# Lipid Profile and Blood Pressure in apparently healthy Sudanese individuals in Dongola, Sudan. 

قيم الدهون وضغط الام لاى أفراد اصحاء سودانيين في مدينة دنقلا، اللسودان(2022)

Elmutaz H. Taha ${ }^{1}$, Kamal M. Awad ${ }^{2}$, Makawi. A. A.Osman ${ }^{1 *}$

1.Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Dongola, Dongola, Sudan
2.Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Gadarif University, Sudan

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* Corresponding author: Makawi. A. A. Osman
المعتز حسين طه
كمال محمد عوض
مكاوي احمد عبد الحميد
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## ملخص الاراسة

تههف الدر اسة لتقييم قيم الدهون وقيم ضغط الام لاي السودانيين البالغين الأصحاء ومرضي ارتفاع ضغط الام في مدينة دنقلا بالو لاية الثمالية بالسودان. ربط ملف الدهون بضغط الام لمعرفة ذلك وارتباطهم باضطر ابات القلب والأوعية الدموية.

طريقة البحث: أجريت دراسة مقطعية مستعرضة من يناير 2018 إلى نوفمبر 2018 في دنقلا على سودانيين بالغين يتمتعون بصحة جيدة.

النتائج: في هذه الدراسة تم اختبار 164 فردًا منهم 117 (71.34\%) من الإناث و47 للذكور (128.65 (28.6) على التو الي. معظم مجموعة الدراسة كانت ذات وزن طبيعي، إناث 63 (38.41٪)، ذكور 20 (72.19) على النوالي. أظهرت قيم ضغط الدم الشرياني ارتباطًا إيجابيًا معنويًا لكل من مؤشر كتلة الجسم ومظهر الدهون (قيمة p 0.05 p). كما أوضحت p النتائج أن قيم الجلوكوز في الدم في حالة الصيام له علاقة إيجابية قوية مع البروتين الدهني TGوHDL


الخلاصة:خلصت نتائجنا إلى أن الاشخاص الذين يعانون من ارتفاع ضغط اللم هم أكثر عرضة للإصابة بخلل شحميات اللم، بما في ذلك ارتفاع TGوLDLوTC وانخفاض مستويات الكوليسترول HDL مقارنة بالاصحاء. تثنير نتائجنا إلى أن ضغط الدم المرتفع قد يتتبأ باضطر ابات معينة في استقلاب البروتين الدهني.

وتوصي الدراسة بقياس ضغط الدم وفحص مستويات الدهون لاى جميع الأطفال الذين يعانون من السمنة المفرطة كوقاية
وحماية ضد المضاعفات المنوقعة وكذلك التنخل المبكر من أجل حياة صحية جيدة وطويلة.


#### Abstract

: Objective: To assess the value of lipid profile on apparently healthy adult Sudanese based on the blood pressure values in Dongola town in the northern state. Aim: This study aims to correlate the lipid profile with the blood pressure to figure out Their association with cardio metabolic disorders

Methods: across-sectional prospective study was carried out from January 2018 to November 2018 in Dongola on apparently healthy adult Sudanese.

Result: in this study 164 individuals have been tested, out of them $117(71.34 \%)$ were females, and males 47 ( $28.65 \%$ ) respectively. Most of the study group were normal weight, females $63(38.41 \%)$, and males $20(12.19 \%)$ respectively. The arterial blood pressure values showed a significant positive correlation to both BMI and lipid profile ( p -value $\leq 0.05$ ). Also, results revealed that fasting blood glucose has a strong positive correlation with lipid profile HDL and TG ( p -value $\leq 0.05$ ), TC, and LDL ( P value $\geq 0.01$ ).

Conclusion: our results concluded that individuals with high blood pressure are more likely to exhibit dyslipidaemia, including elevated TC, LDL, TG, and reduced HDL cholesterol levels than normotensive individuals. Our results suggest that elevated BP may predict certain disturbances in lipoprotein metabolism.


Keyword: Blood pressure. Lipid profile, Dongola

## Introduction

In elderly people, the high incidence of atherosclerosis has been suggested that the aging process may be among the factors that disturb lipid metabolism; therefore elderly subjects are at risk of developing cerebrovascular and coronary heart diseases. On the other hand, previous studies figure out that humans with exceptional longevity have a significant increase in the particle size of high-density lipoproteins (HDL) and low-density lipoproteins LDL. ${ }^{\mathbf{1 2}}{ }^{\mathbf{2}}$ Consequently this may lead to an increase in the prevalence of hypertension, the metabolic syndrome, cerebrovascular diseases and other fatal diseases which usually causes death in elderly people. ${ }^{3,4}$ Dyslipidemia and increased blood pressure were two clinical parameters that could be detected earlier in obese children and adolescents, which can help slow down and prevent chronic complications. ${ }^{5}$ Dyslipidemia is more common in untreated hypertensive than normotensives, and lipid levels increase as BP increases. ${ }^{6}$

Dyslipidemia constitutes the fundamental factor for thermogenesis and is considered one of the most important cardiovascular risk factors, being directly related to modifiable factors such as diet or lifestyle habits, as well as non-modifiable factors from each individual like genetic predisposition. ${ }^{7,8}$ Actually, previous reports proposed that human with exceptional longevity have significantly larger high-density lipoproteins (HDL) and low-density lipoproteins LDL particle sizes. ${ }^{\mathbf{9 , 1 0}}$

Ischemic heart disease is the major cause of death in developed countries as well as in developing countries. Several studies have been conducted on the Pakistani population, which prove that the mortality due to IHD in Pakistan is as high as in developed countries. ${ }^{11,12}$ There have been several risk factors reported like hypertension, diabetes mellitus sedentary lifestyle, and dyslipidemia. Lipids and lipoproteins are well-known risk
factors for ischemic heart disease. Elevated levels of triglyceride, cholesterol, and LDL-C are documented as risk factors for thermogenesis. ${ }^{\mathbf{1 3 , 1 4}}$.

## Material and methods

This was a cross-sectional study conducted in Dongola, Northern state of Sudan, to evaluate the lipid profile with blood pressure in a patently healthy adult Sudanese.

## Subjects and method

Anthropometric measures of body mass index (BMI) were calculated as weight/ height ${ }^{2}$.Commonly the estimation of body composition in populations has been the body mass index, which was a result of the measurement of weight /height ${ }^{2}$. The values of obese subjects consider to be $\geq 30 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{m}^{2}$, the body mass index has been calculated according to the standard method which has been mentioned previously. All participants signed an informed consent approved by the National Ribat University Ethics Committee. The assessment and blood pressure measurement were done simultaneously with blood lipid examination and serum lipids analysis in all subjects 10 ml venous blood was collected from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. after an overnight fast. After the collection of serum by centrifugation, serum total cholesterol (TC), high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HLDL-c), low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-c), and triglyceride (TG) were analyzed.

Then blood pressure was measured twice and the mean value and pulse pressure were calculated. Fasting blood glucose, urea and creatinine were measured and the results were obtained.

## Statistical Analysis:

Data were analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 25.0 software (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA). Simple descriptive statistics were used to present the demographic characteristics of the study participants. Continuous variables were presented as mean $\pm$ standard deviation and were compared using the student $t$-tests.

## Result

## BMI distribution among the sex of the study groups:

The total study group was 164 individuals out of them 117 (71.34\%) were females, and BMI was distributed among them as follows; underweight7 (4.26\%), normal weight 63 (38.41\%), overweight 32 ( $19.51 \%$ ) and obese $15(9.09 \%)$. The rest of the study group were males 47 (28.65\%), BMI was distributed among them as follows; underweight 1 ( $0.61 \%$ ), normal weight 20 ( $12.19 \%$ ), overweight 15 ( $9.14 \%$ ) and obese 11 (6.70\%).

|  |  | BMI |  |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $<18$ |  | $18-24.9$ | $25-29.9$ | $31-35$ | $35-39.9$ | $>40$ |  |
| Gender | F | 7 | 63 | 32 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 117 |
|  |  | M | 1 | 20 | 15 | 9 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 8 | 83 | 47 | 19 | 4 | 3 | 164 |  |

## BMI distribution among the age of the study groups:

BMI was distributed among the age group as follow of the total study group; 128 (78.04\%) among the age group 20-30years, 11(6.70\%) among the age group 31-40 year, 23 (14.02\%) among the age group 41-50 years, $1(0.6 \%)$ among age group more than 51 years. BMI was maximally distributed among the age group 20-30 years, underweight was $8(4.78 \%$ ), normal weight 79 (48.78\%), overweight 29 (17.68), and obese 12 ( $7.31 \%$ ).

## BMI distribution among the age of the study groups:

|  |  | BMI |  |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $<18$ | 18-24.9 | 25-29.9 | 30-35 | >35-39.9 | >40 |  |
| Age | 20-30 | 8 | 79 | 29 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 128 |
|  | 31-40 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 11 |
|  | 41-51 | 0 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 23 |
|  | > 51 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Total |  | 8 | 83 | 47 | 19 | 4 | 3 | 164 |

## Correlation of blood pressure values with to lipid profile and BMI:

The diastolic blood pressure (DBP)significantly positively correlated ( P value $\geq 0.05$ ) with LDL and TG, ) and revealed significant positive correlation ( P value $\geq 0.05$ ) with LDLand TG. Meanwhile, both DBP and systolic blood pressure (SBP), as well as pulse pressure (were significantly positively correlated ( P value $\geq 0.05$ ) with body mass index), showed a significant positive correlation( P value $\geq 0.01$ ) with body mass index (BMI).

Correlation of blood pressure values with to lipid profile:

|  | Pearson Correlation | DBP(Pearson Correlation) | Sig. (2-tailed) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Lipid profiles | 0.183 | 1 | 0.019 |
| BMI | 0.246 | 1 | 0.001 |


| TG | -0.350 | 1 | 0.000 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| LDL | 0.161 | 1 | 0.039 |

Correlation of blood pressure values with to BMI:

|  | Pearson <br> Correlation | BMI (Pearson <br> Correlation) | Sig. (2-tailed) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pulse | 0.166 | 1 | 0.034 |
| DBP | 0.246 | 1 | 0.001 |
| Age | 0.308 | 1 | 0.000 |
| SBP | 0.284 | 1 | 0.000 |

## correlation of fasting blood glucose values with lipid profile:

Fasting blood glucose showed a significant positive correlation with HDL and TG (P value $\geq$ 0.05 ) and a strong positive correlation with TC and LDL ( P value $\geq 0.01$ ).

Our results showed a weak correlation between the lipid profiles and blood urea and creatinine, on other hand fasting blood glucose didn't show any correlation with blood urea and creatinine.

Correlation of fasting blood glucose values with lipid profile:

|  | Pearson Correlation | FBG(Pearson Correlation) | Sig. (2-tailed) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Lipid profiles | 0.316 | 1 | 0.000 |
| Total Cholesterol |  |  | 0.000 |
| TG | -0.350 | 1 | 0.000 |
| LDL | 0.405 | 1 | 0.000 |
| HDL | -0.181 | 1 | 0.021 |

## Discussion

This study provides evidence that baseline levels of lipid profiles are associated with hypertension. Genetic and cross-sectional studies suggested a connection between dyslipidemia and hypertension. Hypertensive individuals have a higher prevalence of dyslipidemia and $12 \%$ of subjects with early-onset hypertension have an increased frequency of lipid disorders ${ }^{(15)}$. At first, smooth muscle cell hypertrophy and collagen deposition come as a consequence of high cholesterol levels leading to arterial stiffness translated to elevated systolic BP. In addition, dyslipidemia leads to endothelial dysfunction and improper Vaso regulation, as nitric oxide production release and subsequent activity are reduced among those with high total cholesterol and low HDL-C levels. Furthermore, dyslipidemia has been associated with increased circulating levels of endothelin- $1^{(16)}$ which in turn has been linked with hypertension ${ }^{(15)}$. In addition, dyslipidemia may cause damage to the renal microvasculature with the downstream effect of hypertension. ${ }^{(17)}$

Prospective studies demonstrate an association between plasma lipid levels and the risk of hypertension. In one study, 1482 adult men and women were followed up for 7 years, with 40 cases of hypertension being developed. Increases of 1 standard deviation in triglycerides (110 $\mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{dL}$ [ $1.24 \mathrm{mmol} / \mathrm{L}]$ ) and HDL-C levels ( $11 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{dL}$ [ $0.28 \mathrm{mmol} / \mathrm{L}]$ ) had age-adjusted reference ranges of 1.42 ( $95 \% \mathrm{CI}, 1.06-1.89$ ) and 0.82 ( $95 \% \mathrm{CI}, 0.59-1.15$ ), respectively ${ }^{(18)}$ In two separate studies from the San Antonio Heart Study, subjects with higher baseline triglyceride and lower HDL-C levels had a significantly greater risk of developing hypertension, whereas higher TC and LDL-C levels were associated with non-significant
increased risk ${ }^{(19)}$ These results are consistent with the findings of our study, which reported a more significant correlation between HDL levels and BP values. Most previous studies have shown that levels of triglycerides are positively associated with $\mathrm{BMI}^{(20,21)}$ In the present study, the levels of triglycerides were positively correlated with BMI.

In the present study, the prevalence of high blood pressure has a positive correlation with BMI, which was also reported by other studies ${ }^{(22,23)}$.The relationship between prehypertension and overweight and obesity as observed in the present study has also been observed in other studies. ${ }^{(24,25)}$ Individuals in the urban environment did not only show a higher prevalence of obesity but also elevated blood pressure levels. Doll et al. ${ }^{(26)}$ explained obesity-associated hypertension as inadequate vasodilatation in the presence of increased blood volume and cardiac output, which are natural consequences of an increased mass. Among both males and females, overweight/obesity is a risk factor, more for DBP, which is more dependent on peripheral resistance. Since DBP is closely correlated with SBP, the factors that increase DBP may thereby also increase SBP. ${ }^{(27)}$ Hypertension has been characterized as a disease of civilization resulting from an incompatible interaction between a modern lifestyle and Paleolithic genes. ${ }^{(28)}$

## Conclusion

The results of this study demonstrate that patients with hypertension are more likely than normotensive patients to exhibit dyslipidaemia, including elevated TC, LDL, TG, and reduced HDL cholesterol levels. Our results suggest that elevated BP may predict certain disturbances in lipoprotein metabolism. the association between elevated blood pressure and lipoprotein metabolism will help to develop future strategies for preventing both hypertension and dyslipidaemia through proper lifestyle changes or medical management or by the combination of both. Hypertensive patients need measurement of BP and lipid profile at regular intervals throughout their primary health care to prevent CVD and stroke.

It is recommended to measure blood pressure and examine lipid profiles in all obese children as a prevention and protection against chronic complications as well as early intervention and better life long

## Limitations of the study

Our study has several limitations. First, the sample size was obtained from Dongola city and may not be representative of all hypertensive patients in the Northern state. Second, we could not compare the effects of lipid profile variation due to diet, physical activity, medication, or other factors. thirdly, baseline information on patients' history of chronic disease and medication use was not available, and its effect on dyslipidemia and hypertension incidence remains unclear.

## Conflict of interest;

Authors declared there is no conflict of interest regarding this study.

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