetS-Pre/T2DM drug naïve. Correlation studies were established for both biomarkers with adiposity indices [conicity index (CI), waist circumference (WC), weight-to-height (WhtR) ratio, weight-to-hip (WHR) ratio, hip circumference (HC), and body adiposity index (BAI)], hematological indices [red cell distribution width (RDW), mean platelet volume (MPV), platelet-to-lymphocyte ratio (PLR), neutrophil-to-lymphocyte ratio (NLR), monocyte-to-lymphocyte ratio (MLR)] and atherogenicity indices (atherogenicity index of plasma (AIP = \log_{10} TG/HDL-C ratio), TC/HDL-C and LDL-C/HDL-C ratios).

Results: SIRT1 levels (ng/mL) were markedly lower in both MetS groups (2.12 ± 0.06 and 2.32 ± 0.19 , respectively, vs. controls 4.73 ± 0.15 ; $P < 0.05$). Conversely, a gradual increase in MDA levels (μM) was attained (MetS 72 ± 3.3 and MetS pre-T2DM 81 ± 6.1 vs. controls 62 ± 3.5 ; $P > 0.05$). A significant inverse MDA-SIRT1 relationship was observed ($P = 0.006$). SIRT1 correlated inversely with all the studied adiposity (WC: $P < 0.001$, HC: $P < 0.001$, WHR: $P < 0.001$, C-index: $P < 0.001$, BAI: $P < 0.001$) and atherogenicity indices (AIP: $P < 0.001$, TC/HDL-C: $P < 0.001$, LDL-C/HDL-C: $P < 0.001$) as well as MPV ($P < 0.01$). Whereas MDA directly with WhtR, CI and BAI (WC: $P < 0.01$, HC: $P < 0.05$, BMI: $P < 0.001$, WhtR: $P < 0.001$, C-index: $P < 0.005$, BAI: $P < 0.01$).

Conclusion: The substantial variations and correlations emphasize a potential molecular role of SIRT1 and MDA in the pathophysiology of MetS and pre/T2DM.

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1. Introduction

Sirtuin 1 (SIRT1) is a NAD⁺-dependent deacetylase for many nuclear histones and transcription factors. Hence, it acts as an energy sensor through NAD levels fluctuation [1]. SIRT1 plays a crucial role in the overall net metabolic picture of the body. It promotes cholesterol catabolism [2], suppresses both of fat storage and anabolism [3], facilitates insulin secretion [4] and signaling [5], enhances adiponectin expression and inhibits genetic translation of several inflammatory mediators [5–6]. A significant decline in SIRT1 levels was linked to metabolic syndrome (MetS) components with a marked higher declining in components grouping [7]. More importantly, SIRT1 levels

reduction was found to be associated with subclinical atherosclerosis in MetS patients [7]. However, malondialdehyde (MDA) is produced in the body from arachidonic acid either enzymatically along with thromboxane A2 or non-enzymatically by peroxidation. MDA has a strong electrophilic character consequently, it binds to protein changing its conformation, and hence, disrupting its biological function [8]. In addition, MDA acts as a signal messenger regulating gene expression of glucose-stimulated insulin secretion key regulators. This could explain how lipid peroxidation can produce hyperinsulinemia [9]. Moreover, MDA elevates directly with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) duration [10]. Lipid ratios are appealing and practical metabolic parameters with an acceptable sensitivity and specificity. Obviously, these ratios were associated with cardiovascular risk in T2DM [11]. Visceral obesity can be simply and non-invasively estimated using waist circumference (WC), hip circumference (HC), waist-to-hip ratio (WHR), waist-to-height ratio (WhtR). Conicity index

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Table 1
Diagnostic criteria of MetS (IDF [20]).

Criteria	Diagnosis
Central obesity	Waist circumference \geq 94 cm in men or \geq 80 cm in women [*] .
Elevated triglycerides	\geq 150 mg/dl, or specific treatment for this lipid abnormality
Low HDL-C	$<$ 40 mg/dl in men or $<$ 50 mg/dl in women or specific treatment for this lipid abnormality
Elevated blood pressure	Systolic \geq 130 mm Hg and/or Diastolic \geq 85 mm Hg. Or treatment of previously diagnosed hypertension.
Elevated fasting plasma glucose	\geq 100 mg/dl or previously diagnosed T2DM

^{*} for Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East (Arab) populations IDF uses European data until more specific data are available. ^{*}if body mass index (BMI) is above 30, central obesity can be assumed.

(CI) is introduced as a novel visceral obesity marker that enables direct comparison between individuals and even populations [12]. Body adiposity index (BAI) was recently proposed as a unified total body fat percent estimator irrespective to gender and ethnicity [13]. Therefore, CI, BAI, WHR and WHtR are considered as good predictors of cardiovascular risk. However, their discrimination varies among populations [14–18].

Mean platelet volume (MPV), red cell distribution width (RDW), platelet-to-lymphocyte ratio (PLR), monocyte-to-lymphocyte ratio (MLR), and neutrophil-to-lymphocyte ratio (NLR) introduced as non-expensive hematological indices indicate systemic inflammation.

The study aimed to compare both MDA and SIRT1 plasma levels in normoglycemic MetS and pre-diabetic or newly diagnosed

Table 2
Comparison of clinical characteristics, adiposity, atherogenicity and hematological indices between study groups.

	Control group, N = 30 Mean \pm S.E	MetS group, N = 31 Mean \pm S.E	MetS pre/T2DM, N = 30 Mean \pm S.E	P-value	p ¹	p ²	p ³
Gender							
Female, N (%)	17(56.7%)	15(48.4%)	16(53.3%)	0.808			
Male, N (%)	13(43.2%)	16(51.6%)	14(46.7%)				
Age, years	31.1 \pm 1.7	44.5 \pm 2.0	51.8 \pm 2.0	<0.001			
Clinical parameters and molecular metabolic biomarkers							
MDA, μ M	62 \pm 3.5 N=28	72 \pm 3.3 N=30	81 \pm 6.1 N=30	0.085	0.211	0.218	0.4
SIRT1, ng/mL	4.73 \pm 0.15 N=29	2.12 \pm 0.06 N=29	2.32 \pm 0.19 N=30	<0.00001	<0.001	<0.001	0.318
SBP, mmHg	112 \pm 3.2	132 \pm 2.6	131.3 \pm 2.9	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1
DBP, mmHg	70 \pm 2.1	80 \pm 1.7	81 \pm 2	0.001	0.002	0.003	1
FBC, mg/dL	85.7 \pm 5	91.3 \pm 4.1	122 \pm 4.6	<0.001	1	<0.001	<0.001
HbA1C %	5.12 \pm 0.1	5.2 \pm 0.1	6.4 \pm 0.1	<0.001	1	<0.001	<0.001
TG, mg/dL	63.9 \pm 19.4	186.8 \pm 15.9	211 \pm 18	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.889
LDL-C, mg/dL	97.6 \pm 7.3	121.8 \pm 6	134 \pm 6.8	0.007	0.048	0.005	0.483
HDL-C, mg/dL	47.6 \pm 2.9	42.6 \pm 2.4	39.5 \pm 2.7	0.194	0.608	0.214	1
TC, mg/dL	159 \pm 8.2	201 \pm 6.7	215.6 \pm 7.7	<0.001	0.001	<0.001	0.477
Adiposity indices							
WC, cm	78.4 \pm 1.9	103 \pm 1.55	105.5 \pm 1.76	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.971
HC, cm	93.65 \pm 2.2	115.8 \pm 1.7	119 \pm 1.97	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.451
BMI, kg/m ²	21.4 \pm 0.97	33.5 \pm 0.79	34.5 \pm 0.9	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1
WHR	0.84 \pm 0.015	0.89 \pm 0.012	0.89 \pm 0.014	0.028	0.024	0.138	1
WHtR	0.48 \pm 0.011	0.62 \pm 0.009	0.63 \pm 0.01	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1
C-index	1.21 \pm 0.014	1.27 \pm 0.011	1.28 \pm 0.013	0.004	0.008	0.007	1
BAI	26.3 \pm 1.34	35.4 \pm 1.1	36.8 \pm 1.24	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1
Atherogenicity indices							
AIP	0.2 \pm 0.5	0.6 \pm 0.04	0.7 \pm 0.05	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	1
TC/HDL-C	3.4 \pm 0.8	5 \pm 0.7	6.6 \pm 0.7	0.041	0.427	0.037	0.320
LDL-C/HDL-C	2.1 \pm 0.68	3 \pm 0.6	4.3 \pm 0.6	0.11	1	0.128	0.366
Hematological indices							
RDW	13.5 \pm 0.2	13.5 \pm 0.2	13.8 \pm 0.2	0.436	1	0.904	0.689
MPV, fL	7 \pm 0.4	9.1 \pm 0.3	8.7 \pm 0.4	0.001	0.001	0.025	1
MLR	0.3 \pm 0.04	0.3 \pm 0.03	0.2 \pm 0.04	0.515	1	0.844	1
NLR	2.36 \pm 0.4	1.9 \pm 0.3	2 \pm 0.4	0.662	1	1	1
PLR	104 \pm 9.1	121.6 \pm 7.4	97 \pm 8.5	0.59	0.47	1	0.026

^aCovariate appearing in the model is evaluated at the following value: age = 42.73.

Pairwise comparisons were done through Bonferroni adjustment.

Adjusted mean and P-value obtained by ANCOVA test.

Age analysis by ANOVA test, Levene's test P-value = 0.305.

Gender analysis by Chi square.

P¹ MetS group versus control, P² MetS pre/T2DM versus control, P³ MetS pre/T2DM versus MetS.

DPB: diastolic blood pressure, FBC: fasting blood glucose, HbA1C%: percent glycosylated- hemoglobin, HDL-C: high density lipoprotein-cholesterol, LDL-C: low density lipoprotein-cholesterol, MDA: malondialdehyde, SBP: systolic blood pressure, SIRT1: sirtuin1, TG: triglycerides, TC: total cholesterol, WC: waist circumference, HC: hip circumference, WHR: waist-to-hip ratio, WHtR: waist-to-height ratio, C-index: concinity index, BAI: body adiposity index, RDW: red cell width, MPV: mean platelet volume, PLT: platelet, MLR: monocyte-to- lymphocyte ratio, NLR: neutrophil-to-lymphocyte ratio, PLR: platelet-to-lymphocyte ratio.

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