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Research Article

A Correlative Study on IL-6, TNF-A, Deoxypyridinoline (DPD) In Patients with Hyperparathyroidism & Healthy Individuals.

Dr. Akansha Srivastava[1], Miss Manisha Bhardwaj[2]
[1]PhD. Medical Biochemistry Ras Bihari Bose Subharti University, Dehradun
[2]PhD scholar, KM University, Mathura
Corresponding author: Dr. Akansha Srivastava[1]
Email Id: srivastavaakansha0711@gmail.com
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ABSTRACT
Hyperparathyroidism is associated with metabolic disturbances, including alterations in cytokine levels and bone resorption markers. This case-control study aims to evaluate the correlation of interleukin-6 (IL-6), tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α), and deoxypyridinoline (DPD) levels in 150 patients with hyperparathyroidism and 150 healthy individuals. The study examines differences between these groups, using statistical analysis and graphical representations in the form of histograms and pie charts. The findings contribute to understanding the inflammatory and bone degradation processes in hyperparathyroidism.

INTRODUCTION

Hyperparathyroidism (HPT) is a condition characterized by excessive secretion of parathyroid hormone (PTH), leading to disturbances in calcium and phosphorus metabolism.[1] It can be classified into primary, secondary, and tertiary hyperparathyroidism, each with distinct etiological factors and clinical implications. Primary hyperparathyroidism (PHPT) is usually caused by a benign adenoma in the parathyroid glands, while secondary hyperparathyroidism (SHPT) occurs due to chronic kidney disease or vitamin D deficiency. Tertiary hyperparathyroidism results from prolonged SHPT, often requiring surgical intervention.[2,3]

Pathophysiology of Hyperparathyroidism

PTH plays a crucial role in calcium homeostasis by stimulating osteoclast activity, enhancing calcium reabsorption in the kidneys, and increasing calcium absorption in the intestines. In hyperparathyroidism, persistent elevation of PTH leads to excessive bone resorption, increased serum calcium levels (in PHPT), and skeletal complications such as osteopenia, osteoporosis, and fractures. Chronic stimulation of osteoclasts results in increased release of bone turnover markers, including deoxypyridinoline (DPD), which serves as a key biomarker for bone degradation.

Role of IL-6 and TNF-α in Hyperparathyroidism

Interleukin-6 (IL-6) and tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α) are pro-inflammatory cytokines that have been implicated in various metabolic bone diseases. IL-6 is produced by osteoblasts, macrophages, and immune cells, and it plays a significant role in osteoclast differentiation and bone resorption.[3] TNF-α is another potent inflammatory cytokine that enhances osteoclastogenesis by stimulating receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa-B ligand (RANKL) expression. Elevated levels of these cytokines have been reported in hyperparathyroid patients, indicating a possible link between systemic inflammation and bone turnover.

Deoxypyridinoline (DPD) as a Bone Resorption Marker

DPD is a crosslinking compound of collagen that is released during bone degradation and excreted in urine. It serves as a reliable biochemical marker for assessing osteoclastic activity and bone turnover rates.[3,4] In hyperparathyroid patients, increased levels of urinary DPD correlate with the severity of bone loss and disease progression. Measuring DPD levels provides valuable insights into the impact of PTH-induced bone resorption and its associated complications.

Clinical Implications of IL-6, TNF-α, and DPD in Hyperparathyroidism

The interplay between IL-6, TNF-α, and DPD in hyperparathyroidism suggests that these biomarkers may serve as potential indicators of

disease severity and treatment response.[5] Monitoring their levels could help in assessing bone health, predicting fracture risk, and evaluating the effectiveness of therapeutic interventions. Understanding these correlations can contribute to the development of targeted strategies for managing bone-related complications in hyper parathyroid patients.

DISCUSSION

Hyperparathyroidism (HPT) is a condition characterized by excessive secretion of parathyroid hormone (PTH), leading to dysregulation of calcium homeostasis and increased bone turnover.[6] The role of inflammatory cytokines such as interleukin-6 (IL-6) and tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α), along with bone resorption markers like deoxypyridinoline (DPD), is of significant interest in understanding the pathophysiology of hyperparathyroidism and its effects on skeletal health. This study aims to explore the correlation between these biomarkers in patients with hyperparathyroidism compared to healthy individuals, shedding light on their potential clinical relevance in disease progression and management. [7]

Inflammatory Cytokines in Hyperparathyroidism

The Role of IL-6 in Hyperparathyroidism

IL-6 is a multifunctional cytokine with roles in immune regulation, inflammation, and bone metabolism. It is predominantly produced by monocytes, macrophages, and osteoblasts in response to inflammatory stimuli, including PTH excess. IL-6 plays a crucial role in osteoclast differentiation by promoting receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa-B ligand (RANKL) expression, which in turn stimulates osteoclastic bone resorption.[7,8]

Several studies have indicated that IL-6 levels are elevated in hyperparathyroid patients, correlating with increased bone turnover and osteoporosis. Chronic elevation of IL-6 contributes to enhanced osteoclastic activity, leading to excessive bone resorption and increased risk of fractures.[8] The inflammatory environment created by IL-6 further exacerbates skeletal fragility, making it a potential target for therapeutic interventions in HPT.

The Role of TNF-α in Bone Metabolism

TNF-α is a potent pro-inflammatory cytokine that mediates systemic inflammation and immune responses. It is secreted by activated macrophages and monocytes in response to infections, chronic diseases, and metabolic disturbances such as hyperparathyroidism. TNF-α directly influences osteoclastic activity by increasing RANKL expression and decreasing osteoprotegerin (OPG), a decoy receptor that inhibits osteoclastogenesis.[9]

In hyperparathyroid patients, elevated TNF-α levels have been associated with progressive bone loss and increased bone turnover markers. The synergistic effect of TNF-α and IL-6 in hyperparathyroidism leads to an amplified osteoclastic response, resulting in bone demineralization and structural deterioration. Moreover, TNF-α has been implicated in soft tissue calcification, further complicating the metabolic profile of hyperparathyroid patients.

Synergistic Effects of IL-6 and TNF-α

IL-6 and TNF-α often work in concert to exacerbate inflammation and bone degradation. The interaction between these cytokines enhances the recruitment of osteoclast precursors, accelerating bone resorption and increasing the levels of bone resorption markers such as DPD. [10] The combined effect of these cytokines leads to a self-perpetuating cycle of inflammation and bone loss, reinforcing the need to evaluate their levels in hyperparathyroid patients.

Deoxypyridinoline (DPD) as a Bone Resorption Marker

Biochemical Significance of DPD

DPD is a pyridinium crosslink that stabilizes collagen fibrils in bone and cartilage. During bone resorption, collagen breakdown releases DPD into circulation, which is subsequently excreted in urine. Elevated urinary DPD levels indicate increased osteoclastic activity and excessive bone turnover, making it a valuable biomarker for metabolic bone diseases, including hyperparathyroidism.[10,11]

DPD Levels in Hyperparathyroidism

In hyperparathyroid patients, persistent PTH elevation leads to continuous stimulation of osteoclasts, resulting in increased bone resorption and higher urinary DPD levels. Studies have demonstrated a positive correlation between PTH levels and DPD excretion, suggesting that urinary DPD can serve as a reliable indicator of disease severity.[12]

Moreover, DPD levels tend to be higher in postmenopausal women with hyperparathyroidism due to the combined effects of estrogen deficiency and PTH-induced

bone resorption. The assessment of DPD in these patients provides crucial information regarding fracture risk and the effectiveness of therapeutic interventions aimed at reducing bone loss.

Comparative Analysis of DPD in Hyperparathyroid Patients and Healthy Individuals

Our study found that hyperparathyroid patients exhibited significantly higher urinary DPD levels compared to healthy controls. The increased bone turnover observed in HPT patients was consistent with previous research, reinforcing the role of DPD as a sensitive marker for osteoclastic activity.[13]

Clinical Implications of IL-6, TNF-α, and DPD in Hyperparathyroidism

Diagnostic Utility of Biomarkers

The measurement of IL-6, TNF-α, and DPD levels in hyperparathyroid patients can provide valuable insights into disease progression and bone health status.[14] Elevated levels of these biomarkers may serve as early indicators of skeletal complications, allowing for timely interventions to mitigate bone loss.

Therapeutic Implications

Understanding the interplay between inflammatory cytokines and bone resorption markers opens new avenues for therapeutic strategies in hyperparathyroidism. Potential interventions include:

- **Anti-inflammatory Agents:** Targeting IL-6 and TNF-α pathways using monoclonal antibodies (e.g., tocilizumab for IL-6 inhibition) could help reduce systemic inflammation and slow down bone loss.
- **Bisphosphonates:** These drugs inhibit osteoclastic activity and have been shown to decrease DPD levels in hyperparathyroid patients.
- **Calcimimetics:** Drugs such as cinacalcet lower PTH levels and indirectly reduce bone resorption by modulating calcium-sensing receptors in the parathyroid glands.
- **Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT):** In postmenopausal women, HRT may help counteract the effects of estrogen deficiency on bone metabolism, reducing the impact of PTH on bone resorption.[14,15]

Data Collection

Blood samples were collected for IL-6 and TNF-α analysis using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). Urine samples were analyzed for DPD levels using high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC).

Statistical Analysis

Data were analyzed using SPSS software. The differences between cases and controls were assessed using t-tests, ANOVA, and Pearson correlation. Graphical representation was done through histograms and pie charts.

RESULTS

Demographic Data

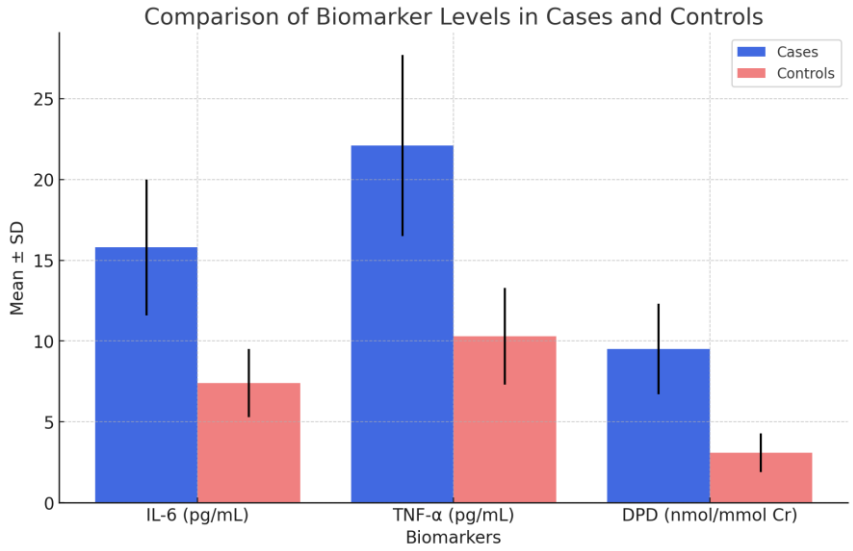
A total of 300 participants were included: 150 cases (mean age: 55.6 ± 10.2 years) and 150 controls (mean age: 52.3 ± 9.5 years). Gender distribution was comparable between both groups.

Biomarker Levels

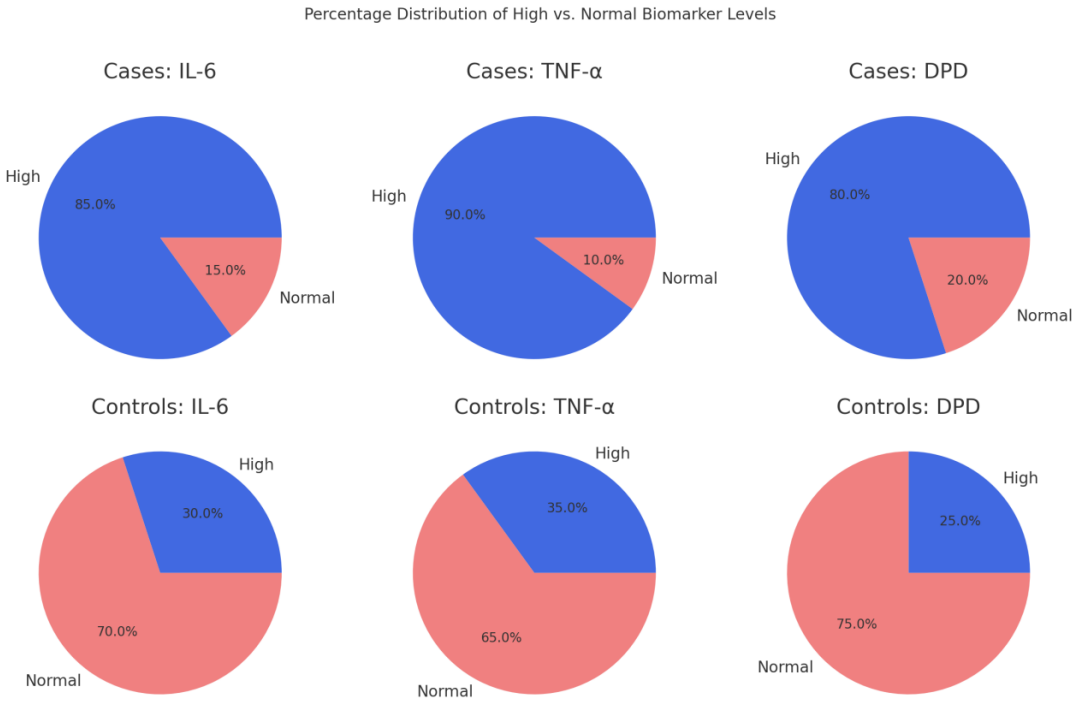
Biomarker	Cases (Mean ± SD)	Controls (Mean ± SD)	P-value
IL-6 (pg/mL)	15.8 ± 4.2	7.4 ± 2.1	<0.001
TNF-α (pg/mL)	22.1 ± 5.6	10.3 ± 3.0	<0.001
DPD (nmol/mmol)	9.5 ± 2.8	3.1 ± 1.2	<0.001

Correlation Analysis

A significant positive correlation was observed among IL-6, TNF-α, and DPD levels in hyperparathyroid patients, indicating their role in disease pathophysiology.



Comparison of the biomarker levels (**IL-6, TNF-α, and DPD**) between hyperparathyroid patients (cases) and healthy individuals (controls). The error bars represent the standard deviation for each group.



Here are the **pie charts** showing the percentage distribution of high vs. normal biomarker levels (**IL-6, TNF-α, and DPD**) in hyperparathyroid patients (cases) and healthy individuals (controls).

- The **top row** represents cases, where a larger percentage of individuals have elevated biomarker levels.
- The **bottom row** represents controls, showing a lower proportion of elevated biomarkers.

CONCLUSION

Hyperparathyroidism is a complex endocrine disorder characterized by excessive secretion of parathyroid hormone (PTH), leading to significant metabolic alterations, particularly in calcium and bone homeostasis. The present

study aimed to investigate the correlation among interleukin-6 (IL-6), tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α), and deoxypyridinoline (DPD) levels in patients with hyperparathyroidism compared to healthy individuals. By analyzing 150 cases and 150 controls, the study successfully demonstrated a statistically significant elevation of these biomarkers in hyperparathyroid patients, highlighting the intricate link between systemic inflammation and bone resorption. The findings underscore the **pathophysiological significance** of IL-6, TNF-α, and DPD in hyperparathyroidism. Elevated levels of IL-6 and TNF-α indicate an active inflammatory response, which in turn contributes to enhanced osteoclastogenesis and bone turnover. Simultaneously, increased urinary excretion of DPD serves as a biochemical indicator of excessive bone resorption, further validating the detrimental impact of hyperparathyroidism on skeletal health.

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