

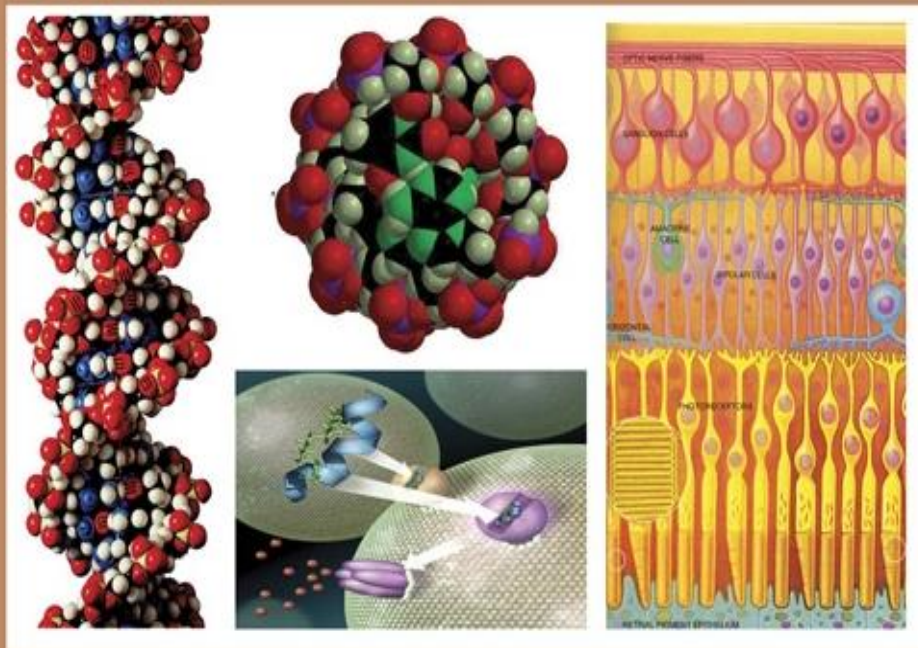


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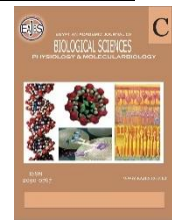
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Magnesium Deficiency Associated with Stress, Systemic Inflammation, and Insulin Resistance in Diabetes Mellitus: a review

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ABSTRACT

Diabetes mellitus is a metabolic disorder characterized by the presence of chronic hyperglycemia due to lack of insulin secretion, insulin action, or both. It can be immune-mediated (type 1 diabetes) or result from a combination of insulin deficiency and insulin resistance (type 2 diabetes).

Hypomagnesemia has been reported with increased frequency in patients with type 2 diabetes. This electrolyte imbalance is often neglected and subcontracted. Magnesium (Mg^{2+}) is an electrolyte of vital physiological importance in the body. It is the most abundant divalent intracellular cation in cells, the second ion after potassium, and the fourth most common cation in the human body. Magnesium is a cofactor in more than 300 enzyme systems that participates in an astonishing array of biochemical reactions in the body, including protein synthesis, muscle and nerve functions, blood glucose control, and blood pressure regulation. Magnesium is also required for energy production, oxidative phosphorylation, and glycolysis.

An adult body contains approximately 25 g magnesium, with 50% to 60% present in the bones and the rest in soft tissues. Less than 1% of total magnesium is available in the blood serum. In plants, a magnesium ion is at the center of every molecule of chlorophyll, essential for creating energy from sunlight. Magnesium is an essential element for animals and plants, involved in hundreds of enzymatic reactions that affect virtually every aspect of life.

Magnesium deficiency (MgD) is associated with insulin resistance (IR), induces an inflammatory response is strongly associated with stress levels, and an increased risk of type 2 diabetes. Several factors can negatively affect the balance of Mg^{2+} in the body and, in the long run, can result in MgD. These factors may be decreased intake of Mg^{2+} from food or drinking water, increased loss of Mg^{2+} by renal excretion, insufficient absorption of Mg^{2+} in the gut, and prolonged use of certain drugs causing hypomagnesemia.

Magnesium supplementation or increased consumption of magnesium-rich foods may be an important tool in the therapeutic management and prevention of type 2 diabetes. In this article, I reviewed the role played by magnesium in the pathogenesis of oxidative stress, systemic inflammation, and insulin resistance.

INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus, a lifestyle-related disease that affects 8.3% of the world's adult population and is growing at an alarming rate, is one of the most prevalent non-communicable diseases due to lifestyle transitions and eating habits (Hameed *et al.*, 2015). Diabetes mellitus (DM) is characterized by chronic hyperglycemia and impaired carbohydrates, lipids, and proteins metabolism caused by complete or partial insufficiency of insulin secretion and/or insulin action (Wu *et al.*, 2014). Unregulated levels of blood glucose can lead to several debilitating conditions such as nephropathy, neuropathy, retinopathy, cardiovascular disease, stroke, and amputations of extremities (Sanjeevi *et al.*, 2018). Minerals that are essential nutrients for the body are inorganic, which makes them resistant to heat. They are involved in various chemical reactions of metabolism and, as enzymatic cofactors, play a key role in various physiological processes. Their deficiency due to increased clearance or ingestion deficit may contribute to secondary complications in some diseases (Granados-Silvestre *et al.*, 2014). Hypomagnesemia in diabetes may contribute to a significant dysregulation of glycemic control and increases the risk of retinopathy, nephropathy, and foot ulcers compared to diabetic patients with normal magnesium (Mg²⁺) levels (Dasgupta *et al.*, 2012). Magnesium deficiency or the displacement of Mg²⁺ by other toxic substances leads to increased genomic instability involved in many diseases and inhibits DNA repair, as well as inflammatory disorders, insulin resistance, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and cardiovascular diseases (Arigony *et al.*, 2013). The UN stated that "...soils constitute the foundation for agricultural development, essential ecosystem functions, and food security and hence are keys to sustaining life on Earth" (Gomiero, 2016). Agricultural policies and projects

have traditionally focused only on increasing yields, productivity, and overall food availability in countries or regions, in both developing and developed countries. "Farming systems have never been explicitly designed to promote human health, but focus primarily on increased profitability for farmers and food industries" (Burchi *et al.*, 2011). The nature of modern agricultural practice affects the structure, chemistry, and ecology of the soil in a way that could affect the availability of minerals for plants and thus the mineral content of crops, which means that less and less these essential trace elements are making their way in the food we eat (Mayer, 1997). This decrease in the nutrient content of our soils, due to unsustainable agricultural practices, leads to the inevitable loss of the nutritional value of our food (Davey *et al.*, 2013; Gomiero, 2016). Chemical fertilizers and exhausted soils prevent us from getting the magnesium we need (Guo *et al.*, 2016). The scarcity of nutrients in the world is likely to occur sooner than expected. These shortages will affect crop yields, livestock, and public health (Helias *et al.*, 2012). Minerals are a class of nutrients that are essential for maintaining a healthy body. They play a multitude of functional roles in human cells both physiologically and biochemically. Several essential metals are necessary for the proper functioning of many enzymes, transcription factors, and important proteins in various biochemical pathways. Zinc (Zn), Magnesium (Mg²⁺), and Manganese (Mn) are cofactors for hundreds of enzymes, and Zn is involved in the synthesis and secretion of insulin from pancreatic beta-cells. (Khan and Awan, 2014). Micronutrient deficiencies, affecting at least 2 billion people, are the cause of "hidden hunger" (Stein and Qaim, 2007). Lifestyle changes in developed countries promote the growth of overweight and obesity, resulting in several metabolic abnormalities (lipids,

glucose, and blood pressure) and increasing the future risk of type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular events diabetes, and death (de la Sierra, 2009). For these reasons, there is growing interest in the role of micronutrients (trace elements and essential vitamins) in optimizing health and in preventing or treating disease (Shenkin, 2006). However, recent studies have shown, surprisingly, that the Mg²⁺ content in historic grain seeds has significantly decreased over time, and that two-thirds of respondents in developed countries received less than their minimum daily requirement in Mg²⁺ (Guo *et al.*, 2016). Magnesium is attracting growing interest in physiology, nutrition, and clinical medicine (Saris *et al.*, 2000). This pivotal mineral is needed for a wide variety of physiological functions and biochemical reactions (Dickerman and Liu, 2011). Only ionized magnesium is physiologically active (Pisani *et al.*, 2016). The required daily intake for magnesium in adults is 310 to 420 mg. However, Magnesium intake is often lower than these recommendations, especially in the elderly (Volpe, 2013). The hydrosphere (ie oceans and rivers) is, however, the most abundant source of biologically available magnesium. At sea, the concentration of magnesium is about 55 mmol / L and in the Dead Sea, as an extreme example, it would be 198 mmol / L (Gröber *et al.*, 2017; Gröber *et al.*, 2015). Several studies have indicated that the deficiency and effectiveness of some key trace metals may play a role in islet function and the development of diabetes mellitus (Wen *et al.*, 2009).

Magnesium:

The importance of magnesium and its link with the origin of life has been explained since the composition of the earth's crust (rich in iron and magnesium silicate) and the primitive ocean rich in magnesium until the formation of chlorophyll (central molecule) until

incorporated into the animal cell (Fawcett *et al.*, 1999). The central role of magnesium in the chlorophyll molecule and as a co-factor for enzymes in the 12 transphosphorylation reactions in photosynthesis probably makes it the most important inorganic element in the production of fossil fuels and food (Mohamed *et al.*, 2012). Magnesium is the eighth root in point of abundance on Earth and constitutes more than 2% of the total mass of the planet (Smolik *et al.*, 2015). Magnesium plays an important role in plants and animals. In plants, magnesium is the central ion of chlorophyll (Magnesium affects directly or indirectly almost all biochemical and physiological processes occurring within the plant during its course of life, the divalent Mg²⁺ cation activates directly 350 enzymes and is and is indirectly involved in thousands of processes in the human body). In invertebrates, magnesium is the fourth most abundant cation (Grzebisz, 2011), and the most abundant ions present in living cells. It is divided into three main compartments of the body: about 65% in the skeletal mineral phase, about 34% in the intracellular space, and only 1% in the extracellular fluid. Magnesium levels in the plasma of healthy people are remarkably constant, averaging 0.85 mmol/l and ranging less than 15% from this value. The distribution of normal values for serum and plasma magnesium is similar in both men and women, and nearly a third is related to plasma proteins. The remaining two-thirds, which are diffusible or ionized, appear to be the biologically active component (Paolisso and Barbagallo, 1997; Paolisso *et al.*, 1990). Total body magnesium in the average adult is about 1000 mmol or 24 g, or 20 mmol/kg lean mass, while muscles and other soft tissues store between 40 and 50%. About one-third of the bone magnesium content is available for exchange to maintain extracellular

magnesium levels. Less than 2% of the magnesium in the body is available in serum and red blood cells, which explains the extracellular magnesium in the body (Abdullah *et al.*,2018). Extracellular magnesium accounts for only 1% of total body magnesium, which is found mainly in serum and red blood cells (Kielstein and David. 2013). Serum magnesium, like

calcium, can be divided into three fractions. It is either free/ionized, bound to a protein, or complexed with anions such as phosphate, bicarbonate, and citrate or sulfate of the three plasma fractions (Fig. 1) [Jahnen-Dechent and Ketteler, 2012], only ionized magnesium is physiologically active (Sohrevardi *et al.*,2004).

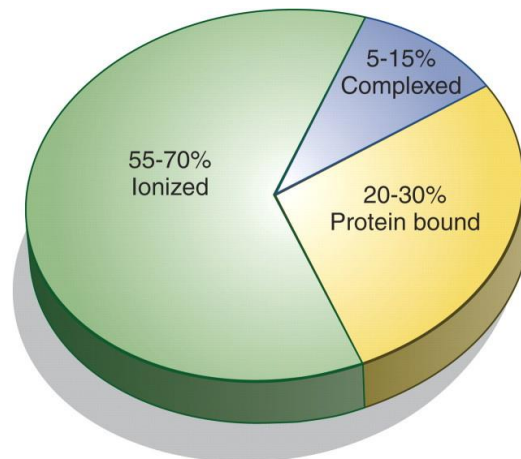


Fig.1. Total serum magnesium is present in three different states because of different measurement methods, results published for each state of serum magnesium vary considerably.

Measuring total magnesium in serum is a convenient and affordable way to monitor changes in the state of magnesium, but it does not necessarily reflect the body's total magnesium content (Razzaque, 2018). Mg²⁺ depletion can be seen with normal total serum Mg²⁺ concentration (Solati *et al.*,2014). This measure is a poor predictor of intracellular magnesium content. Nevertheless, most information comes from the determination of Mg in serum and red blood cells (Felsenfeld *et al.*,2015). As a cofactor in many enzymatic reactions, magnesium performs a variety of intracellular physiological functions, including energy production, synthesis of DNA and proteins, and participates in the regulation of ion channels (Vormann, 2016; Wolf and Trapani; 2008), and mitochondrial function and is an important factor in cellular and humoral immune responses and mitochondrial function and is an

important factor in cellular and humoral immune responses (Kundu *et al.*,2013). In addition, magnesium is essential for the regulation of muscle contraction, blood pressure, insulin metabolism, cardiac excitability, vasomotor tone, nerve transmission, and neuromuscular conduction [(Pilchova *et al.*, 2017). Over 3751 magnesium binding sites on human proteins have been reported, indicating that its role in human health and disease may have been vastly underestimated (Piovesan *et al.*,2012). Magnesium is a vital nutrient responsible for over 300 biochemical reactions in the body responsible for:

1. Creation of ATP (Adenosine Triphosphate): Creating energy in the body by activating adenosine triphosphate (ATP).
2. Proper formation of bones and teeth.
3. Relaxation of blood vessels.
4. Action of your heart muscle.

5. Promotion of proper bowel function.
6. Regulation of glycemia.
7. Acting as a precursor for neurotransmitters like serotonin.
8. Activating muscles and nerves.
9. Helping digest proteins, carbohydrates, and fats.
10. Serving as a building block for RNA and DNA synthesis (Morales-Borges, 2017; Schwalfenberg and Genuis, 2017).

Until recently, the function of magnesium in biological processes was largely ignored to the point of being described as the "forgotten" ion. In recent years, the physiological and therapeutic properties of this essential element have generated renewed interest (Chetan *et al.*, 2002).

Chronic magnesium deficiency (serum magnesium <0.75 mmol / L) is associated with an increased risk of many preclinical and clinical outcomes, including atherosclerosis, hypertension, cardiac arrhythmias, dysfunction lipid metabolism, resistance insulin, metabolic syndrome, type 2 diabetes mellitus, osteoporosis as well as depression and other neuropsychiatric disorders. In addition, magnesium deficiency may be at least one of the pathophysiological links that may help explain the interactions between inflammation and oxidative stress with the aging process and many age-related diseases (Kostov, K., & Halacheva, 2018). Insufficient levels of cellular magnesium open the door to deterioration in the proper metabolic function, which usually results in a snowball leading to more serious health problems (Fapohunda, 2018). A deficiency of cellular magnesium can alter the activity of the membrane-bound sodium-potassium ATPase involved in maintaining sodium, potassium, and glucose transport gradients. It has been suggested that hypomagnesemia could result in a change in cellular glucose transport, a reduction in pancreatic insulin secretion, a defective post-receptor insulin

signaling, and/or a change in insulin-receptor interactions with insulin (Kundu *et al.*, 2013).

Magnesium Deficiency:

Magnesium has received considerable attention for its potential role in improving insulin sensitivity and in preventing diabetes and its cardiovascular complications. It is claimed that Mg²⁺ deficiency is common in diabetic patients and that there is an inverse relationship between Mg²⁺ consumption and the incidence of type 1 (T1) and type 2 (T2) Diabetes mellitus (DM). A negative correlation between serum Mg²⁺ and glycosylated hemoglobin (HbA1c) levels were noted (Saeed *et al.*, 2018; Arpaci *et al.*, 2015). Clinical studies show that T2DM patients with hypomagnesemia have reduced pancreatic β -cell activity and are more resistant to insulin. In addition, supplementation with dietary Mg²⁺ in patients with T2DM improves glucose metabolism and insulin sensitivity (Lisanne *et al.*, 2016). Among the endocrine and metabolic disorders associated with magnesium deficiency, DM is the most common (Shahbah *et al.*, 2017). Primary magnesium deficiency stems from two etiological mechanisms: magnesium deficiency and magnesium depletion. Many factors can cause a decrease in magnesium, such as kidney failure, alcohol consumption, and malabsorption problems (magnesium is absorbed in the small intestines and in the colon, so patients with intestinal or colon lesions such as Crohn's disease, irritable bowel syndrome, celiac disease, gastroenteritis, idiopathic steatorrhea, ulcerative colitis, small bowel resection, ileostomy patients or ulcerative colitis may present a deficiency in magnesium) (DiNicolantonio *et al.*, 2018). Magnesium depletion may be due to dysregulation of factors controlling magnesium status: intestinal hypo-absorption of magnesium, reduced uptake and mobilization of bone

magnesium, sometimes urinary leakage, hyperadrenoglucocorticism by decreased adaptability to stress, insulin resistance, and adrenergic hyporeactivity) (Laires *et al.*, 2014; Swaminathan, 2003; Martin *et al.*, 2009).

Magnesium deficiency is due to insufficient intake or decreased levels in many processed foods. The cooking and boiling of the products lead to a significant decrease in the Mg²⁺ content of food (Kurstjens *et al.*, 2017). Some commonly used fertilizers and pesticides tend to reduce the Mg²⁺ content in the soil and some crops. For example, refined oils, grains, and sugar lose most of their magnesium during processing. In addition,

the overuse of pesticides and fertilizers alters the balance of the soil, thereby reducing the content of magnesium and other minerals while growing crops and vegetables. Magnesium absorption is reduced by 30% with aging. Commonly used medications (for example, certain antibiotics, antacids, and hypertensive medications) decrease the absorption of Mg²⁺ (Schwalfenberg and Genus, 2017; Uwitonze and Razzaque, 2018). Therefore, Mg²⁺ homeostasis depends on three organs: the intestine, which facilitates the absorption of Mg²⁺; bone, the storage system of the body and kidneys, responsible for the excretion of Mg²⁺ figure2 (Baaij *et al.*, 2012).

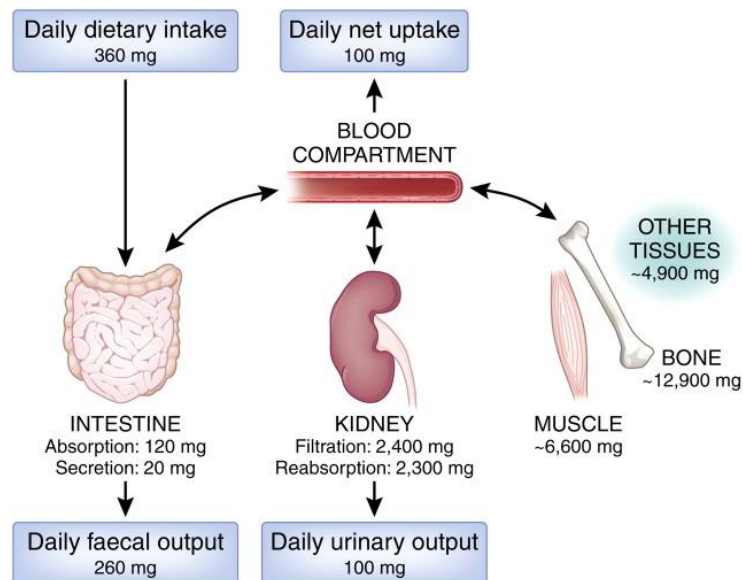


Fig.2. Magnesium homeostasis Panels represent the daily amount of Mg²⁺ intake and excretion. A daily net intake of ~100 mg in the intestine results in a balanced 100 mg excretion in the kidney. In times of Mg²⁺ shortage, other tissues such as bone and muscle provide Mg²⁺ to restore blood Mg²⁺ levels. See also "Magnesium basics" in this supplement. The conversion factor from milligrams to millimole is 0.04113.

Magnesium and Stress:

The effects of stress on glucose metabolism are mediated by various "counter-regulatory" hormones released in response to stress, which result in high blood glucose and reduced insulin action (Surwit and, Schneider, 1993). Stress is an important contributor to pathological conditions in humans. Hormonal changes

in acute and chronic stress can affect glucose homeostasis in healthy people and diabetic patients. Several studies have reported a negative effect of acute stress on the maintenance of blood glucose levels in patients with T1 and T2 DM (Marcovecchio and Chiarelli, 2012). Magnesium status is strongly associated with stress levels, stress, and

hypomagnesemia reinforcing the negative effects of each other. Hypomagnesaemia has been associated with stressful conditions such as headaches, fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, audiogenic stress, cold stress, and physical stress, among others (Pickering *et al.*, 2020). In turn, low serum magnesium levels increase the release of stress-related hormones, including catecholamines, corticotrophin hormone, and cortisol in response to stress, and affect their access to the brain, creating a vicious circle of reduced resistance to stress and magnesium depletion (Pouteau *et al.*, 2018). A relationship between Mg²⁺ status and anxiety is evident in humans. The anxiety of the tests, linked to exposure to stressful examination conditions, is associated with an increase in catecholamines, which is responsible for an increase in urinary magnesium excretion and a decrease in plasma concentrations. Reducing Mg²⁺ increased anxiety-related behavior in mice (Boyle *et al.*, 2017; Grases *et al.*, 2006)].

Chronic stress reactions are often characterized by long-term activation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis and the sympathetic nervous system, which have been associated with an increased risk of DM (Pouwer *et al.*, 2010). Magnesium has been shown to control hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenocortical (HPA) axis activity, considered the main stress response system (Sartori *et al.*, 2012). Based on the available data, magnesium is a potent inhibitor of the GSK3 enzyme and affects mechanisms/systems that play an important role in the stress response (i.e., limbic-hypothalamus-pituitary-adrenal axis, the release of adrenocorticotrophic hormone, benzodiazepine/GABAA receptors) (Serefko *et al.*, 2016).

Magnesium and Inflammation:

Clinical or experimental studies have shown an association between low-

grade inflammation and T2 DM (Oguntibeju, 2019). Inflammation is an important etiologic factor in the development of insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes, primarily from studies demonstrating the association between high (but "normal") levels of circulating acute inflammatory markers, insulin resistance, and development type 2 DM (Jung *et al.*, 2014). Mg²⁺ deficiency is a condition that causes changes in the cellular proliferation of the immune system, increases the production of proinflammatory molecules, and influences the onset or aggravation of many diseases (Nielsen, 2014).

Most pathological conditions associated with a low magnesium status have been characterized as having a chronic inflammatory stress component (Nielsen, 2018). Magnesium deficiency results in the release of a pro-inflammatory neuropeptide, and substance P, from neuronal stores, which subsequently results in a cascade of pro-inflammatory/pro-oxidative events in multiple tissues and organs (Tejero-Taldo *et al.*, 2016). Reduction of dietary magnesium intake and decreased magnesium content in drinking water have been identified as risk factors for the development of hypertension, atherosclerosis, vasospasm, inflammatory conditions, and sudden cardiac death (Long and Romani, 2014).

A recent article discusses the strong link between magnesium supplementation and serum low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol levels (potentially harmful) and total cholesterol levels. Magnesium would reduce bad cholesterol and increase good cholesterol because it was a powerful anti-inflammatory, it would help prevent cholesterol from oxidizing, which could explain its role in reducing atherosclerotic plaque in laboratory animals (Rubaba *et al.*, 2018).

Various risk factors, including hypertension, diabetes, and smoking, are amplified by the adverse effects of oxidizing LDL cholesterol, triggering a chronic inflammatory reaction, resulting in a vulnerable plaque, prone to rupture, and thrombosis (Willerson and Ridker.,2004).

Diabetic patients, whose magnesium intakes are below the recommended daily allowance RDA, are more likely to have high CRP levels, reflecting higher levels of chronic inflammation related to the extent of their hyperglycemia and insulin resistance (Dibaba *et al.*, 2014; King, 2009). As an acute-phase responsive to low-intensity inflammation, c-reactive protein (CRP) levels have been identified as a significant risk factor for T2 DM, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease (CVD). Therefore, it is plausible that the beneficial effects of magnesium on these chronic diseases are partially mediated by the improvement of the low-grade inflammatory condition (Song *et al.*, 2005). CRP plays a central role in many aspects of atherogenesis, including activation of the complement pathway, lipid capture by macrophages, pro-inflammatory cytokine release, induction of tissue factor formation in monocytes, promotion of endothelial dysfunction, and inhibition of nitric oxide production (King *et al.*, 2005). Mg²⁺ dietary intake has been linked to several health effects, including those related to metabolic and inflammatory processes such as hypertension, metabolic syndrome, T2 DM, CVD, osteoporosis, and some cancers like (colonic and breast malignancies). A suggested mechanism for the beneficial effect of Mg²⁺ intake is that it could reduce levels of CRP, a deficiency in Mg²⁺ that may increase CRP production (Dibaba *et al.*, 2014).

Magnesium and Insulin Resistance:

Insulin resistance increased tissue inflammation and reactive oxygen species (ROS) production resulting in endothelial dysfunction, increased tissue renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS),

and increased sympathetic nervous system (SNS) activity have all been implicated in this complex pathophysiology of diabetes and hypertension (Govindarajan *et al.*, 2006). Insulin resistance reduces renal reabsorption of Mg²⁺, resulting in a loss of Mg²⁺ in the urine. As a result, diabetic patients may find themselves in a vicious cycle in which hypomagnesemia increases insulin resistance with resultant hypomagnesemia (Phuong-Chi *et al.*, 2007). Cellular magnesium deficiency is correlated with the altered function of many enzymes using high-energy phosphate bonds, which are involved in glucose metabolism and require magnesium as a cofactor (Pasternak and Horecka, .2010). There is a close relationship between insulin and magnesium where magnesium deficiency is associated with insulin resistance (Chen *et al.*, 2017). An intracellular magnesium deficiency cannot only be a consequence of insulin resistance but can also worsen it (Humphries *et al.*, 1999). Intracellular magnesium plays a key role in regulating insulin action, insulin-induced glucose uptake, and vascular tone. Reduced intracellular Mg²⁺ concentrations result in defective tyrosine kinase activity, impaired insulin action, and worsening of insulin resistance in diabetic patients (Barbagallo and Dominguez, 2015). Chronic magnesium deficiency has also been associated with elevated levels of Tumor Necrosis Factor-alpha (TNF-alpha), which may also contribute to post-receptor insulin resistance (Guerrero-Romero and Rodriguez-Moran, 2004), thereby establishing a vicious circle that could lead to progressive impairment of metabolic control and increased risk of diabetes complications (Chhabra *et al.*, 2013). Magnesium supplementation improves both the islet beta-cell response and the action of insulin (Guerrero-Romero and Rodríguez-Morán, 2011). In addition, it has been reported that, in persons with serum magnesium deficiency, the decrease in insulin

sensitivity is not adequately compensated by the increase in beta-cell function and that oral magnesium supplementation improves the ability of pancreatic cells to compensate for decreased insulin sensitivity in non-diabetic people with significant hypomagnesemia. These data strongly suggest that magnesium deficiency is also involved in decreasing insulin secretion (Rodríguez-Morán *et al.*, 2012; Milagros *et al.*, 2005). An extensive literature search, shows lower magnesium levels are associated with insulin resistance (Rayssiguier *et al.*, 2006), which is the main pathophysiological cause of T2DM development and many clinical studies have shown a close relationship between hypomagnesemia and insulin resistance in T2DM ((Odusan Olatunde *et al.*, 2017). A large body of evidence shows a link between hypomagnesemia and reduced tyrosine kinase activity at the level of insulin receptors, which may lead to decreased insulin action and the development of insulin receptors, insulin resistance has gradually accumulated in previous years (Rodríguez-Morán and Guerrero-Romero, 2013). Indeed, evidence from experimental studies suggests direct effects of magnesium intake on insulin resistance and T2 DM (Dong *et al.*, 2011). The suppressed intracellular magnesium concentration may result in defective tyrosine kinase activity and modify insulin sensitivity by influencing receptor activity after binding or by influencing intracellular signaling and processing. Intracellular magnesium deficiency may affect the development of insulin resistance and alter the glucose entry into the cell (Takaya *et al.*, 2004). Although recent evidence has suggested that dietary magnesium intake may play an important role in enhancing insulin sensitivity, population-based studies have found conflicting evidence regarding the potential benefit of dietary magnesium intake (Cahill *et al.*, 2013).

Conversely, insulin itself directly stimulates Mg²⁺ levels and may contribute to the regulation of Mg²⁺ levels (Ligia *et al.*, 1998). Large epidemiological studies indicate that lower serum magnesium levels are associated with insulin resistance (Rayssiguier *et al.*, 2006).

Conclusion:

Although all evidence from epidemiological studies consistently shows a strong inverse relationship between magnesium status and the risk of type 2 diabetes and its consequences, many physicians are unaware of its importance for the therapeutic management of stress, inflammation, insulin resistance, and glycaemic profiles in diabetic patients. Detection and correction of magnesium status in diabetic patients are clinically appropriate and remain necessary.

Studies have shown that most, but not all, Type 2 diabetes mellitus patients have a magnesium deficiency, hence the need to focus on those with a deficit to correct it. Most studies focus on the total serum magnesium concentration instead of the free, ionized (bioactive) magnesium concentration, which makes it difficult to correlate magnesium deficiency with the disease.

Oral magnesium supplementation and appropriate dietary habits improve insulin sensitivity and metabolic control in patients with Type 2 diabetes mellitus, suggesting that magnesium is an important factor in the etiology and management of diabetes mellitus that is considered a skyrocketing global health pandemic).

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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