



AN IMPACT OF CARDIOVASCULAR CHANGES IN CHRONIC LIVER DISEASE ON ELDERLY POPULATION

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ABSTRACT

Multifactorial pathogenic mechanisms take part in cardiovascular changes in chronic liver disease and them Include neurohumoral and vascular dysregulations. Evidences advocate that cirrhotic liver sickness associated cardiovascular abnormalities result in the pathogenesis of severa fatal complications which includes ascites, hepatorenal syndrome, hepatopulmonary syndrome, gastro esophageal varices and spontaneous bacterial peritonitis. The reasons for persistent hepatitis are numerous. It can be infective as in viral like Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Hepatitis D, additionally other viruses like Cytomegalovirus, Epstein Barr virus. Autoimmune situations like Primary biliary cirrhosis and primary sclerosing cholangitis. Other causes are non-alcoholic fatty liver disorder, alcoholic liver ailment and drug caused hepatitis, Cryptogenic & metabolic or hereditary disorders like Wilson's ailment, Haemochromatosis, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency also make a contribution to liver cirrhosis. The most commonplace reasons for cirrhosis of these are persistent hepatitis C, alcohol associated liver disorder, non-alcoholic fatty liver disorder (NAFLD), non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) and chronic hepatitis B. Primary Biliary associated cirrhotic liver is rare as compared to the others.

Key words: Ascites, Hepatorenal syndrome, Hepatopulmonary syndrome, Gastro esophageal varices, Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis.

INTRODUCTION

In this segment represents introduction of this research work. Sinusoidal portal hypertension is categorized by rise in confrontation to blood flow of hepatic sinusoids. This has two components; one is fibrotic disruption of liver architecture and another due to contractility changes of the stellate cells of the liver. In addition, changes in the hepatic sinusoidal myofibroblasts are also seen. Sensitivity of the hepatic sinusoidal cells to vasoactive mediators like nitric oxide (NO), prostaglandins and endothelins develops. The production of sinusoidal NO is impaired due to increased expression of caveolin (caveolin are intracellular lipid particle, they transports lipids among organelles, regulate vesicular trafficking of endothelium and signal transduction) in cirrhotic patients^{14, 15}. In contrast to it, there is elevated level of NO in the splanchnic arterial circulation that causes

vasodilation, along with other mediators like endogenous cannabinoids and carbon monoxide (CO) especially seen in patients with cirrhosis^[10,11]. In persons with cirrhosis, the hyperdynamic state is normal due to the compensatory mechanisms of initial vasodilatation in the splanchnic arterial movement.

In cirrhosis, expansion of blood volume occurs before formation of ascites. The redistribution of increased blood volume progresses with hepatic decompensation, with expansion of the splanchnic bed and relatively compromised central circulation^[1,2]. There is predominant sodium (Na⁺) and water retention, despite increased blood volume, which will be increase with the severity of cirrhosis. In the presence of arterial vasodilatation, the blood volume and the space it requires to occupy is disproportionate.^[3,4].

In these articles represents sector 2 of these 3 presents the materials and methods adopted and section 4 presents the particulars of the experimentations and discussions. Finally segment 5 accomplishes the articles by allocation our implications and upcoming strategies.

RELATED WORKS

In this segment represents focuses the related works of this research work. Five sub types of muscarinic receptors are known of which M1, M3 and M5 receptors are found to be seen in vascular endothelial cells and they trigger phospholipase C, on the other hand M2 and M4 acetylcholine receptor sub types works against adenylyl cyclase.[5] The muscarinic cells are represent in greater number in the atria and lesser in the ventricles. They are seen more in the endocardium than in the surface of the epicardium. The muscarinic receptors are found on the T tubules in coronary arteries, cardiomyocytes and capillary endothelial cell membranes. They are seen in very large number on atrioventricular and sinoatrial nodal cells.[6] The opposing action of beta-adrenergic stimulation against muscarinic receptors are well noted in ventricular cardiomyocytes. The functional changes of plasma membrane in cirrhosis.[7]

In cirrhosis when there is change in plasma membrane activity it may alter post-receptor functions of the cardiomyocyte system especially that which involves cyclic AMP. The most essential role of M1 and M3 muscarinic receptors is yet to be proved in cirrhotic cardiomyopathy.[8]

The fall in the level of cytoplasmic triphosphate and less activity as a “brake” which was non-voltage-dependent activates the potassium channels of the ventricles, to modify the myocyte excitation[5]. Stimulation of K⁺ channels is important for both initial and late phase of repolarisation. The K⁺ channel activators (like adenosine, calcitonin gene-related peptide, etc) stimulate hyperpolarization and relaxation, while inhibitors (like angiotensin II, 5-hydroxytryptamine, noradrenaline, neuropeptide Y, endothelin-1, etc) leads to depolarization and contraction. The current density of all the three types of K⁺ channels(Ca²⁺-independent transient outward K⁺ current, delayed rectifying K⁺ current, and inward rectifying K⁺ current) in isolated ventricular myocytes was found to be reduced in a rat model of bile duct ligated cirrhotic rats[6]. When there was a decrease in the density of K⁺, it was noticed that the baseline action potential of cirrhotic rats was longer compared to sham-operated rats[9]. This explains the reason for QT-interval prolongation in cirrhotic patients.

Calcium dependent current reduces immediately when there is a rapid change from short to long action potential. Thus, cardiomyocyte maintains in a contracted state when there is a significant prolongation of action potential. The main ionic current which sets the resting membrane potential in mammalian heart cells is K⁺

articles explains the feature on the related works. In section current.[10] It also has an effect in the last phase of repolarisation. Thus, it can be suggested that K⁺ current might have an effect on the inotropy of cardiac myocytes which is based on the concentration of calcium, a major driver of cardiac contractility.[11]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In this segment represents the materials and methods of this research work. In many studies it is found that structural and functional changes have been noted in the left heart, but not on the right. Left atrial dilatation and left ventricular dilatation or hypertrophy has been observed. This is reflected a hyperdynamic state where in there is increased pulse rate and decreased cardiac output in the initial stages where the patient is asymptomatic [12].

STUDY AREA AND SETTING

Patients admitted in Medical Wards at RVS Institute of Medical Sciences, RVS Nagar, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh.

STUDY DESIGN

The study was designed as a cross sectional study.

INCLUSION CRITERIA

1. Patients with chronic liver disease.
2. Patients aged above 18 years.
3. Patients who agreed to give consent for the study.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA:

1. Patients with acute liver disease.
2. Patients aged below 18 years.
3. Patients with congenital and acquired heart disease.
4. Patients with chronic kidney disease.
5. Patients with active infection.
6. Patients not willing to be included in the study.

STUDY DURATION

This study is done from January 2018 to January 2019

SAMPLE SIZE

Fifty (100) patients who were diagnosed with chronic liver disease, and admitted in the wards under the Department of General Medicine participated in this study.

MEASUREMENT OF STUDY VARIABLES

Clinical profile (history and clinical examination)

Age (years)

Gender

History of alcohol intake

Duration of alcohol intake (years)

Duration of liver disease (years)

Presence of diabetes mellitus

Pallor

Icterus

Edema

Splenomegaly
 Ascites (mild, moderate or severe)
 Encephalopathy (presence or absence)

Investigations

Platelet count
 Liver Function test
 PT/INR
 Electrocardiography
 Cardiac markers
 Echocardiography
 Serology (HIV, HBsAg, Anti HCV)
 Renal Function Tests
 Electrolytes (Na+, K+)

In the second compensatory phase the patient becomes clinically apparent with palpitations, tachycardia. At this point there is worsening hyperdynamic state. If untreated the patient progresses to the third phase of cardiac failure where the patient might present with signs and symptoms

of cardiac failure. This includes pulmonary oedema. A variety of cardiac changes occur in CCM, that can be looked upon as high-output cardiac changes, the series of these events is not fully clear.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this section focuses the results and discussions of this research work. The baseline parameters along with physical examination characteristics, laboratory parameters and cardiovascular parameters were analysed to obtain the relationship between chronic liver disease and cardiac function.

BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS

The baseline parameters like age, sex, alcohol intake and alcohol duration, diabetes mellitus and duration of liver disease were taken.

Table 3: Descriptive analysis of baseline characteristics in the study group (N=100)

S.No.	Param-eter	Mean ± SD / Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age (years)	46.48 11.51	
2.	Sex	Male	84
		Female	16
3.	History of alcohol intake	Present	68
		Absent	32
4.	Duration of alcohol intake (years)	15.20 9.171	
5.	Duration of liver disease (years)	10.19 ± 8.29	
6.	Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus	26	26

The mean age was 46.48 ± 11.51(years) in study population. The proportion of male participants were 84 (84.0%) and female were 16 (16.0%) in the study population. The proportion of participants who reported alcohol intake was 68 (68.0%) and 32 (32.0%) people did not report with alcohol intake in the study population. The mean alcohol duration was 15.20 ± 9.171(years) in study population. The average duration of liver disease was 10.19 ± 8.29 (years) in the study group. The proportion of participants who had reported with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus were 26 (26.0%) [13]

One of the late complications of liver cirrhosis is cirrhotic cardiomyopathy which presents as abnormal and dampened response of the heart to physiological, pathological and molecular level stress, although it reacts normally to upsurge in cardiac output and cardiac contractility at rest. This can be diagnosed with cardiac investigations like ECG, ECHO, serum cardiac markers (Troponin I, CK MB, NT pro BNP).

This study was done to measure the cardiovascular compromise in patient with liver cirrhosis. Hence, a cross sectional study with 50 adult patients diagnosed with cirrhosis admitted in the medical wards

under the department of general medicine, RVS Institute of Medical Sciences, RVS Nagar, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh from June 2017 to August 2018 was undertaken.

Patients with chronic liver disease were subjected to detailed history, examination, preliminary as well as specific investigations for cardiovascular system like cardiac serum markers (troponin I, CK MB, NT pro BNP), ECG and ECHO, and were studied [14,15].

Of the 50 subjects, the mean age was 46.48 years, 84% subjects were male and 16% were female, those with positive history of alcohol intake were 68% and who did not take alcohol were 32%.

ECG was taken for all patients no abnormality in QTc prolongation were observed. ECHO parameters (EF and RWMA) did not show any significant changes.

Troponin I in the study subjects were 24% when comparing the severity of liver cirrhosis using Child Pugh (p= 0.001) and MELD with average of 18 +/- 3 scoring (p= 0.015). Although CK MB showed a decreasing trend with severity of liver disease it was statistically insignificant and had no studies approving it, to the best of our knowledge.

NT pro BNP showed positive correlation when compared to Child Pugh categories - 20 subjects (40%) ($P=0.001$) and Meld score with a mean of 17.19 ± 3.9 showed positive ($P=0.022$) which were statistically significant.

CONCLUSION

Finally this work concludes, In the present study an prominent troponin I was seen in 12 patients (24%), higher values were acquired in severe liver cirrhosis as demonstrated by Child Pugh score as well as Meld score. This was statistically significant ($P= 0.001$) elevated serum value of troponin I in 10 cirrhotic patients (33%), especially in those with alcoholic cirrhosis. This indicates linear co-relation of sub-clinical myocardial injury in severe liver cirrhosis classified similar co-relation of myocardial injury with higher Meld score were observed. Other marker of cardiac disease that have not been

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evaluated in the study includes 1) cardiac wall thickness, 2) vasodilator serum markers such as Nitric oxide, 3) vasoconstrictor serum markers such as Angiotensin due to limitation in availability of resources. The sample size of the study was not adequately motorized to detect a noteworthy alteration in the QTc, RWMA and CK MB levels, hence a larger population may need to be studied.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Authors declared no conflict of interest.

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