

Relationship of serum lipid profiles in preeclampsia and normal pregnancy, Bangladesh

Umme salma

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, College of Medicine, Jouf University, Sakaka, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Abstract

Objective: The purpose of this present study to investigate the lipid profile levels and basal body mass index in preeclampsia and normal pregnancy in Bangladeshi women.

Material and methods: This case-control study was conducted at Sheba Hospital Kaligonj Bangladesh with 70 participants among 35 normal pregnancy (control) and 35 preeclampsia women (case) were enrolled from August 2018 to July 2019. Blood samples were obtained for analysis of total cholesterol, triglyceride and high-density lipoprotein by enzymatic assays and low-density lipoprotein by using Fried Ewald's formula in between 22-36 weeks of gestation.

Results: This study found the mean age of preeclampsia and normal pregnancy women were 24.71 ± 2.56 and 23.09 ± 2.1 respectively with significant ($P=0.005$). Basal body mass index, total cholesterol, triglyceride and low-density lipoprotein significantly higher ($P=0.002$), ($P=0.000$), ($P=0.022$) and ($P=0.000$) in preeclampsia compared to normal pregnancy respectively. While high-density lipoprotein comparatively lower in preeclampsia than normal pregnancy and consider significant as ($P=0.037$).

Conclusion: Abnormal lipid profile and increased body mass index is contributed to the development of preeclampsia. The frequent antenatal monitoring of lipid profiles provides the status which helps to require management and reduces the preeclampsia which enhances maternal and fetal wellbeing and fetal outcome.

Keywords: Preeclampsia, normal pregnancy, lipid profile, basal body mass index.

DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/ahs.v22i2.55>

Cite as: Salma U. Relationship of serum lipid profiles in preeclampsia and normal pregnancy, Bangladesh. *Afri Health Sci.* 2022;22(2): 475-479. <https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/ahs.v22i2.55>

Introduction

Preeclampsia means first-time onset of hypertension (blood pressure 140/90 mmHg or more) and protein urine (≥ 300 mg/day) after 20 weeks of gestation^{1,2}. Approximately 5-10

% causes of fetal and maternal motility and morbidity³. The etiology of Preeclampsia due to the absence of trophoblastic invasion in the spiral arteries which leads to uterine arteries more vascular resistance and associated with decline placental perfusion^{4,5}. The circulation of preeclampsia women carries the placental products which provoke the endothelial dysfunction, therefore it may development of cardiovascular diseases⁶. Conversely altered lipid profile is strongly associated with preeclampsia women because of endothelial dysfunction. It has been well

documented that increased total cholesterol, triglyceride and low-density lipoprotein and decrease high-density lipoprotein has direct link to preeclampsia^{7,8}. Therefore, the aim of this study to investigate the serum total cholesterol, triglyceride, low-density lipoprotein and high-density lipoprotein for the relationship between preeclampsia and normal pregnancy in Bangladeshi women.

Methods

This case-control study was carried out at Obstetrics and Gynecology department of Sheba Hospital Kaliganj, Bangladesh, over a period from August 2018 to July 2019. A total of 70 pregnant women were agreed to participate after explained the purpose and objective of this study. The present study collected written consent of each participant with ethically approved from Hospital clinical research committee. All pregnant women were divided into two groups such as normal pregnancy women for the control group ($n=35$) and preeclampsia women for case group ($n=35$), who were visited for antenatal follow-up in outpatients or require admitting inpatients. The diagnosis of preeclampsia by the first-time onset of systolic blood

Corresponding author:

Umme Salma,
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,
College of Medicine, Jouf University,
Sakaka, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,
Email: drsalma10@yahoo.com

pressure ≥ 140 mmHg and diastolic blood pressure ≥ 90 mmHg after 20 weeks of gestation and associated with proteinuria, if urinary protein excretion ≥ 300 mg/24 hours. The inclusion criteria of the present study were included that all pregnant women were primigravida in both groups, age range from 19-29 years, having 22-36 gestational weeks with a single live fetus. While multiple pregnancy, essential hypertension, diabetes mellitus and renal disease were excluded. We noted detailed obstetrical history and examination findings of both control and case groups. The recorded body mass index (BMI) of both groups of all pregnant women followed by WHO calculations such as normal, overweight, and obesity range were considered 18.5 to 24.9 kg/m², 25-29.9 kg/m², and > 30 kg/m² respectively. The Blood pressure measure by mercury sphygmomanometer and repeated the procedure after 5 and 10 min of each pregnant woman which was recommended by the American Heart Association⁹. Total 5ml to 8ml blood drawn from the antecubital vein with aseptic precautions then put in ethylene diamine tetra acetic acid-containing vials for analysis of lipid profiles like total cholesterol (TC), triglyceride (TG), high-density lipoprotein (HDL), low-density lipoprotein (LDL), and also complete blood count. The clotted blood sample was centrifuged at 3,000rpm for 10 min and serum keep stored at -80°C until further

assayed. The analyzed the serum concentration of total cholesterol, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol and triglycerides levels by the method of an automated system (Biotechnica Chemistry Analyzer 3000, Italy) with standard enzymatic assays, while LDL was measured by using Fried Ewald's formula. All values of lipid profiles were recorded.

Statistical analysis

Statistically analyzed of all data by using SPSS software 20.00 versions with descriptively, implement the number of pregnant women, mean and standard deviations. As well as apply the Chi-square t-test for data which were a comparison between normal pregnancy and preeclampsia women. Significant was considered at p-value < 0.05 .

Results

In the present study, all seventeen pregnant women divided into two groups, the normal pregnancy women (n=35) and preeclampsia women (n=35) with an aged range from 19 to 29 years. The means age 23.09 ± 2.1 and 24.71 ± 2.56 of normal pregnancy and preeclampsia women were respectively and higher statistically significant (P=0.005) in preeclampsia women. (Table 1) represents the clinical characteristic of participants which included basal body mass index (BMI) 23.31 ± 2.8 in normal pregnancy and 25.45 ± 2.82 in preeclampsia women.

Table 1: Clinical characteristic of all participants

Lipid profile	Normal pregnancy (n=35)	Preeclampsia (n=35)	P value
TC	170.51 ± 12.56	222.51 ± 11.98	0.000
TG	144.86 ± 5.0	204.54 ± 3.39	0.022
HDL	35.57 ± 3.0	33.97 ± 3.28	0.037
LDL	89.25 ± 14.3	143.03 ± 9.61	0.000

The basal body mass index significantly higher in preeclampsia women than normal pregnancy as consider p values 0.002. Mean systolic 139.74 ± 3.78 and diastolic 92.22 ± 2.96 blood pressure was significantly increased in preeclampsia women compared to normal pregnancy

(P=0.000). The lipid profiles in preeclampsia women such as total cholesterol (TC) 222.51 ± 11.98 and normal pregnancy were 170.51 ± 12.56 (P=0.000). Triglyceride levels significantly higher in preeclampsia women than normal pregnancy women (P=0.022). Compared to the high-den-

sity lipoprotein (HDL) between preeclampsia and normal pregnancy women was 33.97 ± 3.28 and 35.57 ± 3.0 respectively which has lower preeclampsia women and statistically significant (0.037). As well as the present study found low-density lipoprotein (LDL) significantly higher

143.03 ± 9.61 in preeclampsia women than 89.25 ± 14.3 in normal pregnancy women ($P=0.000$).

The concentrations of all lipid profiles levels of both preeclampsia and normal pregnancy women represent in (Table 2).

Table 2: Status of lipid profile in preeclampsia and normal pregnancy

Lipid profile	Normal pregnancy (n=35)	Preeclampsia (n=35)	P value
TC	170.51 ± 12.56	222.51 ± 11.98	0.000
TG	144.86 ± 5.0	204.54 ± 3.39	0.022
HDL	35.57 ± 3.0	33.97 ± 3.28	0.037
LDL	89.25 ± 14.3	143.03 ± 9.61	0.000

Abbreviation:

TC=Total cholesterol, TG= Triglyceride, HDL= High density lipoprotein, LDL= Low density lipoprotein.

Discussion

In this present study, we investigated the lipid profile levels of preeclampsia and normal pregnancy in Bangladeshi women. The present study compared 35 preeclampsia women with 35 normal pregnancy women along age range 19-29 years. The relation of age in the preeclampsia women found was highly significant than normal pregnancy women. Previously reported that altered lipid profile has the link to increased the age in preeclampsia women^{10,11}. The basal body mass index (BMI) in preeclampsia women in this study was shown higher significant compared to normal pregnancy women and consider at ($P= 0.002$), which was similarly reported to another study.¹⁰ Perhaps the elevated of BMI in preeclampsia women may probable causes increased insulin resistance and as well as the circumstance of inflammation associated with overweight and obesity¹². However, the excessive body weight of pregnant women individual itself responsible for the development of endothelial dysfunction of the placenta which may lead cause of preeclampsia. Conversely, the endothelial dysfunction consider as an important fact for the mechanism of increased blood pressure during pregnancy and altered lipid profiles also make a key role for the endothelial dysfunction^{13,14}. The Present study also found high levels of serum triglycerides (TG) and total

cholesterol (TC) in preeclampsia women compared to normal pregnancy respectively and statistically significant ($P= 0.022$) and ($P= 0.000$) which were found other studies also¹⁵. High levels of cholesterol may encourage the production of free radicals which has direct relation of atherosclerosis and associated abnormal lipid profile consider as uncertainly to the development of preeclampsia. Nevertheless, increased triglyceride (TG) in preeclampsia has indicates that the relation of insulin resistance because of the excessive body weight of women. While it has been consider that increased triglyceride is necessary for the development of preeclampsia or risk for preeclampsia.

There was evidence in preeclampsia women that elevated serum concentration of triglycerides has a relationship with systolic and diastolic blood pressure in pressure¹⁶. It has been reported that increased maternal triglyceride levels perhaps significant of pre-existing hyperlipidemia and considered as pathogenesis of preeclampsia which was supported to our results¹⁷. A recent study also suggested, that there was a positive correlation between high maternal serum lipid and preeclampsia¹⁸.

Additionally, the present study found increased low-density lipoprotein (LDL) in preeclampsia women contrast to

normal pregnancy and consider as significant ($P=0.000$). While the previous study has evidence that elevated LDL act as a risk factor for atherosclerosis¹⁹. While elevated estrogen and progesterone in preeclampsia may be supposed causes to raise LDL levels in preeclampsia women. Additionally, there was demonstrate of LDL may perhaps elevate the arterial sensitivity to a pressor agent that suppresses the endothelium dependant vasodilatation and development of dysfunctional endothelium. Therefore, it has produced pathology in glomerular of the kidney which consequently leakage of protein in the urine that reveal the severity of preeclampsia²⁰. Besides, the present study found decreased high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in preeclampsia women compared to normal pregnancy women ($P=0.037$). While decreased HDL and increased TG has contributed to the development of cardiovascular complication during pregnancy. On the other hand, insulin resistance may cause to reduce the HDL in preeclampsia women. However, in the present study found increased LDL and decreased HDL in preeclampsia women may consider as a risk factor for the chance of atherosclerosis²¹.

Conclusion

The finding results of the present study indicate that abnormal lipid profile such as increased serum concentration of TC, TG, LDL and decreased HDL may contribute for the development of preeclampsia. Besides, basal body mass as an individual key factor for preeclampsia. Consequently, routinely antenatal monitoring of lipid profile may reduce the possibility of preeclampsia which enhances maternal and fetal well-being and fetal outcome. However, detection and adjust of lipid profile during pregnancy can help for better management and prevention of preeclampsia.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thanks all staff of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department.

Funding source

This study was self-funded.

Conflict of interest

The author affirms no conflict of interest in this study.

References

1. F. Gary Cunningham, Norman F Gant, Kenneth J Leveno and C. Larry Williams. *Obstetrics*. 2005; 21st ed: McGraw Hill.
2. Dutta DC. Hypertensive disorders in pregnancy. In: Konar H.L, editor. *Textbook of Obstetrics*. 2001; 5th ed. Kolkata: New Central Book Agency: 234-55.
3. Anderson CM and Ren J. leptine resistance and endothelial dysfunction in preeclampsia. *Cell Mol Biol*. 2002 jan 1; 48:323-329. PMID: 17299557.
4. Cunningham FG, Leveno KJ, Bloom SL, Hauth JC, Gilstrap LC III and Wenstrom KD. *Williams Obstetrics*. 2005 22nd ed. New York: McGraw: 761-808.
5. Phupong V, Dejthevaporn T, Tanawattanacharoen S, Manotaya S, Tannirandorn Y and Charoenvidhya D. Predicting the risk of preeclampsia and small for gestational age infants by uterine artery Doppler in low-risk women. *Arch Gynecol Obstet*. 2003 268(3):158-61. doi: 10.1007/s00404-002-0361-0.
6. Airoidi J and Weinstein L. Clinical significance of proteinuria in pregnancy. *Obstet Gynecol Surv*. 2007 Feb; 62(2):117-124. doi: 10.1097/01.ogx.0000253301.55009.ac
7. Daniel A. Enquobahrie, Michelle A. Williams, Carole L. Butler, Ihunnaya O. Frederick, Raymond S. Miller and David A. Luthy. Maternal plasma lipid concentrations in early pregnancy and risk of preeclampsia. *Am J Hypertens*. 2004 July; 17:7: 574– 581.
8. Baksu B, Baksu A, Davas I, Akyol A and Gülbaba G. Lipoprotein (a) levels in women with pre-eclampsia and in normotensive pregnant women. *J Obstet Gynaecol Res*. 2005 24; 31:277-82. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1447-0756.2005.00276>.
9. Kirkendall WM, Burton AC, Epstein FH and Freis ED. Recommendations for human blood pressure determination by sphygmomanometers. *Circulation*. 1967; 36: 980-8. doi/pdf/10.1161/01.CIR.36.6.980.
10. Evrücke IC, Demir SC, Urünsak IF, Özgünen FT and Kadayifçi O. Comparison of lipid profiles in normal and hypertensive pregnant women. *Ann Saudi Med*. 2004 Oct 7; 24: 382-385. <https://doi.org/10.5144/0256-4947.2004.382>.
11. Gratacós E. Lipid-mediated endothelial dysfunction: a common factor to preeclampsia and chronic vascular disease. *Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol*. 2000 Sept; 92: 63-66. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0301-2115\(00\)00427-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0301-2115(00)00427-9).

12. Ephraim R, Doe PA, Amoah S and Antoh EO. Lipid profile and high maternal body mass index is associated with preeclampsia: A case-control study of the Cape Coast Metropolis. *Ann Med Health Sci Res.* 2014 Sep-Oct; 4(5): 746–750. doi: 10.4103/2141- 9248.141542.
13. Sattar N, Gaw A, Packard CJ and Greer IA. Potential pathogenic roles of aberrant lipoprotein and fatty acid metabolism in pre-eclampsia. *Br J Obstet Gynaecol.* 1996 July;103: 614- 620. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1471-0528.1996.tb09827>.
14. Van den Elzen HJ, Wladimiroff JW, Cohen-Overbeek TE, de Bruijn AJ and Grobbee DE. Serum lipids in early pregnancy and risk of pre-eclampsia. *Br J Obstet Gynaecol.* 1996 Feb; 103: 117-122. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1471-0528.1996.tb09661>.
15. Kashinakunti S. V, Sunitha H., Gurupadappa K and Manjula R. Lipid Profile In Preeclampsia A Case Control Study. *Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic Research.* 2010 August; 4(4): 2748- 2751. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/282652006>.
16. Karl Winkler, Birgit Wetzka , Friedrich, Martina Kinner, Hans-Peter Zahradnik, Heinrich Wieland, and Winfried März .Triglyceride Rich Lipoproteins Are Associated with Hypertension in Preeclampsia. *The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism.* 2003 March;88(3):1162-1166.<https://doi.org/10.1210/jc.2002- 021160>.
17. F D H Olalere , B O Okusanya , B AOye-Adeniran Maternal serum lipid in women with preeclampsia in Lagos: a case control study. *J MaternFetal Neonatal Med.* 2020 Mar;33(5):794-798.doi:10.1080/14767058.2018.1505851. Epub 2018 Sep 3.
18. Thushari. Alahakoon , Heather J. Medbury , Helen Williams and Vincent W. Lipid profiling in maternal and fetal circulations in preeclampsia and fetal growth restriction-a prospective case control observational study. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth.* 2020 Jan 30;20(1):61. doi: 10.1186/s12884-020-2753-1.
19. ChanvityaPunthumapol and BoonsriKittichotpanich. Comparative Study of Serum Lipid Concentrations in Preeclampsia and Normal Pregnancy. *J Med Assoc Thai.* 2008 August; 917: 957-61. <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/23304279>.
20. Enaruna NO, Idemudia JO and Aikoriogie PI. Serum lipid profile and uric acid levels in preeclampsia in University of Benin Teaching Hospital. *Niger Med J.* 2014 Sep-Oct; 55(5): 423– 427. doi: 10.4103/0300-1652.140387.
21. SantoshTimalsina, PrajwalGyawali and AseemBhattarai. Comparison of lipid profile parameters and oxidized low-density lipoprotein between normal and preeclamptic pregnancies in a tertiary care hospital in Nepal. *Int J Womens Health.* 2016 Oct 26; 8: 627–631. doi: 10.2147/IJWH.S11785