



**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

## Predictors of Left Ventricular Remodeling in Patients with ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction.

Mohammad Abdelhakam (MSc)<sup>2</sup>, Mahmoud H Shah (MD)<sup>1</sup>, Mohammad M Al-Daydamony (MD)<sup>1</sup>, Nader T Kandil (MD)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cardiology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Zagazig University, Zagazig, Egypt

<sup>2</sup> Cardiology Department, Al-Ahrar Teaching Hospital, Zagazig, Egypt

**Corresponding author**

Mohammad Abdelhakam  
(MSc)  
Specialist of cardiology, Al-Ahrar Teaching Hospital,  
Zagazig, Egypt.

**E-mail:**

[drmhakam@gmail.com](mailto:drmhakam@gmail.com)

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**ABSTRACT**

**Background:** Left ventricular (LV) remodeling is still the leading cause of heart failure (HF) and death in patients surviving ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI). Despite improvement in treatments of STEMI yet the outcomes did not change, and remodeling occur in about 30% of patients after STEMI. Predictors for LV remodeling are still under investigated, early prediction of LV remodeling is a necessity.

**Aims:** We aimed to identify factors that help in early prediction of LV remodeling after STEMI using standard history, examination, laboratory results, echocardiographic study, and angiographic data collection.

**Patients and Methods:** We included 107 patients with 1st acute STEMI treated by primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or by thrombolysis then PCI within 24 hours. Patients were divided into two groups according to remodeling after six months; defined as  $\geq 20\%$  increase in left ventricular end diastolic volume (LVEDV). Patients were subjected to history taking, cardiac examination, electrocardiography, standard investigations, echocardiography, and angiography with PCI. After 6 months another echocardiography was done.

**Results:** There was statistically significant positive correlation between the study groups regarding; time till target treatment, hsTroponin T, sum of ST segment elevation, number of leads involved ( $p < 0.001$ ), AST level ( $p < 0.031$ ), initial LVEDV ( $p = 0.003$ ), initial presence of akinesia, and a negative correlation with myocardial blush grade ( $p < 0.001$ ). All were independent predictors of remodeling.

**Conclusions:** Time till target treatment, hsTroponin, AST, sum of ST segment elevation, number of leads involved, MBG score, initial LVEDV and initial presence of akinesia are independent predictor of LV remodeling.

**Keywords:** Post STEMI remodeling; LVEDV; myocardial blush grade; akinesia and remodeling



### INTRODUCTION

Despite great advance in ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) management over the last decades, STEMI still a significant cause of Heart failure (HF), morbidity and death **1**. Left ventricular (LV) remodeling is the cornerstone for developing HF and a determinant of prognosis post MI **2**. LV remodelling cause structural and functional changes that affects cardiac function with time. To decrease LV remodeling, risk stratification as early as possible is needed to optimally monitor and treat patients at high-risk **3**.

Earlier restoration of TIMI flow 3 in the infarct related artery by the use of primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) in STEMI reduce infarction size, decrease the incidence of remodeling **4**, decrease heart failure and mortality rates when compared to thrombolysis alone **5**.

Previous researchers studied different predictors of remodeling like poorer myocardial perfusion as assessed by myocardial blush grade (MBG) **6**, LV regional and global systolic dysfunction, severe LV diastolic dysfunction **7**, lower ejection fraction at hospital discharge **8**, and symptom to balloon time

9, these predictors were found to be significant predictors of remodeling.

Our aim is to identify factors that help in early prediction of LV remodeling after STEMI, with confirming already identified risk factors and trying to find new undiscovered risk factors.

#### PATIENTS AND METHODS

This is a Prospective Cohort study carried out in Cardiology Department of Zagazig University Hospital from October 2017 to April 2020. We included 107 patients with their first acute STEMI diagnosed according to 2018 ESC guidelines 10 by the presence of chest pain lasting > 20 minutes and ST-segment elevation  $\geq 1$ mm in two contiguous limb leads or >2mm in two contiguous chest leads with elevated level of troponin 11. Patients were prepared for either primary PCI, or thrombolysis with streptokinase followed by early invasive PCI according to time of presentation and the availability of PCI team 10.

Patients were excluded from our study if  $\geq 1$  of the following is present: Previous coronary artery disease (CAD), previous non-ischemic heart disease, presence of disease with low life expectancy, failure of PCI, non-sinus rhythm, ECG criteria of left ventricular hypertrophy or bundle branch block, inadequate echocardiographic image quality, any valvular disease other than mild, significant lesion in non-culprit artery, MI with Non-Obstructive Coronary Artery, and cardiogenic shock.

Written informed consent was obtained from all participants, the study was approved by the research ethical committee of Faculty of Medicine, Zagazig University. The study was done according to The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for studies involving humans. We did the following for them: Complete history taking, Full general and local examination, standard 12 leads electrocardiography (ECG) analysis, upon admission and 90 min after target treatment, with estimation of the sum of ST-segment elevation, number of leads involved, type of STEMI just before target treatment, and sum of ST-segment resolution before discharge 12.

laboratory standard investigations where samples were taken from patients at time of admission that includes Highly sensitive troponin T with cut point of  $\geq 100$ ng/L 13, CKMB with cut point of 25IU/L 14, RBS with detection of Stress hyperglycemia defined as RBS of  $\geq 180$ mg/dl. We excluded pre-existing diabetes by history and HbA1c to exclude under treated diabetic patients 15, HbA1c with a cut point for diabetes  $\geq 6.5\%$  16, Hb level, WBCs count, AST with upper level of 35U/L 17, TG with

normal range <160mg/dl for males and <133mg/dl for females 17, and LDL level.

Two Echocardiographic examination were done; the 1st with admission time, and the 2nd was performed after 6 months from total revascularization and using the same machine: GE Vivid 9 system Ultrasound (Horten, Norway). Performed by two separate operators unaware of each other results. LV volumes and EF were estimated via the modified biplane Simpson technique from the apical 4-views and from the formula:  $EF = [(EDV - ESV) / EDV] \times 100$  18. LV remodeling was defined as: a LVEDV increase from baseline of  $\geq 20\%$  at 6 months 19.

Patients received target treatment by either one of two methods: the 1<sup>st</sup> by Thrombolysis within 30 minutes of admission if primary PCI is not available for any cause (within 90 min) Streptokinase (1.5 million units were given by intravenous infusion over 30-60 minutes) was given after exclusion of contraindications according to ESC guidelines of STEMI 10, after which an early invasive PCI was done within 24 hours of admission. The 2nd method is primary PCI from the start within 90 minutes of admission. PCI was performed by a professional team using an automated edge detection system (GE medical system manufactured by SIMENSE (Kemnath\ Germany), PCI was done according to ESC guidelines of Revascularization of STEMI 10 20. All data was taken by 2 different operators separately unaware of each other opinion 21 22 23. Grouping of patients and statistical analysis was done according to the presence of remodeling after 6 months, patients were separated into two groups, **Group A** with remodeling (39 patients, 33 males and 6 females) and **Group B** with no remodeling (68 patients, 58 males and 10 females).

#### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

The data collected were revised, coded, tabulated and but into a PC using Statistical package for Social Science (SPSS version 20.0; for windows package program; Armonk, NY, USA: IBM corp.). Data then was analyzed according to the kind of data gained for each parameter. Descriptive statistics (Mean Standard deviation ( $\pm$ SD) for parametric numerical data. Frequency and percentage, chi square test of categorical data). Analytical statistics (Student t-test was used to assess the statistical significance of the difference between the two study groups). A P value of  $\leq 0.05$  was considered significant, and a P value  $\leq 0.01$  was considered to be highly significant. Pearson's correlation test was applied to estimate and test the relationships between LV remodeling and every parameter taken. Univariate and multivariate

logistic regression of the factors predicting LV remodeling was performed and included.

To assess the intraobserver variability, we repeated the second echocardiographic results after 1 week for 30 patients. The intraobserver and the interobserver were estimated by dividing the difference between the 2 measures by the mean of the 2 observations.

### RESULTS

We included 107 patients having their 1st STEMI as shown in table 1, there was no significant difference between the 2 groups regarding age, sex, or risk factors for CAD.

In patients with remodeling, time till treatment was significantly longer than in patients without remodeling (16.03 ±9.57, versus 7.43±3.24 hours, p <0.001).

The target treatment between the 2 groups did not have a significant difference the p=0.086.

In patients with remodeling highly sensitive troponin T was higher than patients without remodeling (2838.31 ±1618.081, versus 1117.63 ±726.348, p<0.001). Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) level also was higher in patients with remodeling (47.13±29.734, versus 39.4±26.405 mg/dl, p=0.031) (table 1,3).

In patients with remodelling the sum of ST-segment elevation was significantly higher than in patients without remodelling (24.59±10.99, versus 16.35±8.35mV, p<0.001). Also, in patients with remodelling number of electrocardiographic leads involved was significantly higher than the non-remodelling group (4.49±0.79, versus 3.53±0.938 lead, p<0.001).

MBG was significantly lower in patients with remodelling, P value was <0.001. On the other hand, TIMI flow grade and the culprit artery had no significant difference between the 2 groups (Table 1,2,3).

In the initial echocardiographic examination patients with remodelling had higher LVEDV (130.23±25.957 ml<sup>3</sup>, versus 112.59±21.486 ml<sup>3</sup>, p=0.003), and higher presence of Akinesia (26 patients 66.67%, versus 21 patients 30.88%, p<0.001).

The presence of rales on admission, stress hyperglycemia, initial EF, initial LVESV, Follow up LVEDV, LVESV, EF and the degree of change in LVEDV, All those parameters showed a significant difference between the two groups in univariate analysis, but failed to show any difference in multivariate regression analysis (Table 4)

**Table (1):** comparison between the two groups

		Group A (Remodelling) (n = 39)	Group B (non-Remodelling) (n = 39)	P
<b>Age</b>		56.95 ± 7.49	54.69 ± 6.58	0.099
<b>Sex</b>	<b>Male</b>	33 (84.62%)	58 (85.29%)	0.662
	<b>Female</b>	6 (15.38%)	10 (14.71)	
<b>HTN</b>		21 (53.85%)	29 (42.65%)	0.173
<b>DM</b>		12 (30.77%)	21 (30.88%)	0.774
<b>Smoking</b>		18 (46.15%)	37 (54.41%)	0.416
<b>Dyslipidemia</b>		10 (25.64%)	18 (26.47%)	0.926
<b>Family Hist. of SCD</b>		5 (12.82%)	5 (7.35%)	0.607
<b>SBP</b>		128.08±18.05	124.78±20.083	0.218
<b>DBP</b>		79.36±9.472	77.72±10.976	0.349
<b>Pulse</b>		90.56±19.056	86.47±16.702	0.236
<b>Temperature</b>		37.382±0.4285	37.404±0.4644	0.856
<b>Time between onset and target treatment</b>		16.03±9.75	7.43±3.24	< 0.001
<b>BMI ≥ 30 (Obesity)</b>		14 (35.9%)	28 (41.18%)	0.427
<b>Rales</b>		7 (17.95%)	3 (4.41%)	<b>0.02</b>
<b>Gallop (S3 or S4)</b>		5 (12.82%)	4 (5.88%)	0.412
<b>Target Treatment</b>				0.086
• <b>PCI</b>		21 (53.85%)	25 (36.76%)	
• <b>Streptokinase</b>		18 (46.15%)	43 (63.24%)	
<b>hs Troponin T (x1000 ng/dl)</b>		2838.31±1618.081	1117.63±726.348	< 0.001

		Group A (Remodelling) (n = 39)	Group B (non-Remodelling) (n = 39)	P
CKMB level (IU/L)		177.21±95.606	143.44±56.622	0.121
RBS (mg/dl)		223.1±116.369	180.71±91.223	0.096
HbA1C (DM ≥ 6.5%)		6.313±1.2958	6.266±1.4158	0.921
Stress Hyperglycemia		12 (30.77%)	10 (14.71%)	<b>0.013</b>
Hemoglobin level (mg/dl)		13.79±1.48	13.688±1.5297	0.926
WBCs (No. x 1000)		9.149±4.6893	7.7±3.1804	0.057
S. Creatinine (mg/dl)		0.933±0.2932	0.988±0.303	0.387
AST level (U/L)		47.13±29.734	39.4±26.405	<b>0.031</b>
Triglyceride's level (mg/dl)		133.44±68.337	120.62±50.586	0.191
LDL level (mg/dl)		133.21±56.962	125.59±43.307	0.877
Sum of ST elevation (mV)		24.59±10.99	16.35±8.35	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
Sum of ST resolution (mV)		11.05±5.52	11.63±6.108	0.817
Number of leads involved		4.49±0.790	3.53±0.938	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Type of MI				0.138
• Anterior		35 (89.74%)	52 (76.47%)	
• Anteroseptal		0 (0%)	5 (7.35%)	
• Inferior		1 (2.56%)	7 (10.29%)	
• Infero-postero-lateral		3 (7.69%)	4 (5.88%)	
TIMI Flow Grade	0	0	0	0.707
	1	1 (2.56%)	2 (2.94%)	
	2	3 (7.69%)	5 (7.35%)	
	3	35 (89.74%)	61 (89.71%)	
Myocardial Blush Grade	0	6 (15.38%)	0	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>
	1	10 (25.64%)	2 (2.94%)	
	2	14 (35.9%)	7 (10.29%)	
	3	9 (23.08%)	59 (86.76%)	
Culprit Artery	LAD	35 (89.74%)	57 (83.82%)	0.468
	LCX	3 (7.69%)	3 (4.41%)	
	RCA	1 (2.56%)	8 (11.76%)	
1 <sup>st</sup> EF %		41.08±11.561	51.84±9.767	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> LVESV ml <sup>3</sup>		77.69±25.919	54.72±18.257	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> LVEDV ml <sup>3</sup>		130.23±25.957	112.59±21.486	<b>0.003</b>
Akinesia		26 (66.67%)	21 (30.88%)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> EF %		51.54±8.136	59.34±4.01	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> LVESV ml <sup>3</sup>		80.08±23.301	47.46±10.059	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> LVEDV ml <sup>3</sup>		163.46±28.073	117±18.229	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
LVEDV change in 6 months	n	33.23±6.567 ml <sup>3</sup>	4.41±8.331	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
	%	26.464±7.937%	4.724±7.296	<b>&lt;0.001</b>

Abbreviations: HTN = Hypertension, DM = Diabetes Millitus, SCD = Sudden Cardiac Death, SBP = Systolic Blood Pressure, DBP = Diastolic Blood Pressure, BMI = Body Mass Index, S3 = Third Heart Sound, S4 = Fourth Heart Sound, PCI = Percutaneous Coronary Intervention, hsTroponin = Highly Sensitive Troponin, CK-MB = Creatinin Kinase MB, RBS = Random Blood Sugar, HbA1c = Glycosylated Hemoglobin, WBCs = White Blood Cells, AST = Aspartate Aminotransferase, LDL = Low Density Lipoproteins, MI = Myocardial Infarction, TIMI = Thrombolysis In Myocardial Infarction, LAD = Left Anterior Descending Artery, LCX = Left circumflex Artery, RCA = Right Coronary Artery, EF = Ejection Fraction, LVEDV = Left Ventricular Diastolic Volume, LVESV = Left Ventricular Systolic Volume.

**Table (2):** Univariate regression analysis for predictors of remodelling

Predictor	Estimate	SE	Z	p
<b>Troponin</b>	0.00138	2.96E-04	4.67	< .001
<b>Number of Leads</b>	1.27	0.29	4.38	< .001
<b>Sum of ST elevation</b>	0.0927	0.0241	3.85	< .001
<b>Time till treatment</b>	0.179	0.0401	4.46	< .001
<b>1<sup>st</sup> EF</b>	-0.0924	0.0225	-4.11	< .001
<b>1<sup>st</sup> LVEDV</b>	0.0276	0.00905	3.05	0.002
<b>1<sup>st</sup> LVESV</b>	0.0441	0.0109	4.03	< .001
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> LVEDV</b>	0.0831	0.0162	5.14	< .001
<b>LVEDV change</b>	7.87	3209	0.00245	0.998
<b>LVEDV change _ A</b>	9.79	3757	0.0026	0.998
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> LVESV</b>	0.128	0.0253	5.06	< .001
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> EF</b>	-0.217	0.0489	-4.44	< .001
<b>AST</b>	0.0113	0.00735	1.54	0.124
<b>MBG</b>	-2.17	0.424	-5.13	< .001
<b>MBG:</b>				
<b>0 – 3</b>	19.56	1495.296	0.0131	0.99
<b>1 – 3</b>	3.61	0.861	4.1882	< .001
<b>2 – 3</b>	2.69	0.597	4.509	< .001
<b>Akinesia:</b>				
<b>Present – Absent (Reference)</b>	1.5	0.429	3.49	< .001
<b>Stress Hyperglycemia:</b>				
<b>Yes – No (Reference)</b>	1.187	0.493	2.41	0.016
<b>Rales:</b>				
<b>Yes – No (Reference)</b>	1.556	0.723	2.15	0.031

Estimates represent the log odds of "Remodeling = Yes" vs. "Remodeling = No."

**Abbreviations:** AST = Aspartate Aminotransferase, MBG = Myocardial Blush Grade, EF = Ejection Fraction, LVEDV = Left Ventricular Diastolic Volume, LVESV = Left Ventricular Systolic Volume

**Table (3):** Spearman Correlation with the LVEDV % change after 6 months.

Spearman Correlations		LVEDV % change	
<b>Selvester score</b>	Spearman's rho	0.841	***
	p-value	< .001	
<b>Target Treatment</b>	Spearman's rho	-0.164	
	p-value	0.091	
<b>Troponin</b>	Spearman's rho	0.473	***
	p-value	< .001	
<b>Sum of ST elevation</b>	Spearman's rho	0.273	**
	p-value	0.004	
<b>Age</b>	Spearman's rho	0.165	
	p-value	0.09	
<b>MBG</b>	Spearman's rho	-0.516	***
	p-value	< .001	
<b>Akinesia</b>	Spearman's rho	0.258	**
	p-value	0.007	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> LVEDV</b>	Spearman's rho	-0.025	
	p-value	0.797	
<b>RBS</b>	Spearman's rho	0.088	
	p-value	0.368	
<b>HbA1C</b>	Spearman's rho	0.094	
	p-value	0.337	
<b>DM</b>	Spearman's rho	0.011	



Spearman Correlations			
	p-value	0.907	
AST	Spearman's rho	0.123	
	p-value	0.206	
CKMB	Spearman's rho	0.061	
	p-value	0.534	
* p < .05, ** p < .01, *** p < .001			

Abbreviations: DM = Diabetes Millitus, CK-MB = Creatinin Kinase MB, RBS = Random Blood Sugar, HbA1c = Glycosylated Hemoglobin, AST = Aspartate Aminotransferase, LVEDV = Left Ventricular Diastolic Volume.

**Table (4):** Multivariate regression analysis for predictors of remodelling

Predictor	Estimate	SE	Z	p
<b>Troponin</b>	0.0022	5.76E-04	3.8142	< .001
<b>Sum of ST elevation</b>	-0.1227	0.0591	-2.0775	0.038
<b>Time till Treatment</b>	0.2497	0.0656	3.804	< .001
<b>Age</b>	0.08942	0.0531	1.6837	0.092
<b>SBP</b>	0.0016	0.0186	0.0859	0.932
<b>Sex:</b>				
<b>Female – Male (Reference)</b>	0.76492	1.0428	0.7335	0.463
<b>Rales:</b>				
<b>Yes – No (Reference)</b>	-0.98473	1.3488	-0.7301	0.465
<b>1<sup>st</sup> LVEDV</b>	0.04171	0.0182	2.2866	0.022

Note. Estimates represent the log odds of "Remodeling = Yes" vs. "Remodeling = No"

Predictor	Estimate	SE	Z	p
<b>Troponin</b>	0.00366	8.60E-04	4.2522	< .001
<b>Sum of ST elevation</b>	-0.06193	0.0585	-1.0585	0.29
<b>Time till treatment</b>	0.2654	0.0717	3.70122	< .001
<b>Age</b>	0.09069	0.0569	1.59307	0.111
<b>SBP</b>	1.83E-04	0.0219	0.00837	0.993
<b>Sex:</b>				
<b>Female – Male (Reference)</b>	-0.70498	1.1084	-0.636	0.525
<b>Stress Hyperglycemia:</b>				
<b>Yes – No (Reference)</b>	-0.89216	1.231	-0.7247	0.469
<b>AST</b>	-0.08377	0.025	-3.3537	< .001

Note. Estimates represent the log odds of "Remodeling = Yes" vs. "Remodeling = No"

Predictor	Estimate	SE	Z	p
<b>Troponin</b>	0.00246	6.75E-04	3.648	< .001
<b>Sum of ST elevation</b>	-0.18107	0.0708	-2.557	0.011
<b>Time till treatment</b>	0.31618	0.0789	4.008	< .001
<b>Age</b>	0.09828	0.0601	1.635	0.102
<b>SBP</b>	0.01268	0.0204	0.62	0.535
<b>Sex:</b>				
<b>Predictor</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>Z</b>	<b>p</b>

Predictor	Estimate	SE	Z	p
Female – Male (Reference)	1.29628	1.1595	1.118	0.264
<b>Akinesia:</b>				
Present – Absent (Reference)	2.28791	0.7992	2.863	0.004
1 <sup>st</sup> LVEDV	0.0484	0.0201	2.413	0.016
<b>Note. Estimates represent the log odds of "Remodeling = Yes" vs. "Remodeling = No"</b>				
Predictor	Estimate	SE	Z	p
Troponin	0.00221	6.07E-04	3.6476	< .001
Sum of ST elevation	-0.10072	0.0547	-1.8426	0.065
Time till treatment	0.2926	0.0727	4.0241	< .001
Age	0.0546	0.0504	1.0839	0.278
SBP	0.02128	0.0186	1.1425	0.253
<b>Sex:</b>				
Female – Male (Reference)	-0.03911	1.0035	-0.039	0.969
<b>Akinesia:</b>				
Present – Absent (Reference)	1.98291	0.7594	2.6111	0.009
1 <sup>st</sup> EF%	0.00133	0.0422	0.0314	0.975
<b>Note. Estimates represent the log odds of "Remodeling = Yes" vs. "Remodeling = No"</b>				
Predictor	Estimate	SE	Z	p
Troponin	0.00209	5.87E-04	3.565	< .001
Sum of ST elevation	-0.14838	0.0667	-2.225	0.026
Time till treatment	0.28416	0.0713	3.984	< .001
Age	0.07639	0.0548	1.395	0.163
SBP	0.01453	0.0199	0.732	0.464
<b>Sex:</b>				
Female – Male (Reference)	0.53761	1.0586	0.508	0.612
<b>Akinesia:</b>				
Present – Absent (Reference)	1.88251	0.7525	2.502	0.012
1 <sup>st</sup> LVESV	0.03592	0.0227	1.581	0.114
<b>Note. Estimates represent the log odds of "Remodeling = Yes" vs. "Remodeling = No"</b>				

Predictor	Estimate	SE	Z	p
Troponin	0.00251	9.45E-04	2.65878	0.008
Sum of ST elevation	-0.01804	0.0837	-0.2154	0.829
Time till target treatment	0.51715	0.1543	3.35189	< .001
Age	-0.02755	0.1037	-0.2657	0.79
SBP	0.03626	0.0331	1.09569	0.273
<b>Sex:</b>				
Female – Male (Reference)	0.38383	1.4822	0.25897	0.796
<b>MBG:</b>				

0 – 3	26.55412	2729.23	0.00973	0.992
1 – 3	6.86385	2.2169	3.09617	0.002
2 – 3	5.31052	2.3061	2.30285	0.021

**Note. Estimates represent the log odds of "Remodeling = Yes" vs. "Remodeling = No"**  
 Abbreviations: SBP = Systolic Blood Pressure, AST = Aspartate Aminotransferase, MBG = Myocardial Blush Grade, EF = Ejection Fraction, LVEDV = Left Ventricular Diastolic Volume, LVESV = Left Ventricular Systolic Volume.

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**DISCUSSION**

In our study logistic regression analysis showed that the only independent significant predictor for post STEMI LV remodelling were time till target treatment, hsTroponin T, AST, sum of ST-segment elevation, number of leads involved in STEMI, initial LVEDV, initial presence of akinesia, and MBG (Table 2,4).

A percentage of 34.45% of patients in our study developed remodelling. That is slightly higher than the average percentage which is about 30% of patients post MI found by Flachskampf et al and many other scholars who studied remodelling post MI 24. Although we excluded unsuccessful PCI from our study which usually increase the percentage of remodelling 25, we may attribute this increase to the delayed presentation of patients in our study. We adopted the definition of remodelling to be the increase in the LVEDV of 20% or more, as Bolognese and so many scholars did 5 19 26.

Soon and colleagues studied time factor on outcomes post MI and found that symptoms to onset of treatment is one of the most important predictors for remodelling, as we also found 27.

Berezin and colleagues studied the relation between Troponin level and remodelling, they found that elevated troponins is a useful independent predictive biomarker of post-AMI remodelling and HF, we found a highly significant positive correlation between serum hs-Troponin level and remodelling after 6 months 28 29.

We found a positive correlation between elevated AST and remodelling. Our data matched that of Lofthus and many authors findings about liver enzymes especially AST and remodelling 30 31.

Oliver Husser and colleagues studied the relation between SUM of ST-segments elevation and number of leads involved in STEMI with remodelling and found that they are good predictors for remodelling, we also found a highly positive correlation between them 32 33.

Many scholars like Bolognese et al studied microvascular dysfunction effect on remodelling and outcomes after MI and found it to be a good predictor for remodelling 9 29. Poli found that MBG score was associated with the degree of early and late recovery of LV. Stone et al found that MBG score predict survival rate after primary or rescue PCI 30. We

found a significant negative correlation between MBG score and remodelling.

But we found no significant difference between the two groups as regards to TIMI flow post PCI. This was in concordance with Goel et al and many other recent studies 31.

Chew et al and many scholars studied the relation between initial LVEDV and remodelling and found it to be a good predictor 29 39. We also found a highly significant positive correlation between initial LVEDV and remodelling after 6 months of STEMI. Cokkinos and colleagues and Berezin and colleagues studied the impact of the presence of akinesia in any LV segment and remodelling and found it a strong predictor 29 40, we also found a highly significant positive correlation between the presence of akinesia in the initial echocardiography and remodelling after 6 months of STEMI.

**CONCLUSION**

Our study showed that after successfully performed primary or early invasive PCI for patients with their 1<sup>st</sup> STEMI, time from onset of MI till receiving target treatment, MBG score, initial LVEDV, initial presence of akinesia, sum of ST-segment elevation, number of leads involved in STEMI, hsTroponin T, and AST level were the only significant predictors of LV remodelling. Efforts must be made to significantly reduce time gap between onset of symptoms and receiving target treatment, including cardiac symptoms awareness among society, and educating primary healthcare providers. Along with early introduction of treatments that improve microvascular dysfunction when present after PCI.

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