



CODEN [USA]: IAJPBB

ISSN: 2349-7750

INDO AMERICAN JOURNAL OF
PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

<http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3834741>

Available online at: <http://www.iajps.com>

Research Article

ASSOCIATION OF HYPOMAGNESEMIA AND DIABETIC NEPHROPATHY

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Article Received: March 2020

Accepted: April 2020

Published: May 2020

Abstract:

Background: Hypomagnesaemia is a regular sequel of type II diabetes mellitus.

Objective: This research has aimed to highlight the association of hypomagnesemia in type II diabetes in order to identify and treat the electrolyte disorder to prevent complications setting in early, to approximate the prevalence of Hypomagnesemia \ with Diabetic nephropathy and to find association between both in order to correct reduced serum magnesium levels at an early stage for prevention and progression of complications.

Method: the study was conducted in settings of Faisalabad Medical University, Faisalabad with Duration of Study of 06 months after the approval of synopsis. Using a

Sample Size of 86 patients calculated Using WHO sample size calculator with the Level of confidence (%) = 95% . anticipated Population Proportion = 17%. Data was collected from Faisalabad Medical University, Faisalabad outdoor nephrology and medicine department with the approval of ethical review committee of Combined Military Hospital Lahore after seeking written informed consent from the patients through a Survey proforma.it was a cross sectional study with chi- square test applied in order to find association between reduced serum magnesium levels and diabetic nephropathy.

Results:there was 100% prevalence of Hypomagnesemia patients with End Stage Renal Disease with majority in age group in 55 to 65yrs of age independent of gender.Association was found to be significant $p < 0.005$

Conclusion: hypomagnesemia is associated with diabetic nephropathy that ultimately leads to renal failure.

Keywords:End stage renal disease,Hypomagnesemia,diabetes mellits type II.

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Please cite this article in press Nehan Shakeel et al, Association Of Hypomagnesemia And Diabetic Nephropathy., Indo Am. J. P. Sci, 2020; 07(05).

INTRODUCTION:

Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) is often a more sighted variant of diabetes among the two and a metabolic disorder resulting due to insulin resistance and decreased its responsiveness of beta cells in pancreas, thus, leading to hyperglycemia. In Pakistan, Diabetes Mellitus affects approximately 13% of the adult population². Complications induced by Diabetes are microvascular and macrovascular. These macrovascular effects on the kidneys lead to renal failure which is the commonest cause of Chronic Kidney Disease due to diabetes mellitus³. This form of Chronic renal pathology is called Diabetic Nephropathy, approximately 56% of the diabetic population of Pakistan suffers from this disease. 4. Risk factors for development of Diabetic Nephropathy and its progression include poor glycemic control, longer duration of disease, co-existing hypertension, and the presence of proteinuria. Microalbuminuria leads to increased fatality rates in diabetics.

Diabetes leads to disturbances in the homeostasis of different inorganic minerals including Magnesium. A chronic underdiagnosed Magnesium deficit or an undisguised clinical hypomagnesaemia is a very pertinent sequel of diabetic nephropathy, especially in patients with poorly controlled diabetes.⁶ Magnesium concentration in intracellular space is mainly controlled by Insulin secretion.⁷ An increased urinary loss and a decreased dietary intake leads to loss of the electrolyte in such patients.⁸ As many as 32% of patients of Diabetes suffer from Hypomagnesemia in Pakistan.⁹ Low Magnesium levels in Diabetics have also been linked with complications like neuropathy, retinopathy and foot ulcers.¹⁰⁻¹²

Providing magnesium controls the plasma glucose level and enhances the glycemic control in patients with Diabetes and Hypomagnesaemia.¹³ However, the role of this electrolyte and its level in Nephropathy is yet to be clearly defined¹⁴. However some evidence suggest that lower levels are associated with a higher risk of development and progression of Diabetic Nephropathy.¹⁵

Blood Magnesium levels may not be routinely done in patients with Diabetes.¹⁶ This study will aim to show that lower serum Magnesium levels occur more frequently than normal Magnesium levels in ESRD secondary to Diabetes Mellitus. If this correlation is established, monitoring of Serum Magnesium Levels and Magnesium supplementation would be recommended in patients of Diabetes Mellitus at risk of developing Diabetic Nephropathy.

Operational Definitions

- **Diabetes Mellitus:**
 - Fasting blood glucose(FBS) concentration equal to or greater than 7.0 mmol/L (126mg/dl) after at least an 8 hr fast¹⁷
- **Diabetic Nephropathy:** One of the following¹⁶:
 - Estimated GFR < 15-30 ml/min/1.73m²
 - Urine Albumin to Creatinine Ratio (UACR) > 30mg/g
- **Serum Magnesium Levels:**
 - Hypomagnesemia : blood Magnesium < 1.5 mg/L
 - Normomagnesemia : blood Magnesium 1.5 mg/L to 2.4 mg/dl

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

1. **Settings:** Combined Military Hospital Lahore.
2. **Duration of :** 06 months.
3. **Sample Size:** Using WHO sample size calculator with the following¹⁸:
 - Level of confidence (%) = 95%
 - Anticipated Population Proportion = 17%
 - Absolute Precision Required = 8%
 - Sample size (n) = Approx. **86** patients
 - level of significance= 95%
- 4.**Statistical test:** chi- square test will be applied in order to find association between reduced serum magnesium levels and diabetic nephropathy.
5. **Study Design:** descriptive study.
7. **Data Collection:**

Data was collected from Faisalabad Medical University, Faisalabad outdoor nephrology and medicine department with the approval of ethical review committee of Faisalabad Medical University, Faisalabad after seeking written informed consent (**Anx A**) from the patients. Survey proforma will be filled of 86 randomly selected patients fulfilling the inclusion criteria. Baseline Data, FBS or RBS (Venous sample) / HbA1C (immuno-inhibition method), Urine Albumin to Creatinine Ratio (UACR), eGFR (Cockcroft-Gault Equation) and blood Magnesium levels of selected patients was collected and entered after verification from pathologist and classified medical specialist.

DATA ANALYSIS:

Data was entered and statistical tests applied using SPSS version 24. Descriptive statistics were calculated for all variables. For variables like serum magnesium, FBS, HbA1c, UACR, mean was assessed. For qualitative variables like age and sex, frequency and

percentages was calculated and presented as tables and charts. Frequency distribution table will be made and chi-square test will be applied in order to find association between reduced serum magnesium level and diabetic nephropathy.

RESULTS:

Hypomagnesemia is found to be associated with type II diabetic nephropathy in all 86 patients we sampled. Magnesium level was found to be below the limit for all the patients irrespective of age and gender. Association was calculated and was found to be significant.

DISCUSSION:

Hypomagnesemia is closely linked with type 2 diabetes, many studies have shown an inverse proportional relationship between control of blood sugar and Mg levels (7,10,16–19). Although many researches have proven that diabetes leads to hypomagnesemia and early addition of the electrolyte in treatment regimens lowers the incidence of development of diabetes (20–23). Hypomagnesemia tends to reduce insulin sensitivity in control groups of various trials, whereas addition of Mg leads to improve glycemic control in aged patients in absence of diabetes (18,24,25). However, the pathophysiology of hypomagnesemia worsening chronic diabetes is not well defined. Furthermore, it has been indicated that hypomagnesemia may cause changes in transportation of glucose, decrease release of insulin by beta cells of pancreas, development of tissue resistance and (29) however there were many studies which negated any relation of magnesium levels and glycemic control in diabetes (11,30–32).

These differences in views may be due to difference of race and inheritance of different populations used in different studies. There is enough evidence to support that decrease in magnesium levels disturbs cellular functioning. Data from various studies suggest that hypomagnesemia hastens formation of thrombus by causing activation of platelets and damaging the endothelium (33). Hypomagnesaemia also cause surge of cytokines, chemokines and other inflammatory mediators and factors (34–36), increases free radical injuries (37), leading to constriction of vessels and thereby raises blood pressure in a long run. (38–40). Decreased Magnesium also causes damage to DNA by hindering its repair and inducing apoptosis leading to tumorous growths (43) studies at micro and macro vascular level have linked hypomagnesemia to various diabetic complications. Cardiovascular complications comes in foremost phase of importance. In a study that involved 19 individuals without diabetes and

hypertension, 17 hypertensive individuals non diabetics, and 6 hypertensive individuals with diabetes, (44) presented out the lowest mean serum Magnesium level among the hypertensive diabetic group. Similarly another study that included statistics on data from the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) Study, prospective cohort study that lasted 4 to 7 yr and involved 13,922 middle-aged adults who were free of coronary heart disease at baseline, showed indirectly proportional relation between serum Mg and heart diseases in diabetics (45). Diabetic Retinopathy also is a common early setting in complication of diabetes in which an association between retinal damage and low magnesium levels was observed. It was a cross sectional descriptive study (46,47). Serum magnesium levels were not only related to presence of retinal damage but also to the intensity of the disease in diabetics. Another research involving 128 members having uncontrolled diabetes with HbA1c level more than 8, concentration of magnesium in blood were not observed to be lower among those with diabetic retinopathy but rather among those with neuropathy and coronary disease (11).

An association between development of Foot Ulcerations in diabetics and low magnesium levels further adds on to the provided explanations Giving a link between hypomagnesemia and the risk of development of polyneuropathy, and hypercoagulopathy. Rodriguez Moran and Guerrero-Romero (48) 93.9% of the 33 patients with diabetic foot ulcers were compared with 73.1% of the 66 patients without diabetic foot ulcers; and association was found to be significant). Nephropathy, In a study that involved 30 diabetic patients who had type 2 diabetes only, 30 diabetics with proteinuria, and 30 with massive proteinuria, Corsonello *et al.* (49) observed a marked decrease in serum ionized Mg in both the microproteinuria and massive proteinuria groups compared with the diabetic group that did not have any proteinuria. Similarly, another retrospective study reported a positive association between decreased Magnesium levels and a swift progression towards renal failure (7) and many other complications including metabolic syndrome and neuronal abnormalities (6). Requirement of better understanding of Mg metabolism and efforts to optimize magnesium levels in the routine management of diabetes is required.

RESULTS:

Hypomagnesemia is found to be associated with type II diabetic nephropathy in all 86 patients we sampled. Magnesium level was found to be below the limit for all the patients irrespective of age and gender.

Association was calculated and was found to be significant.

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