



THE ROLE OF MONOCYTE CHEMOATTRACTANT PROTEIN-1 IN DIAGNOSIS OF ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE WITH NEGATIVE EXERCISE

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ABSTRACT

Objective: The aim of the present study was to find new simple non-invasive test can be used in early prediction of the presence of coronary artery disease.

Methods: This comparative cross-sectional study was conducted at Cardiology Department, Zagazig University Hospital, and Al-Ahrar Hospital during the year period 2018.

Results: The present study was carried out among 39 patients diagnosed with ischemic heart disease (IHD) admitted at Cardiology Department, Zagazig University Hospital, and Al-Ahrar Hospital during the year period 2018. Out of total 39 patients, 51.3% were males and 48.7% were females.

Conclusion: Our Study concluded that MCP-1 at cut off value 113.5ng/l can predict the presence of significant coronary artery lesion need intervention in patient with chest pain and negative exercise test. Also We found that MCP-1 at cut off value 406 ng/l is correlated to heigh syntax score,that guide the decision for CABG against PCI

Key words; Monocyte Chemoattractant, Protein-1, MCP-1, Ischemic Heart Disease, Negative Exercise ECG

INTRODUCTION

The most important cause of morbidity and mortality in the world is atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. Symptoms and its Complications appear early before atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) is diagnosed. Myocardial Infarction or death is more important clinical presentation of Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)^[1].

Whereas most clinicians previously regarded atheroma as a bland lesion, the current notion that inflammation and immune response contribute to atherogenesis has garnered increased interest^[2].

Variance studies showed that the markers of inflammations such as C - reactive protein (CRP), Fibrinogen, Interleukin-6 (IL-6) are early predictor of cardiovascular events^[3].

Although the importance of systemic markers of inflammation, there are lake of use them as a screening method of diagnosis of CAD^[4].

MCP-1is important chemokine can be found at high levels in the patients cardiovascular diseases and MCP-1 levels decrease with treatment of CVD. It is a member from the chemokines family which is

produced by endothelial cells, vascular smooth cells, keratinocytes fibroblasts, tubular epithelial cells, lymphocytes ,monocytes and macrophages ,in response to the a variety proinflammatory stimuli. MCP-1 is the strongest known chemotactic factor for monocytes in CVD^[7].

AIM OF THE WORK

The aim of the present study was to find new simple non-invasive test can be used in early prediction of the presence of coronary artery disease.

PATIENTS AND METHODS

Technical design: This comparative cross-sectional study was conducted at Cardiology Department, Zagazig University Hospital, and Al-Ahrar Hospital during the year period 2018. A total number of 39 consecutive patients with symptoms of anginal pain were included in the current study.

Patients were divided into two groups:

Group I: include 25 with typical anginal pain and negative exercise test.

Group II: include 14 with typical anginal pain and positive exercise test.

Inclusion criteria:

- Patients planned for diagnostic coronary angiography; due to the presence of typical

chest pain with risk factors of IHD (DM, HTN, dyslipidemia, smokers age or family history)

Exclusion criteria:

- Patients with rheumatic heart disease;
- Patients with history of previous MI;
- Patients with history of CABG or percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)
- Patients with chronic or acute kidney disease;
- Patients with chronic liver disease;
- Patients with poor echo window;
- Patients taking antioxidante (affecting the level of cytokines).

Methods

Our patients were subjected to the following:

1. Full history taking
2. Complete physical examination
3. Resting 12-lead surface electrocardiogram (ECG) for detecting rate, rhythm and chamber enlargement

Exercise ECG Test

Test Protocols

The modified Bruce protocol starts off at the same speed as the Bruce protocol but with an initial grade of 0%. The Cornell, Naughton, and Balke protocols use a more gradual increase in workload and are reasonable options for patients who are unable to ambulate comfortably (Franklin et al., 2000)¹⁰.

Coronary angiography analysis and detection of severity of CAD

Severity of lesion: the coronary artery narrowing was visually estimated and expressed as percentage of luminal diameter stenosis. Pt with $\geq 70\%$ narrowing in LAD, circumflex artery or right coronary artery or their major branches and $\geq 50\%$ in left main coronary were classified as having significant angiographic coronary artery disease (West et al., 1997)¹¹.

Laboratory investigation

Monocyte Chemoattractant Protien-1

Quantitative measurement of Monocyte Chemoattractant Protien-1 (MCP-1) in serum was carried out using a sensitive competitive Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) (Elabscience Biotechnology Co. Japan).

Table 1 Demographic data of the two studied groups:

Variable	Group I (-ve stress) (n=25)		Group II (+ve stress) (n=14)		t	P value
Age : (year)						
Mean \pm SD	51.12 \pm 10.63		55.35 \pm 7.83		1.30	0.20
Range	30 - 67		44 - 65			NS
Hr: (Beat/min)						
Mean \pm SD	68.04 \pm 4.43		68.93 \pm 4.62		0.59	0.56
Range	60 - 75		60 - 75			NS
SBP: (mmHg)						
Mean \pm SD	136 \pm 15.28		135.71 \pm 19.1		0.05	0.96
Range	110 - 160		100 - 160			NS
DBP: (mmHg)						
Mean \pm SD	77.2 \pm 6.78		76.43 \pm 8.42		0.31	0.76
Range	70 - 90		60 - 90			NS
Variable	No	%	No	%	χ^2	P value
Sex:						
Female	16	64	3	21.4	6.51	0.01*
Male	9	36	11	78.6		
HPT:						
No	11	44	4	28.6	0.90	0.34
Yes	14	56	10	71.4		
DM:						
No	17	68	10	71.4	0.05	0.82
Yes	8	32	4	28.6		
Smoking:						
No	18	72	5	35.7	4.88	0.03*
Yes	7	28	9	64.3		

SD: standard deviation t: Independent t test χ^2 : Chi square test NS: Non significant (P>0.05)

*: Significant (P<0.05)

Table 2 Lab results among the two studied groups

Variable	Group I (-ve stress) (n=25)	Group II (+ve stress) (n=14)	t	P value
Cholesterol: (mg/dl) Mean ± SD Range	180.08± 52.75 112 - 290	207.21±69.47 128 - 381	1.38	0.18 NS
TG: (mg/dl) Mean ± SD Range	130.80± 48.11 53 - 248	136.57± 40.24 78 - 202	0.38	0.71 NS
LDL: (mg/dl) Mean ± SD Range	134.88 ± 29.29 86 - 186	152.29 ± 31.39 110 - 220	1.74	0.09 NS
HDL: (mg/dl) Mean ± SD Range	46.32 ± 7.03 33 - 58	45.5 ± 6.79 33 - 55	0.35	0.73 NS
Creatinine: (mg/dl) Mean ± SD Range	0.96 ± 0.24 0.6 - 1.3	0.94 ± 0.25 0.7 - 1.6	0.23	0.82 NS
FBS: (mg/dl) Mean ± SD Median Range	110.32 ± 44.67 89 71 - 215	105.64 ± 30.13 95.5 70 - 175	MW 0.038	0.70 NS
MCP-1: (pg/ml) Mean ± SD Median Range	183.24± 136.03 117 53 - 480	333 ± 152.41 368.5 73 - 568	MW 2.75	0.006**

TG: Triglyceride LDL: low density of lipoprotein HDL: high density of lipoprotein

FBS: Fasting blood sugar MCP-1: Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1

Sd: Standard deviation t: Independent t test MW: Mann Whitney test

NS: Non significant (P>0.05)

** : Highly significant (P<0.01)

Table 3 Angiography results among the two studied groups

Variable	Group I (-ve stress) (n=25)	Group II (+ve stress) (n=14)	χ ²	P
LM: Normal Medium artery	22 (88%) 3 (12%)	14 (100%) 0 (0.00%)	1.82	0.18 NS
LAD: Normal No significant lesion Atherosclerotic vessel with stenotic lesion	13 (52%) 1 (4%) 11 (44%)	4 (28.6%) 3 (21.4%) 7 (50%)	3.86	0.15 NS
LCX: Normal No significant lesion Atherosclerotic vessel with stenotic lesion	19 (76%) 3 (12%) 3 (12%)	8 (57.1%) 3 (21.4%) 3 (21.4%)	1.50	0.47 NS
RCA: Normal No significant lesion Atherosclerotic vessel with stenotic lesion	19 (76%) 3 (12%) 3 (12%)	9 (64.3%) 1 (7.1%) 4 (28.6%)	1.75	0.42 NS
No. of vessels: No 1	14 (56%) 6 (24%)	6 (42.9%) 4 (28.6%)	0.70	0.87 NS

2	4 (16%)	3 (21.4%)		
3	1 (4%)	1 (7.1%)		
No. of lesions:			8.02	0.09
No				NS
1	14 (56%)	6 (42.9%)		
2	6 (24%)	0 (0.00%)		
3	2 (8%)	5 (35.7%)		
4	1 (4%)	1 (7.1%)		
5	2 (8%)	2 (14.3%)		
Syntax:			MW	0.48
Mean ± SD	6.88 ± 10.13	8.25 ± 10.13	0.71	NS
Median (Range)	5 (0 – 31.5)	6 (0 – 34)		

LM: left main disease LAD: Left anterior descending coronary artery

LCX: left circumference coronary artery RCA: Right coronary artery Sd: Standard deviation

MW: Mann Whitney test χ^2 : Chi square test NS: Non Significant (P>0.05)

Table 4 Correlation between MCP-1 and laboratory findings syntax-score and number of lesions and vessels among the studied cases

Variable	MCP-1 (n=39)	
	r	P
Syntax	0.73	<0.001**
Cholesterol (mg/dl)	0.29	0.07 NS
TG (mg/dl)	0.16	0.33 NS
LDL (mg/dl)	0.41	0.009**
HDL (mg/dl)	-0.24	0.14 NS
Creatinine (mg/dl)	-0.05	0.75 NS
FBS (mg/dl)	0.12	0.48 NS
No of lesions	0.73	<0.001**
No of vessels	0.74	<0.001**

TG: Triglyceride

LDL: low density of lipoprotein

HDL: high density of lipoprotein

FBS: Fasting blood sugar

MCP-1: Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1

NS: Non significant (P>0.05)

** : Highly significant (P<0.01)

r: Spearman correlation coefficient

Table 5 Correlation between Syntax and laboratory findings and number of lesions and vessels among the studied cases

Variable	Syntax (n=39)	
	r	P
Cholesterol (mg/dl)	0.27	0.10 NS
TG (mg/dl)	0.11	0.52 NS
LDL (mg/dl)	0.44	0.005**
HDL (mg/dl)	-0.13	0.44 NS
Creatinine (mg/dl)	0.11	0.52 NS
FBS (mg/dl)	0.002	0.99 NS
No of lesions	0.96	<0.001**
No of vessels	0.97	<0.001**

TG: Triglyceride

LDL: low density of lipoprotein

HDL: high density of lipoprotein

FBS: Fasting blood sugar

NS: Non significant (P>0.05)

** : Highly significant (P<0.01)

r: Spearman correlation coefficient

Table 6 Relation between Co-morbidity and smoking among the two studied groups and MCP-1

Groups	Variable	MCP-1					MW	P
		N	Mean	SD	Median	Range		
Group I	HPT:						2.36	0.02*
	No	11	133.55	132.94	79	53 – 480		
	Yes	14	222.29	129.74	226	63 - 444		
	DM:						2.18	0.04*
	No	17	155	121.53	91	53 – 444		
	Yes	8	243.25	153.72	213.5	79 - 480		
Smoking:						2.42	0.02*	
No	18	144.22	123.34	93	53 – 480			
Yes	7	283.57	120.82	287	88 - 444			
Group II	HPT:						0.99	0.32 NS
	No	4	276	167.55	280.5	86 – 457		
	Yes	10	355.8	148.91	394	73 - 568		
	DM:						0.42	0.76 NS
	No	10	318	165.45	329	73 – 568		
	Yes	4	370.5	126.14	412	193 - 464		
Smoking:						0.73	0.64 NS	
No	5	303	115.31	353	73 – 464			
Yes	9	387	168.12	389	193 - 586			

Sd: Standard deviation

MW: Mann Whitney test NS:Non significant (P>0.05)

*:Significant (P<0.05)

Table 7 Relation between angiography among the two studied groups and MCP-1:

Groups	Variable	MCP-1					Test	P value
		N	Mean	SD	Median	Range		
Group I	LM:						MW 2.17	0.04* S
	Normal	22	164.5	126.33	102.5	53 – 480		
	Abnormal	3	320.67	149.28	271	149 - 420		
	LAD:						K 18.42	<0.001**
	Normal	13	79.85	19.86	79	53 – 117		
	No significant significant lesion	1 11	149 308.55	0 112.47	149 287	149 140 - 480		
	LCX:						K 5.62	0.04* S
	Normal	19	152.05	130.09	91	53 – 480		
	No significant significant lesion	3 3	259.67 304.33	123.57 120.23	237 313	149 – 393 180 - 420		
	RCA:						K 9.09	0.01* S
	Normal	19	134.63	103.10	91	53 – 444		
	No significant significant lesion	3 3	375.33 299	55.64 159.32	393 237	313 – 420 180 - 480		
Group II	LM:						--	--
	Normal	14	333	152.41	368.5	73 – 568		
	Abnormal	0	---	---	----	-----		
	LAD:						K 7.7	0.02* S
	Normal	4	147.75	81.19	215	73 – 293		
	No significant significant lesion	3 7	350.33 431.43	124.06 87.02	369 453	218 – 464 289 - 568		
	LCX:						K 6.92	0.03* S
	Normal	8	315.25	170.53	310	73 – 466		
	No significant significant lesion	3 3	275.33 438	81.79 140.47	293 457	218 – 369 289 - 568		
	RCA:						K 6.09	0.04* S
	Normal	9	261	137.54	239	73 – 464		
	No significant significant lesion	1 4	457 464	0 81.58	457 459	475 369 – 568		

K: Kruskal Wallis test

MW: Mann Whitney test

*: Significant (P<0.05)

**: Highly significant (P<0.01)

DISCUSSION

All patients in the present study were divided into two groups; **Group I:** include 25 patients with negative exercise test; they were 9 (36%) males and 16 (64%) females with the mean age was 51.12 ± 10.63 (ranging 30-67) years. **Group II:** include 14 patients with positive exercise test; they were 11 (78.6%) males and 3 (21.4%) females with the mean age were 55.35 ± 7.83 (ranging 44-65) years were investigated.

In clinical practice coronary stenosis is often considered as the main cause of myocardial ischemia. However, other causes should be considered especially in normal coronary angiography in documented cases of ischemic heart disease (IHD). Although there are many advances in modalities for evaluation of coronary lesions, however the coronary angiography remains the "gold standard" for identifying the presence or absence of stenosis in coronary arteries and meanwhile provides reliable information during percutaneous coronary intervention. There was no statistical significant difference between Group I (-ve stress) and Group II (+ve stress) in invasive angiographic findings ($p > 0.05$). In contrast to our findings, **Nguyen et al.**^[24] found that 60% of evaluated patient were presenting with normal angiography. Previously, **Manfroi and coworkers** found the acute myocardial infarction was the first manifestation of IHD in 49% of the patients. The associated risk factors were systemic arterial hypertension and left ventricular hypertrophy. The remaining risk factors were not statistically significant. On the other hand, the study of **Mohammad** and colleagues found a significant association between the risk factors and the angiographic characteristics in patients with IHD. There were more significantly stenosed lesions among patients with > 3 risk factors compared to patients with < 3 risk factors ($p < 0.05$). Lesions were more diffused ($p < 0.01$), with higher incidence of left ventricular dysfunction ($p < 0.001$) among former patients compared to later ones. They concluded that, significant findings were observed in the angiographic profile of patients with multiple risk factors. There were more multi-vessels and diffused

angiographic findings among patients with chronic stable angina^[25].

The SYNTAX score is an angiographic grading tool to determine the functional complexity of CAD. The SYNTAX score was developed as a tool to assess the complexity of coronary lesions in the SYNTAX (Synergy between Percutaneous Coronary Intervention with TAXUS and Cardiac Surgery) study. Later, this score was seen also to correlate with clinical outcomes.

In a study of **Martín-Reyes et al.**, they demonstrate, for the first time, that high MCP-1 levels predict independently the existence of a high SS. This is a chemokine that plays a key role in the recruitment of monocytes into the vascular wall during atherogenesis. In accordance with this, MCP-1 plasma levels predict the risk of cardiovascular events in patients with stable CAD and acute coronary syndrome. Therefore, the ability of MCP-1 to predict the complexity of CAD fits with its known properties. Therefore, Increased MCP-1 plasma levels are independently associated with high Syntax score. In the present study we compared parameters like Syntax score, lipid profile, creatinine, duration of DM, smoking, and number of lesions and vessels among the studied cases with IHD. In this study the Syntax-score was used for description of coronary artery impairment enabling statistical processing. Our finding shows that circulating MCP-1 levels correlate with CAD and with Syntax-score. Statistically, there were positive significant correlation between MCP-1 and syntax-score of lesions and number of vessels and LDL. Also, we found positive significant correlation between syntax-score and number of vessels, number of lesions and LDL in the studied cases. it is goes with **Nozwa et al.**^[27]. Their results suggest that circulating monocytes play an important role in the progression of coronary plaque in IHD and that the peak monocyte count during hospitalization might be a predictor of plaque progression.

Griva et al., reported that according to the Spearman correlation coefficient there was significant association between MCP-1 level and Syntax-score (0.358, $a=0.05$). These data

suggest association between the extent of CAD and circulating MCP-1. They failed to demonstrate any association with the other investigated biomarkers.

According to our findings the concentrations of circulating MCP-1 and LDL levels significantly differ between the studied groups. In contrast of our findings were differed with the study of **Griva et al.**^[17] who found no significant interdependence of circulating MCP-1 levels and Syntax-score. MCP-1 levels were significantly different in patients with CAD.

Assuming that the Syntax-score has the ability to describe anatomical and functional features of CAD, we suggest that MCP-1 levels can predict the extent of coronary artery impairment. Even though a promising biomarker of atherosclerosis, **Griva et al.**^[17] have not succeeded in confirming an association between circulating MCP-1 levels and Syntax-score.

The current study shows no statistical significance relation between DM, HPT and smoking and MPC-1 in Group II (+ve stress); but there were statistical significance increase in mean MCP-1 level among hypertensive, diabetic and smoking cases in Group I (-ve stress). The present study a significantly increase in MCP-1 level among significant lesions cases in all parameters in both Groups. In the relation between angiography findings and Syntax-score among the studied groups, the present study show a statistical significance increasing in syntax-score among significant lesions cases in all parameters in both Group I and Group II^[28].

Syntax score takes in consideration the severity of CAD not only with respect to location of lesion, number of vessels involved, number and location of lesions, type of occlusion, presence of stenosis, tortuosity, and involvement of thrombus or calcification, but also duration of occlusion. Hence Syntax score gives a complete insight about the CAD lesion with respect to severity and intensity of disease. More the Syntax score more severe is the CAD. It is well known that DM worsens the CAD and affects outcome not only by increasing the severity but also by the association of micro- and macrovascular complications^[29].

This study shows the sensitivity of MCP-1 at cut off 186.5 was 71.4%, specificity was 72% and the accuracy was 71.8%. Also, our findings shows that the sensitivity of MCP-1 at cut off 113.5 in diagnosis of abnormal angiography among -ve stress cases was 91.7%, specificity was 84.6% and the accuracy was 88%^[32-36].

The present study show a significant predictor for syntax among the studied group was MCP-1, number of vessels, number of lesions and angiography findings. Similarly, Sahinarslan et al. found in multivariate analysis, only serum MCP-1 level was independently related to good coronary collateral development. Higher serum MCP-1 level is related to better coronary collateral development^[37, 38].

CONCLUSION

Our Study concluded that MCP-1 at cut off value 113.5ng/l can predict the presence of significant coronary artery lesion need intervention in patient with chest pain and negative exercise test. Also We found that MCP-1 at cut off value 406 ng/l is correlated to heigh syntax score,that guide the decision for CABG against PCI .

The study recommended the assessment of MCP-1 in serum of CAD patients with chronic stable angina. However, MCP-1 was increase propability of IHD diagnosis in negative stress excercies.

MCP-1 provides a useful marker of severity of coronary atherosclerosis in IHD apart from other risk factors and can be used for risk straifaction in IHD

Further studies with large sample size are required to clarift the significance of MCP-1 in IHD patients Assessment of MCP-1level after medical and/or interventional treatment of IHD patients as indicator of prognosis in IHD patients either acute or chronic

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