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Serum creatinine levels in relationship with mean platelet volume in patients with chronic kidney disease

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ARTICLE INFO

Article Type:

Brief Communication

Article History:

Received: 20 May 2017

Accepted: 14 August 2017

Published online: 30 August 2017

Keywords:

Chronic kidney disease

Mean platelet volume

Creatinine

Hypertension

Glomerular filtration rate

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a progressive decline in glomerular filtration rate (GFR) which is mainly caused by diabetic nephropathy and hypertension.

Objectives: This study evaluated the relationship between changes in mean platelet volume (MPV) and serum creatinine levels.

Patients and Methods: In this retrospective study, medical records of 100 patients with CKD including demographics data, medications, past-history, serum creatinine levels, and MPV were gathered. Additionally, we excluded patients who had a history of taking aspirin, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, preeclampsia, sepsis, disseminated intravascular coagulation, aplastic anemia and administration of cytotoxic drugs.

Results: This study was conducted on 100 CKD patients. Relationship between changes in MPV with serum creatinine level was evaluated by adjusting for gender, age, CKD stages, etiology, and weight. The changes in MPV and serum creatinine level were not significant with adjusting by underlying variables. However, in patients with high blood pressure, relationship of serum creatinine levels with MPV was inversely significant ($r = -0.484$, $P = 0.049$).

Conclusion: In CKD patients with high blood pressure, the changes in serum creatinine level have an inverse relationship with MPV. However, MPV is not an appropriate indicator for predicting of creatinine changes.

Implication for health policy/practice/research/medical education:

In a study on 100 CKD patients, with hypertension, we found that changes in serum creatinine level have an inverse relationship with MPV.

Please cite this paper as: Tamadon MR, Torabi SMA, Moghimi J, Mirmohammadkhani M, Ghahremanfard F. Serum creatinine levels in relationship with mean platelet volume in patients with chronic kidney disease. J Renal Inj Prev. 2018;7(1):38-41. DOI: 10.15171/jrip.2018.09.

Introduction

Chronic kidney disease (CKD) is a progressive and irreversible deterioration of the renal excretory function and glomerular filtration rate (GFR) that results in implementation of renal replacement therapy (dialysis or renal transplant). The most common causes of CKD are diabetic nephropathy caused by type 2 diabetes mellitus and high blood pressure (1). Around 27 million people or 15% of US adults are estimated to have CKD. According to the high prevalence of CKD, it is important to evaluate and screen patients at risk and to identify the predisposing factors and complications of CKD (1).

Diabetes mellitus and high blood pressure are the most important risk factors. On the other hand, cardiovascular disease and stroke are the most important complications of CKD (2,3). Evaluation of GFR is the best indicator of renal function. GFR changes by age, sex, and body mass index. GFR less than 60 mL/min/1.73 m² means the person has early kidney disease (4). GFR is often estimated by measurement of creatinine clearance in a 24-hour urine collection (4). Creatinine is a product of the metabolism of muscle cells and is constantly produced and its level depends on muscle mass. Serum creatinine level is an important indicator of kidney function. It has



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low rates of reabsorption and secretion, therefore its level can be easily measured. Serum creatinine level increases in the conditions of significant damage to the nephrons. Therefore it is not a proper test for diagnosis of early stages of kidney failure (5).

Numerous studies have evaluated the relationship between increases in serum creatinine and other indicators to find early diagnosis and treatment for CKD (6,7). Some studies have recently been focused on the relationship between serum creatinine and mean platelet volume (MPV) (8-10). MPV is an indicator which is used for measuring the activity of the bone marrow and structural problems of platelets. MPV depends on the production quality of platelets in bone marrow and is not related to aging phenomenon in blood circulation. MPV is affected by some conditions such as idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, preeclampsia, sepsis, disseminated intravascular coagulation, aplastic anemia, taking cytotoxic agents, and some inherited disorders including Bernard-Soulier syndrome, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome (11). Turgutalp et al showed that MPV in diabetic patients was higher than that in normal participants and MPV had a direct relationship with creatinine and proteinuria. They also found an inverse relationship of MPV with GFR (10). In a study by Ju et al, MPV had an inverse correlation with GFR in patients with CKD. In addition, it was significantly increased with the progression of CKD (8,12). CKD leads to irreversible reduction in kidney function and in the end-stages of the disease, patients need to renal replacement therapy. Therefore, its diagnosis in the early stages, can remarkably reduce health care costs (5). MPV is one of the available tests which is affected by changes in serum creatinine. It is assumed that it can detect the progression of CKD in its earlier stages.

Objectives

This study aims to evaluate the possible relationship between MPV and serum creatinine and find its clinical implication.

Patients and Methods

Study population

In a retrospective cross-sectional study, all patients with CKD who referred to the nephrology clinic in Kosar hospital in Semnan enrolled to the study. Study was conducted between 2013 and 2016. We excluded patients who had a history of taking aspirin, idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura, preeclampsia, sepsis, disseminated intravascular coagulation, aplastic anemia, taking cytotoxic drugs, Bernard-Soulier syndrome, and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome and patients under dialysis.

Laboratory assessments

Medical records of eligible patients were reviewed and the required data including demographics data, medications, past-history, serum creatinine levels, and MPV was gathered.

Ethical considerations

This research was performed following the Declaration of Helsinki principles. The Ethics Committee of Semnan University of Medical Sciences approved the study. All information about individuals was coded and kept confidential.

Statistical analysis

Descriptive statistical methods were used to compare the means. Since changes in MPV and also creatinine did not have normal distribution (Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, $P=0.001$), we calculated the median and interquartile range by gender, age, weight and stages of CKD. Nonparametric Spearman's correlation coefficient was used to analyze the correlation between the variables. Multiple regression analysis was applied too. The significance level was set at $P<0.05$. We used SPSS software (version 20) for data analyzing.

Results

One hundred CKD patients not yet on dialysis were enrolled in the study. Of which 28 were female. Their mean age was 71.25 ± 13.85 years. CKD patients were classified based on serum creatinine level. Around 45 patients were in stage three, 48 patients in stage 4, and 7 patients were in stage five. The most common underlying disease was diabetes mellitus (31 patients) which was followed by concomitant presence of diabetes and high blood pressure (18 patients), high blood pressure (17 patients), and nephrotic syndrome (2 patients). In addition, 32 patients had unknown underlying condition. Tables 1 and 2 represent the data obtained from the medical records. In this study, patients with underlying high blood pressure had a significant negative relationship of MPV and serum creatinine ($r = -0.484$, $P=0.049$). We did not observe any relationship between serum creatinine levels and MPV after adjusting the variables including age, gender, weight and underlying diseases ($P>0.05$).

Discussion

This study showed that in CKD patients with hypertension, serum creatinine inversely correlated with MPV. Turgutalp et al evaluated MPV and related risk factors in patients with various stages of diabetic nephropathy. They estimated MPV in healthy participants (group 1, $n=157$), patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus without complaint (group 2, $n=160$), diabetic patients with proteinuria (group 3, $n=140$), and patients with CKD caused by diabetic nephropathy (group 4, $n=160$). Based on their results, MPV in diabetic patients was higher than that of normal participants. They concluded that MPV had a direct relationship with proteinuria and had an inverse relationship with GFR (10). The results of the mentioned study were similar to our results. In our study an inverse relationship between serum creatinine and MPV in CKD patients with hypertension was detected.

Ju et al conducted a retrospective study to evaluate the

Table 1. Data of patients

Variable	Mean	Median	SD	Minimum	Maximum
Age (y)	71.35	74.00	13.85	33	93
Weight (kg)	64.48	64.50	12.64	35	116
Creatinine 1 (mg/dL)*	1.920	1.750	0.86	1.00	6.30/6
Creatinine 2 (mg/dL)*	1.99	1.70	1.02	1.00	6.20
MPV 1 (fL)*	8.68	8.65	1.61	3.90	12.60
MPV 2 (fL)*	9.29	8.70	6.37	4.20	70.60
GFR (ml/min/m ²)	29.30	29.00	9.13	8.00	45.00
Changes in MPV	0.61	0.10	6.12	-4.00	60.10
Changes in creatinine	0.68	0.00	0.65	-2.20	2.50

* MPV1: Baseline measurement, MPV2: measurement after progression of disease, creatinine 1; Baseline measurement, creatinine 2; measurement after progression of CKD.

Table 2. Median and Interquartile range of changes in MPV and serum creatinine based on gender, age, and weight and also CKD stage

Variable		Changes in MPV		Changes in creatinine	
		Median	Interquartile range	Median	Interquartile range
Gender	Male	-0.1	1.42	0.05	0.75
	Female	0.2	0.97	0.00	0.58
Age group (year)	> 70	0.1	0.15	-0.1	0.78
	≤ 70	0.1	0.85	0.1	0.58
Weight (kg)	> 65	0.00	1.05	0.00	0.70
	≤ 65	0.1	1.03	0.00	0.60
CKD stage	3	0.00	1.07	0.00	0.3
	4	0.2	0.77	0.00	0.98
	5	-0.1	1.80	-0.2	1.90

relationship between MPV and GFR in patients with CKD. In this study, MPV had a negative relationship with estimated GFR in patients with CKD. Their study showed, parallel with progression of CKD, MPV was significantly increased (8). Our study showed an inverse relationship between MPV and creatinine level in patients with hypertension and we did not observe any relationship between creatinine levels (as an indicator for progression of kidney disease) and MPV after adjusting the variables including age, gender, and weight and also underlying diseases except hypertension.

In our study, we did not observe any significant correlation between the stage of CKD and changes in MPV. However, in patients with high blood pressure, the changes in MPV were inversely related to the progression of kidney disease. Perhaps, this marker can be applicable to predict the progression of kidney disease toward the chronic states of the disease in patients with high blood pressure, while more studies are necessary to prove it.

Conclusion

This study showed that the changes in MPV had an inverse relationship with changes in creatinine levels only in patients with underlying hypertension ($r = -0.484$, $P=0.049$). Thus, MPV cannot be a good prognostic factor to predict the progression of kidney disease. However, more studies are needed to be conducted in this field.

Limitations of the study

Study was retrospective study. It is recommended to

conduct prospective studies to investigate the relationship between creatinine and MPV. Moreover, it is also suggested to carry out further studies with larger sample sizes on patients comparable in terms of sex and body mass index.

Authors' contribution

MRT and FG; contributed to study design, preparation of manuscript and final revision. JM; acted as the consultant of study. SMAT; performed data gathering. MM; helped in data analysis and interpretation. All authors read and approved the paper.

Conflicts of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Ethical considerations

Ethical issues (including plagiarism, data fabrication, double publication) have been completely observed by the authors.

Funding/Support

This article is extracted from general practitioner thesis of Sayed Mohammad Ali Torabi, was supported by Vice-Chancellor for Research Affairs, Semnan University of Medical Sciences.

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