

MALONDIALDEHYDE IN TYPE 2 DIABETICS AND ASSOCIATION WITH CARDIOVASCULAR RISK FACTORS

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ABSTRACT

Background: Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) is a progressive chronic disease with high prevalence all over the world. It is expected to have 693 million people affected by diabetes by 2045. Many body systems are affected due to complications of DM with major effect on the cardiovascular system. Dyslipidemia is one of the major risk factors for cardiovascular disease in diabetes mellitus. Malondialdehyde (MDA) is a highly toxic end product formed by lipid oxidation that mediates its toxic effects due to its high reactivity particularly towards proteins and DNA. Malondialdehyde interacts both irreversibly and reversibly with proteins and phospholipids causing profound effects, especially in the collagen of the cardiovascular system. Normally, MDA level remains within normal values due to antioxidant effects, but in DM these protective effects are disrupted.

Objective: Measure serum Malondialdehyde level as a marker of lipid peroxidation in type 2 diabetic patients and its association with other cardiovascular risk factors.

Patients and methods: The study included 40 diabetic patients recruited from Outpatient Diabetes Clinic at Alexandria Main University Hospital in addition to healthy 40 healthy subjects as a control group. Basic data, clinical examination and laboratory analysis were obtained from all the subjects within the two groups. Serum Malondialdehyde (MDA) was measured in the participants within the two groups by using ELISA kit.

Results: The mean serum MDA level was statistically significant higher in the diabetic cases as compared to the controls (Median MDA was 30.72nmol /ml in cases and 25.16 nmol /ml in the control). There is a significant increase in serum MDA level with increasing the risk of CV disease in the whole study subjects and in the diabetic cases. In the cases group MDA shows positive correlation with all the study parameters except high density lipoproteins (HDL) where it revealed negative correlation. BY ROC curve analysis, a cutoff point more than > 26.57 had 62.5% sensitivity, 70% specificity, 66.4 % positive predictive value (PPV) and 72.5% negative predictive value (NPV).

Conclusion: Malondialdehyde is a non-invasive biomarker that could be utilized in differentiation of T2DM cases from healthy controls in addition for identifying the high-risk diabetic patients for cardiovascular disease (CVD). However, further large-scale studies are recommended to accurately determine its sensitivity and specificity.

Keywords: Malondialdehyde, lipid peroxidation, oxidative stress, cardiovascular diseases.

INTRODUCTION

Diabetes Mellitus (DM) is a chronic disease that represents a major health problem affecting all age groups all over the world. It is a group of metabolic diseases due to carbohydrate metabolism disorder characterized by elevated blood glucose as a result of defect in secretion, action of insulin hormone or both. The classical presenting triad of DM includes polyuria, polydipsia and polyphagia as direct consequences of increased blood glucose levels. Many long-term complications occur with chronic state of hyperglycemia. Different organs are affected especially the eyes, kidneys, nerves, heart, and blood vessels ⁽¹⁾

In 2019, it is estimated that 463 million people aged (20-79) years have diabetes and this number is projected to reach 578 million by 2030, and 700 million by 2045 for the same age group. Two-thirds of people with diabetes live in urban areas and three out of four are of working age. Over four million people aged 20–79 years are estimated to die from diabetes-related causes in 2019 ⁽²⁾

Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) is primarily due to lifestyle factors and genetics ⁽³⁾ Many causes are listed for diabetes including: genetic defects of β -cell function, genetic defects in insulin processing or insulin action,

exocrine pancreatic defects (Chronic pancreatitis, Pancreatectomy) Pancreatic neoplasia, Cystic fibrosis, hemochromatosis, fibrocalculous pancreatopathy, endocrinopathies (acromegaly, Cushing syndrome, hyperthyroidism, pheochromocytoma, glucagonoma), infections and drugs.⁽⁴⁾

Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease remains the main cause of death and disability among patients with diabetes.⁽⁵⁾ Dyslipidemia is a major risk factor for adverse cardiovascular events.⁽⁶⁾ High levels of low density lipoproteins (LDL) and low levels of HDL are associated with myocardial infarction and stroke.⁽⁷⁾

Malondialdehyde (MDA) is a highly toxic side way product that occur during the lipid oxidation by free radicals. The concentrations of MDA are increased in patients with T2DM.⁽⁸⁾

Malondialdehyde interacts both irreversibly and reversibly with proteins and phospholipids leading to harmful effects. In particular; the collagen of the cardiovascular system is not only stiffened by cross-links mediated by Malondialdehyde, but also this collagen later becomes increasingly resistant to remodeling.⁽⁹⁾ The toxicity of Malondialdehyde arises from its high reactivity particularly towards proteins and DNA.⁽¹⁰⁾

In normal conditions, lipid oxidation is controlled by antioxidant activity of different body systems. It has been suggested that Localized deficiency of antioxidants would allow more lipid oxidation to occur.⁽¹¹⁾

Malondialdehyde is used as a putative marker of lipid oxidation both in plasma and in arterial lesions. There is now substantial evidence that both oxidized low density lipoprotein (ox-LDL) and Malondialdehyde occur in the atherosclerotic plaque.⁽¹²⁾

However, there is a debate about the relation between MDA levels and duration of type 2 DM in the course of persistent rise in metabolic parameters.^(13,14)

PATIENTS AND METHODS

This is a cross sectional case-control study that was conducted in Outpatient Diabetes Clinic at Alexandria Main University Hospital.

The study included 40 patients with T2DM and 40 healthy subjects as a control group. The patients with the following conditions were excluded; smokers, patients taking antioxidant supplements, alcoholic, anemic patients, history of endocrinal diseases, history of hepatic disease and history of severe renal impairment.

All cases were subjected to complete history taking and through clinical examination (with measurement of different body measures). The following laboratory

investigations were done for all the cases including: CBC, fasting blood glucose (FBG), glycated hemoglobin (HbA1C), two hour post prandial blood glucose (2h PPBG), total serum cholesterol, serum HDL, serum LDL, serum triglycerides (TG) and serum uric acid.

Serum malondialdehyde level was measured using human enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay kits (Human malondialdehyde kit; Catalog No. CSBA082431 America).

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Data entered and analyzed using Microsoft Excel software. Data were then imported into Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS 22.0, IBM/SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL) software for analysis. Baseline characteristics of the study population were presented as frequencies and percentages (%) or mean values and standard deviations (SD) or median and interquartile range (IQR).

For comparison of data, Chi-Square test (or Fisher's exact test) was used to compare two independent groups of qualitative data. For quantitative data, independent-Samples t-test and Mann-Whitney U test were used to compare two groups of parametric and non-parametric quantitative data respectively.

Kruskal Wallis test was used to compare three or more groups of non-parametric quantitative data.

Correlation of numeric data was done by Spearman correlation (r). Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) analysis followed by determination of the optimal cutoff value using Youden index J were used to analyzed the diagnostic ability of nesfatin-1. P values <0.05 are considered significant.

RESULTS

The study included 40 type 2 diabetic patients and 40 healthy subjects as a control group. As shown in table (1), there was no statistically significant difference in the age between the two study groups. There were 20 males and 20 females in each group. The different body measures didn't reveal a statistically significant difference between the two groups except for the mean waist circumference that was significantly wider in the cases group as compared to the controls (106.70 ± 8.67 cm and 95.13 ± 8.34 cm respectively).

Table (2) shows that SBP, TGs levels, serum uric acid level, FBG, 2hPP and HbA1c were significantly higher in the cases group as compared to the controls. The mean level of HDL was statistically significantly lower in the cases group as compared to the controls. Other parameters didn't reveal a statistically significant difference between the two groups.

Table (1): Comparison between the two studied groups according to demographic data and anthropometric measures

	Cases (n = 40)	Control (n = 40)	P
Gender			
Male	20 (50%)	20 (50%)	1.000 *
Female	20 (50%)	20 (50%)	
Age (years)	48.63± 9.27	45.73 ± 7.63	0.131 **
Weight (kg)	89.83 ± 11.39	87.08 ± 11.60	0.288 **
Height (cm)	166.2 ± 6.98	169.0 ± 6.27	0.065 **
Waist circumference	106.70 ± 8.67	95.13 ± 8.34	<0.001 **
BMI (kg/m²)	32.63 ± 4.42	30.69 ± 4.28	0.055 **

*: Chi-square test

**: Independent samples t-test

Table (2): Comparison between the two studied groups according to SBP and laboratory parameters

Variables	Cases (n = 40)	Control (n = 40)	p
SBP (mmHg)	122.8 ± 13.01	108.3 ± 9.58	<0.001**
T-cholesterol	162.50 ± 48.95	146.23±27.26	0.071**
HDL	44.0 (38.50 – 51.0)	52.0 (40.5 – 68.0)	0.033***
LDL	101.0 (78.9 – 129.5)	89.55 (50.9 – 124.2)	0.119***
TGs	111.5 (96.0 – 166.5)	97.5 (84.0 – 105.0)	0.004***
S. Uric acid	5.25(4.3 – 6.02)	4.5(3.6 – 5.4)	0.027***
HB (%)	13.55 ± 0.86	13.52 ± 1.10	0.901**
FBG	152 (115.5 – 180.0)	81.50(75.0 – 85.0)	<0.001***
2hPPG	211.5 (147.0 – 311.5)	100 (93.5 – 109.5)	<0.001***
HbA_{1c}	8.19 ± 1.55	5.29 ± 0.18	<0.001**

**: Independent samples t-test

***: Mann-Whitney U-test

Table (3) shows that 3 cases of the diabetic group had history of pervious revascularization and 12 cases receive hypertension treatment in contrast to the control group where no case showed neither history of pervious revascularization nor previous hypertension treatment. There was high statistically significant difference between

the two groups according to the cardiovascular risk ($p<0.001$).

The median level of MDA in the cases group was statistically significantly higher as compared to the control group ($p=0.009$) as shown in table. ⁽⁴⁾

As shown in table (5), in the whole study population, there is a statistically significant positive correlation between MDA levels and waist circumference, BMI, SBP, T. Cholesterol, LDL, FBG, 2-hour post prandial glucose, cardiovascular risk, HbA1c and TG levels. There was a statistically significant negative correlation between

MDA levels and HDL levels. In the cases group, there is a statistically significant positive correlation between MDA levels and waist circumference, BMI, SBP, T. Cholesterol, LDL, FBG, HbA1c, cardiovascular risk and TG levels. There was a statistically significant negative correlation between MDA levels and HDL level.

Table (3): Comparison between the two studied groups according to history of pervious revascularization, HTN treatment and CV risk

	Cases (n = 40)		Control (n = 40)		P
	No.	%	No.	%	
History of pervious revascularization	3	7.5	–	–	–
HTN treatment	12	30.0	0	0.0	<0.001*
CV risk					
Low risk	0	0.0	18	45.0	<0.001*
Moderate	5	12.5	21	52.5	
High	32	80.0	1	2.5	
Very high	3	7.5	0	0.0	

*: Chi-square test

Table (4): Comparison between the two studied groups according to MDA

MDA	Cases (n = 40)	Control (n = 40)	p
Median (IQR)	30.72(22.67–55.74)	25.16(22.09–27.29)	0.009***

***: Mann-Whitney U-test

Table (5): Correlation between MDA and different parameters in all study subjects and in cases group.

	All study subjects (n=80)		Cases group (n=40)	
	MDA		MDA	
	r _s	p	r _s	p
Waist circumference	0.377*	0.001*	0.382*	0.015*
BMI (kg/m ²)	0.272*	0.017*	0.360*	0.022*
SBP	0.403*	<0.001*	0.472*	0.002*
T. Cholesterol	0.377*	0.001*	0.382*	0.015*
LDL	0.309*	0.005*	0.338*	0.033*
HDL	-0.298*	0.007*	-0.450*	0.004*
S-uric acid	0.111	0.326	0.119	0.465
FBG	0.455*	<0.001*	0.654*	<0.001*
2hPPG	0.226*	0.044*	0.152	0.350
CV risk	0.323*	0.003*	0.408*	0.009*
HbA1c	0.378*	0.001*	0.448*	0.004*
TG	0.571*	<0.001*	0.785*	<0.001*
r _s ; Spearman coefficient	*: Statistically significant at p ≤ 0.05			

As shown in table (6), there was a statistically significant increase in the level of MDA in the serum according to the cardiovascular risk where the cases with very high risk of cardiovascular disease have the highest level of MDA.

As shown in table (7), the best cutoff point of MDA to differentiate between cases with type 2 DM and control group was > 26.57 with 62.5% sensitivity, 70% specificity, 66.4% PPV and 72.5% NPV

Table (6): Relation between CV risk and MDA in cases group (n = 40)

MDA	CV risk			p
	Moderate (n = 5)	High (n = 32)	Very high (n = 3)	
Min. – Max.	14.3 – 73.96	13.6 – 80.0	110.0 – 115.0	0.011*
Median	26.04	30.72	112.0	
Sig. bet. grps	$p_1=0.365, p_2=0.004^*, p_3=0.006^*$			

p: p value for comparing between the studied groups

p₁: p value for comparing between moderate and high

p₂: p value for comparing between moderate and very high

p₃: p value for comparing between high and very high

*: Statistically significant at $p \leq 0.05$

Table (7): Predictive ability of serum MDA to differentiate between cases and control

	Serum MDA
AUC	0.670
Cut off point	> 26.57
Sensitivity	62.5%
Specificity	70%
PPV	66.4%
NPV	72.5%
P	0.009*

AUC: Area under curve, PPV: positive predictive value, NPV: Negative predictive value

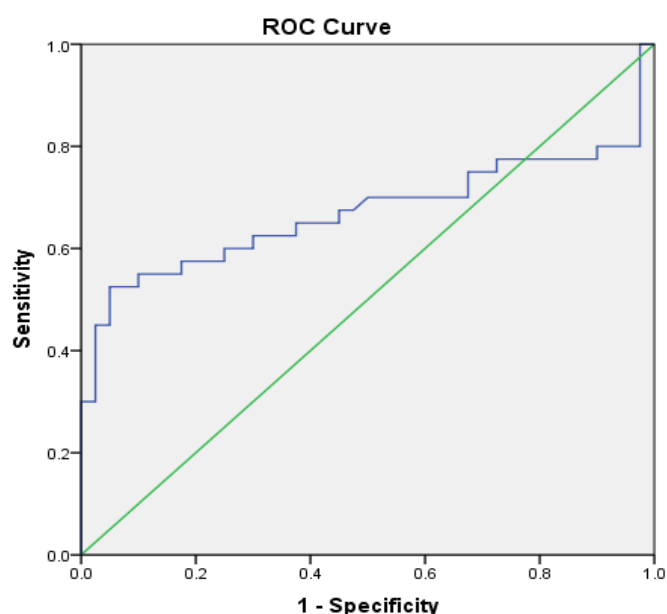


Figure (1): ROC curve for Predictive ability of serum MDA to differentiate between cases and control

DISCUSSION:

This current study was conducted to measure serum MDA levels in type 2 diabetes patients as a reliable marker of lipid peroxidation and investigate its relationship to cardiovascular risk factors. Our study was conducted on 80 subjects of whom 40 patients were type 2 diabetics and 40 were healthy subjects as a control group.

The two groups were matched in terms of age, sex, and socioeconomic class. The mean age of the diabetic group was 48.63 ± 9.27 , and 45.73 ± 7.63 for the control. There was no significant difference in age between the two groups (p value < 0.13).

CVD risk factors include old age, smoking, systemic hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia, decreased physical exercise and poor diet. ⁽¹⁵⁾

Dyslipidemia manifested as high LDL, high TG and low HDL is an important risk factor for development of CVD. Current guidelines focus on lowering LDL cholesterol

with statins in both primary and secondary preventive situations.⁽¹⁶⁻¹⁸⁾ This approach is supported by evidence from large perspective studies. In a recent analysis of 14 statin studies including 90,056 patients, decreasing LDL by 39 mg /dl was associated with about one fifth reduction in the 5-year incidence of major CV events.⁽¹⁹⁾

Recently, oxidative stress has become a focus of interest in most medical disciplines and an area of wide research work. Increasing evidence shows that oxidative stress is associated with the pathogenesis of diabetes and recent studies suggest a possible relationship between lipid peroxidation and diabetes complications.⁽⁹⁾

Oxygen free radicals and lipid peroxides have been implicated in the pathogenesis of a large number of diseases such as DM, cancer, rheumatoid arthritis and atherosclerosis. MDA is a highly toxic by product formed in part by lipid oxidation from free O₂ radicals, and many studies reported its higher levels in DM, reacting both reversibly and irreversibly with proteins and phospholipids with serious consequences.⁽⁹⁾

Cardiovascular diseases remain the main cause of morbidity and mortality among patients with DM. DM contributes to atherosclerosis and heart failure through many mechanisms.⁽²⁰⁾ Framingham Heart Study (1974) showed a direct association between diabetes and heart failure.⁽²¹⁾

There is recent evidence that increased oxidative stress in DM contributes to the development of diabetic complications.⁽²²⁾ Oxygen derived free radicals interact with the lipid bilayer in cell membranes leading to its peroxidation.⁽²³⁾ MDA is a stable end product of lipid peroxidation and its measurement is considered a reliable marker of oxidative damage.⁽²⁴⁾

Our results demonstrated significantly higher levels of MDA in diabetic patients than the control group at a P value of 0.009 with a mean serum MDA level of 41.57±28.04 in diabetics while the mean level in the control group was 24.95±5.

Many studies have reported higher levels of MDA in diabetics than healthy subjects as found by Bhutia *et al.* (2011).⁽²⁵⁾ Soliman GZA⁽²⁶⁾ and Rani *et al.* (2005).⁽²⁷⁾

Rani *et al* also observed lower total antioxidant status values in the type 2 diabetic group compared to the control group and concluded that there is an increased oxidative stress in diabetics compared to their non-diabetic counterparts and emphasized the importance of assessing these markers for early diagnosis and therapeutic interventions.⁽²⁷⁾

Our findings were also in accordance with Mahreen *et al.* (2010) (a study performed on a sample of Indian subjects).⁽²⁸⁾ The study Participants were divided to 3 groups, 30 diabetic T2DM without any complications, 30 T2DM patients with myocardial infarction (MI) and 30

healthy subjects as control group. The results demonstrated a significantly higher levels of MDA in the diabetic group compared to the control. In addition to that, a significantly higher MDA level was observed in the T2DM group with myocardial infarction compared to the T2DM without complications.

They gave two probable explanations for these findings either the longer disease duration or increased glycation of serum proteins which leads to increased activation of receptors for advanced glycation end products which initiates the process of atherosclerosis.⁽²⁸⁾

An Increased level of MDA in diabetics suggests that peroxidative injury may be involved in the development of diabetic complications. The increase in lipid peroxidation is also an indication of decline in defense mechanisms of enzymatic and non-enzymatic antioxidants.⁽²⁹⁾

Increased MDA level in plasma, serum, and many other tissues has been reported in diabetic patients.^(30, 31) In 1991, Baynes, followed by Ramesh *et al* in 2012.^(23, 32) reported that lipid peroxidation in diabetes induced many secondary chronic complications including ather-osclerosis and neural disorders. Yang *et al.*, (2009) observed greater serum lipid peroxidation evaluated in terms of MDA in hyperglycemic mice and proposed that the increase in lipid peroxidation exacerbated the occurrence of myocardial infarction through NADPH oxidase activation⁽³³⁾

Our results demonstrated a significant correlation between fasting blood glucose (FBG) levels and higher MDA levels in type 2 diabetes cases (P <0.001) which agreed with Manohar *et al.* (2013) who found a statistically significant positive correlation between MDA levels and FBG in newly diagnosed type 2 diabetic patients and, hence concluded an association between hyperglycemia and oxidative stress.⁽³⁴⁾

Our results also demonstrated a statistically significant positive correlation between HbA1C and MDA level in the diabetic group which coincides with findings by Whiting *et al.*, (2008) who concluded that chronic hyperglycemia can affect the production of free radicals which can eventually lead to increased lipid peroxidation and consumption of antioxidants and hence, increased oxidative stress in diabetic subjects.⁽³⁵⁾

A clinical study performed by Bandeira and coworkers (2012) aimed at characterizing blood oxidative stress in diabetic patients reported significantly higher lipid peroxidation which showed a close relationship with high glucose levels as observed by the fasting glucose and HbA1c levels.⁽³¹⁾

Contrary to these findings are results by Hanachi *et al.*, (2009) who found no significant correlation between MDA level and fasting blood sugar (FBS) or glycated hemoglobin in both cases and the control group, but they found significantly higher levels of MDA in diabetics compared to the control group [36] which is in accordance with our results.

We found a significantly higher TG level in diabetic than the control group (p value = 0.004) which contradicts results from Hanachi *et al.*, (2009) who found no significant difference,⁽³⁶⁾ but agrees with Tangvarasittichai *et al.*, (2009) who observed significantly higher TG levels in diabetics than the control group.⁽³⁷⁾

Our results also showed significantly lower levels of HDL in diabetics than control (p value = 0.033) which agree with findings by Soliman⁽²⁶⁾ Hanachi *et al.* (2009)⁽³⁶⁾ and Tangvarasittichai *et al.* (2009)⁽³⁷⁾

When comparing TC level, it did not differ significantly between the two groups (p value = 0.071) which was in line with findings by Hanachi *et al.* (2009)⁽³⁶⁾ who also found no significant difference between both groups, it was contrary to the findings of Tangvarasittichai *et al.* (2009),⁽³⁷⁾ Soliman⁽²⁶⁾ and Rani *et al.*, (2005),⁽²⁷⁾

In regards to LDL levels there was no significant difference between the two groups (p value = 0.119), which contradicts findings by Soliman GZA⁽²⁶⁾ (2008), Hanachi *et al.* (2009)⁽³⁶⁾ and Tangvarasittichai *et al.* (2009).⁽³⁷⁾

When correlating serum MDA levels to lipid profile parameters in the diabetic group, we found significant positive correlation to TC, TG, and LDL at p values of (0.015, <0.001, 0.033) respectively which was similar to findings by Tangvarasittichai *et al.*, (2009)⁽³⁷⁾ and Hamad *et al.* (2009)⁽³⁸⁾ However, Hamad *et al.*, (2009) disagree with our finding of significant inverse correlation between serum MDA level and HDL (p value of 0.0040), as they found no significant relation between HDL level and MDA in type 2 diabetic patients. However, many other studies found significant negative correlation between MDA level and HDL in type 2 diabetic patients. Of these studies, one performed by Sharma *et al.*, (2017),⁽³⁹⁾ which was conducted with the aim of evaluating levels of Apo A-V proteins and markers of inflammation and oxidative stress in patients of T2DM with and without hypertriglyceridemia and also to assess correlation between them. By analyzing their data, they demonstrated significant negative correlation between MDA level and HDL in all subjects (type 2 diabetics with and without hypertriglyceridemia) at P value of 0.001.

Moreover, some studies have revealed significant negative correlation between MDA and HDL in type 2 diabetics with complications like that performed by Aldebasi *et al.* (2013) (40) in Al Quassim University in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The study included 54 patients with type 2 DM (21 with proliferative diabetic retinopathy and 33 without proliferative diabetic retinopathy) and 30 healthy subjects. Their results demonstrated that patients with proliferative diabetic retinopathy were characterized by significantly low HDL-C ($P=0.017$) and high MDA ($P < 0.001$) when compared to their diabetic counterparts without retinopathy. In patients with proliferative diabetic retinopathy, Pearson correlation analysis revealed the plasma concentration of MDA had a significant negative correlation to HDL-C ($p=0.030$) and ApoA1 ($p=0.045$).

The authors concluded that since both HDL-C and Apolipoprotein A1 have been reported to have antioxidant effects,⁽⁴¹⁾ the inverse correlation between MDA and HDL -C may point to the role of oxidative stress in the pathogenesis of diabetic retinopathy.

Our results demonstrate significantly higher mean serum uric acid in diabetics than the control group ($P = 0.027$) which agreed with findings by Satoru *et al.*⁽⁴²⁾ Hazem Ahmed *et al.*⁽⁴³⁾ This finding of higher uric acid levels in diabetics can be explained by hyperinsulinemia as a consequence of insulin resistance that causes an increase in serum uric acid by reducing its renal excretion and accumulation in its substrates.⁽⁴⁴⁾ Many other studies reported positive associations between high serum uric acid and diabetes 蜂⁽⁴⁵⁻⁴⁷⁾ while others reported no association⁽⁴⁸⁾ and others found negative association.⁽⁴⁹⁾

We also noticed a significant positive correlation between waist circumference (central obesity) in diabetics and serum MDA levels which is similar to findings by Fernando Moreto *et al.* (2014). They studied determinants of higher plasma MDA in a group of healthy adults at high risk or with metabolic syndrome, and found that subjects with higher plasma MDA differed from others by showing higher values of waist circumference, fasting blood glucose, TG, and energy intake,⁽⁵⁰⁾ Tangvarasittichai *et al.* reported the same observation in 2009.⁽³⁷⁾

Our results also demonstrated significant positive correlation between serum MDA and systolic blood pressure in type 2 DM at p value = 0.002 which can be explained by the deleterious effects of MDA on vascular system.

This finding coincides with findings from a study performed by Dominguez *et al.* (2010).⁽⁵¹⁾ The Study evaluated oxidative stress parameters and hyperhomocysteinemia (as known independent risk factors for cardiovascular disease that occur more frequently in old age) in relation to age and the presence of hypertension and type 2 DM. Their results demonstrated that MDA levels were significantly higher in older versus younger subjects without hypertension or DM at P value <0.001. Interestingly, MDA did not differ significantly in older versus younger hypertensive subjects and in older versus younger diabetic hypertensive subjects. From the previous data, authors concluded that aging is accompanied by elevated oxidative stress level similar to those observed in younger subjects with hypertension or DM independently from age. Hence, these conditions seem to accelerate the age dependent increase in oxidative stress.

A similar finding was observed by Tangvarasittichai *et al.* at Naresuan University in Thailand.⁽³⁷⁾ this study reported a significantly higher MDA level in type 2 diabetics than the control group and significant positive correlation with systolic blood pressure (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP).

In the same context, a study performed by Ekeanyanwu RC *et al.* in Faculty of Science in Nijeria aiming at

measuring the antioxidant vitamins C, E levels and lipid peroxidation status in hypertensive patients and diabetic hypertensive patients receiving vitamin supplements, insulin and lipid lowering drugs revealed that there was a weak positive correlation between Thiobarbituric acid reactive substances –MDA and SBP in diabetic hypertensive patients ($P=0.339$).⁽⁵²⁾

In order to test the independent effect of different study parameters on MDA level in cases group, a multivariate linear regression analysis was done which revealed a significant positive correlation between FBG and MDA at p value=0.019. This finding is consistent with an observation reported by Manohar *et al.* in (2013).⁽³⁴⁾ They found initially a significant positive correlation between MDA level and FBG in newly diagnosed type 2 diabetic (using Pearson Correlation). This significant positive correlation was retained even after nullifying the effect of lipid parameters. Therefore, we suggest that lipid parameters cannot be the only main cause of oxidative stress in DM. Importantly, these correlation analyses also suggest that hyperglycemia per se is greatly involved in oxidative stress resulting in increased lipid peroxidation, and consequently higher plasma MDA levels.

The Multivariate Linear regression analysis also demonstrated a significant positive correlation between TG level and MDA in cases group at p value <0.001 which is similar to findings by Bakhtiari *et al.*, in 2017 who studied the independent effect of different metabolic syndrome components (according to ATP 111 criteria) on MDA level in a group of elderly Iranian females with metabolic syndrome. They found that TG was the factor most strongly associated with MDA, followed by HDL-C⁽⁵³⁾

CONCLUSION

Malondialdehyde is a non-invasive biomarker that could be utilized in differentiation of T2D cases from healthy controls in addition to identifying the high-risk diabetic patients for CV disease.

Conflict of Interest

Authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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