

Comparison of Severity of Coronary Artery Disease in Diabetic and Non-Diabetic Subjects using Gensini Score in Indian Subjects

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Abstract

Background: Diabetes mellitus is usually associated with higher risk of microvascular and macrovascular complication especially Coronary Artery Disease (CAD). The Study was aimed to study the severity of CAD in diabetic and nondiabetic population who has undergone coronary angiography using Gensini scoring.

Methodology: 233 subjects admitted for coronary angiography were studied. All subjects were subjected to full medical history and physical examination; echocardiography, measurement of glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c), detection of urine microalbumin and coronary angiography was carried on. Severity of CAD was assessed by using Gensini score.

Results: Out of 233 subjects, 140 were diabetics (60.1%). Among diabetics 95% had abnormal Gensini score, which is statistically significant ($p=0.004<0.01$), among nondiabetic subjects 84% had abnormal Gensini score (suggests CAD), with odd's ratio 3.6 (CI 1.4 to 9.3). There was good correlation between diabetes duration and Gensini score with $r=0.626$ ($p=0.0001$). Mean age in diabetics is 60years and in nondiabetics is 58 years. Multiple regression analysis of diabetes duration, smoke pack years, hypertension, Ankle Brachial Index (ABI), Left Ventricular ejection fraction, glycated hemoglobin, Total Cholesterol/High density cholesterol (TC/HDL), Non-HDL cholesterol, urine microalbumin, BMI (Body Mass Index) and Waist Hip ratio with Gensini score; showed significant positive impact on Gensini score by Diabetes duration ($\beta=0.455$), Urine microalbumin ($\beta=0.207$), TC/HDL ($\beta=0.173$) and significant negative impact on Gensini score by ABI ($\beta=-0.388$), LVEF ($\beta=0.102$).

Conclusion: Severity of CAD as assessed by Gensini Score was higher in subjects with diabetes when compared to nondiabetic Indian subjects.

Keywords: Diabetes; Coronary artery disease; Gensini score

Introduction

The association between Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and a higher incidence of coronary artery disease is well known [1]. A positive association has been reported between the duration of diabetes and the risk of developing CAD (coronary artery disease) [2]. Studies of small sample size have shown an association between the metabolic control and duration of diabetes and the severity of coronary artery disease in subjects with diabetes [3]. An independent association between fatal coronary artery disease and increasing duration of DM (Diabetes mellitus) has been shown in men [4]. There is evidence to show that the duration of diabetes is associated with greater risk of Acute coronary syndromes [5]. The UKPDS3 demonstrated that intensive glucose control, by keeping the HbA1c <7% (glycated hemoglobin) helped to reduce microvascular complications; the reduction in risk of MI was of borderline significance. Other studies suggest that coronary artery disease and HbA1c are predictors of cardiovascular mortality [6-8]. Individuals with diabetes-associated nephropathy typically have long periods of excessive albuminuria with gradual reductions in creatinine clearance as they approach end stage. There is a graded increase in risk for cardiovascular and total mortality with incremental increases in urine albumin:creatinine ratio among high-risk individuals with hypertension and diabetes [9-11].

Extensive review of literature revealed that there no studies which have compared the severity of coronary artery disease in diabetic and nondiabetic subjects using Gensini scoring among Indian population.

Subjects and Methods

The subjects were approached individually and explained about

the objectives of study in their preferred language. A written consent was taken from the subjects who were willing to participate in study. Ethics committee approval was obtained from the institutional Ethics Committee of KMC (Kasturba Medical College), Mangalore (affiliated to Manipal University), India prior to the commencement of study.

The present cross-sectional study was conducted between December 2011 and December 2012, 233 subjects admitted to the department of cardiology, KMC Mangalore, for elective coronary angiography were enrolled in the study. Information pertaining to study variables were collected using semi-structured proforma, which included age, sex, presenting complaints, family and past history of angina or ischemic heart disease, duration of diabetes, duration of HTN (hypertension), duration of smoking, duration of alcohol consumption and subjects were divided into diabetic and non-diabetics. All the subjects were recruited from KMC, Mangalore.

Blood and urine investigations like HbA1c, TC/HDL (ratio of total

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Received October 06, 2014; **Accepted** November 16, 2014; **Published** November 18, 2014

Citation: Mahadeva Swamy BC, Sydney C D'Souza, Kamath P (2014) Comparison of Severity of Coronary Artery Disease in Diabetic and Non-Diabetic Subjects using Gensini Score in Indian Subjects. J Diabetes Metab 5: 469 doi:10.4172/2155-6156.1000469

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cholesterol and high density cholesterol) and urine microalbumin were done in KMC hospital lab, Mangalore.

BMI (Body Mass Index)

Patient's weight was recorded, in kilograms, to the nearest whole number. Their height was recorded, in meters. BMI was then calculated as Weight (in kgs)/Height² (in mt).

W: H (Waist Hip ratio)

Waist circumference was calculated as described. Hip circumference was calculated at the level of greater trochanter of the femur and the most prominent part of the gluteal region using a non stretchable measuring tape. Waist – hip ratio was then calculated by waist circumference / hip circumference.

All subjects LVEF (Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction %) calculated using echocardiography by cardiologist.

ABI (Ankle Brachial Index) was calculated by conventional methods using both palpatory and auscultatory techniques. Ankle systolic blood pressure was calculated by tying the standard cuff to the calf muscle and palpating the posterior tibial artery. The ratio was then calculated by dividing Ankle SBP by brachial SBP On the basis of this ratio.

Urine spot sample was sent K.M.C. Hospital lab, where quantitative estimation of urine albumin was done by an autoanalyser. On the basis of urine albumin excretion, patients were graded as: 0-20 mg/L: Normal and >20 mg/L: Microalbuminuria (abnormal).

Coronary angiogram

The diagnostic procedure was performed using Seldenger's technique, all images were recorded digitally. Assessment of the severity of coronary artery disease was done using Gensini score [12]. Gensini score grades narrowing of the lumen of the coronary artery and scores it with numerical values with the following method; score 1 for 1–25% narrowing, 2 for 26–50% narrowing, 4 for 51–75%, 8 for 76–90%, 16 for 91–99%, and 32 for a completely occluded artery. This score is then multiplied by a factor that represents the importance of the lesion's location in the coronary artery system. For the location scores, 5 points were given for the left main lesion; 2.5 for the proximal left anterior descending (LAD) or left circumflex (LCX) artery; 1.5 for the mid segment LAD and LCX; 1 for the distal segment of LAD and LCX, first diagonal branch, first obtuse marginal branch, right coronary artery, posterior descending artery, and intermediate artery; and 0.5 for the second diagonal and second obtuse marginal branches. Gensini score was expressed as the sum of the scores for all three coronary arteries to evaluate the entire extent of coronary artery disease.

The statistical methods

Comparison of numerical variables between the study groups was done using Student t test for independent samples. For comparing categorical data, Chi square (x²) test was performed. Correlation between various variables was done using Karl Pearson correlation. p values less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant. Multiple regression analysis was done to remove confounding factor. All statistical calculations were done using computer programs Microsoft Excel 2007 (Microsoft Corporation, NY, USA) and SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Science; SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA).

Results

A total of 233 subjects were enrolled in the study. The Mean age of

subjects was 58 years with nearly 2/3rd of them in age group of 50 to 70 years, they included 168 male and 65 female. Out of 233 subjects 140 were diabetics.

In the study hypertension was present in 118 (50.6%) subjects, family history of diabetes was present in 177 (76%) and 129 (55.4%) subjects were smokers. The average Gensini score of our studied population was 53.83. Around 21 subjects (9%) had Gensini score of Zero (Normal Gensini score means No coronary artery disease).

When diabetic and nondiabetic subjects are compared, more number of diabetic subjects (95%, 133 subjects) had abnormal Gensini scores. Among nondiabetic subjects 84% (78 subjects) had abnormal Gensini score (suggests CAD), as shown in Table 1. Mean age in diabetics is 60 years and in nondiabetics is 58 years. Diabetic subjects had risk of developing CAD 3.6 times more than non-diabetics. Strength of association of DM and CAD is very strong as odds ratio is 3.654 (with confidence interval of 1.428 to 9.351), p value for above comparison is 0.004, which is highly significant.

As shown in Table 2, when Diabetes duration compared with Gensini scores, as the duration of diabetes increases the number of subjects with abnormal Gensini scores increases; 88% (37 subjects) with DM duration of 1 to 5 years had abnormal Gensini score, whereas 100% (66 subjects) with DM duration of 11 to 30 years had abnormal Gensini score. Majority of subjects with abnormal Gensini score were having DM duration of 11 to 20 years. P value for above is 0.007, which is highly significant.

Among the subjects with urine microalbumin >20 around 99% (105 subjects) had abnormal Gensini score (suggests CAD) and among the subjects with urine microalbumin <20 around 83% (106 subjects) had abnormal Gensini score, which is shown in Table 3. The probability of developing CAD in subjects with high microalbumin levels is very strong as odds ratio is 21 (confidence interval of 2.748 to 157.485), the above association is statistically significant (p=0.000).

	GENSINI score		TOTAL
	No. of subjects (percentage)		
	Abnormal	Normal	
Diabetics	133 (95%)	7 (5%)	140
Nondiabetics	78 (84%)	15 (16%)	93
Total	211 (95%)	12 (5%)	233 (100%)

Table 1: Comparison of Diabetics and Nondiabetics with Gensini score.

DM Duration In years	GENSINI score		TOTAL
	No. of subjects (percentage)		
	Abnormal	Normal	
1 – 5	37 (88%)	5 (12%)	42
6 – 10	30 (94%)	2 (6%)	32
11 – 20	41 (100%)	0 (0%)	41
21 – 30	25 (100%)	0 (0%)	25
TOTAL	133 (95%)	7 (5%)	140 (100%)

Table 2: Comparison of DM Duration with Gensini score.

Urine Microalbumin (microgram/min)	GENSINI score		TOTAL
	No. of subjects (percentage)		
	Abnormal	Normal	
>20	105 (99%)	1 (1%)	106
<20	106 (83%)	21 (17%)	127
Total	211 (95%)	12 (5%)	233 (100%)

Table 3: Comparison of Urine microalbumin with Gensini score.

As shown in Table 4, when the relationship between Gensini score and all variables was assessed with Karl-Pearson coefficient, we observed in our study that DM duration ($r=+0.626$), urine microalbumin ($r=+0.510$), Smoke pack years ($r=+0.317$), TC/HDL ($r=+0.266$) and HbA1c ($r=+0.212$) have strong positive correlation with Gensini score. ABI ($r=-0.525$) and LVEF% ($r=-0.278$) have strong negative correlation with Gensini score.

It is also observed in the study, age ($r=+0.161$), HTN duration ($r=+0.161$) non-HDL cholesterol ($r=+0.124$) and W:H ($r=+0.115$) have positive correlation with Gensini score.

The correlation of age, DM duration, HTN duration, smoke pack years, alcohol years, ABI, LVEF%, HbA1c, TC/HDL, and urine microalbumin with Gensini score are statistically significant.

As showed in Table 5, when multivariate analysis (Regression) with ANOVA was done for predictors (constant) like DM duration, HTN duration, BMI, W:H (Waist Hip ratio), ABI, LVEF%, HbA1c, TC/HDL, Non-HDL cholesterol, creatinine and urine microalbumin with dependent variable Gensini score it is found that correlation standardized coefficient (beta) of DM duration is +0.455, urine microalbumin is +0.207, TC/HDL is +0.173, ABI is -0.388, creatinine is -0.115 and LVEF% is -0.102; p values for all the beta values is less than 0.05.

The impression from the above is Gensini score increases with increasing DM duration, urine microalbumin levels and TC/HDL; Gensini score increases with decreasing ABI and LVEF% values.

The impressions from multivariate analysis are CAD has high positive correlation with DM duration and urine microalbumin and strength of association between them is strong. Also CAD has high negative correlation with ABI and LVEF% with strong strength of association.

Discussion

The results showed that there is a statistically significant positive

	Karl Pearson correlation r value	p	
AGE	.161(*)	.014	Sig
DM duration	.626(**)	.000	Sig
HTN duration	.161(*)	.014	Sig
Smoking pack-yrs	.317(**)	.000	Sig
Alcohol yrs	-.012	.861	
BMI (Body Mass Index)	.062	.349	
Waist/hip	.115	.079	
ABI (Ankle Brachial Index)	-.525(**)	.000	Sig
LVEF % (Left ventricular Ejection Fraction)	-.278(**)	.000	Sig
HBA1C	.212(**)	.001	Sig
TC/HDL	.266(**)	.000	Sig
Non HDL cholesterol (Total cholesterol minus HDL)	.124	.058	
CREATININE	.063	.342	
URINE MICROALBUMIN	.510(**)	.000	Sig

*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 4: Karl Pearson correlation of different variables of subjects with Gensini score.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	p	
		B	Std. Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	141.295	34.873		4.052	.000	
	BMI	-.427	.580	-.035	-0.736	.462	
	WAIST/HIP	51.181	35.869	.066	1.427	.155	
	ABI	-108.481	12.063	-.386	-8.993	.000	
	LVEF %	-.434	.193	-.098	-2.249	.025	
	HBA1C	-1.957	.983	-.101	-2.031	.043	
	TC/HDL	1.561	.376	.171	4.148	.000	
	NON HDL CHOLESTROL	.066	.044	.006	.130	.897	
	CREATININE	-13.303	5.184	-.127	-2.566	.011	
	URINE MICROALBUMIN	.092	.025	.222	3.669	.000	
	DM DURATION	2.299	.326	.438	7.061	.000	
	HTN DURATION	.121	.297	.018	.409	.683	
	2	(Constant)	141.492	34.762		4.070	.000
BMI		-.425	.579	-.035	-0.734	.464	
WAIST/HIP		51.708	35.559	.067	1.454	.147	
ABI		-108.536	12.029	-.386	-9.023	.000	
LVEF %		-.431	.191	-.097	-2.254	.025	
HBA1C		-1.970	.956	-.102	-2.060	.041	
TC/HDL		1.565	.374	.172	4.183	.000	
CREATININE		-13.328	5.169	-.127	-2.578	.011	
URINE MICROALBUMIN		.092	.025	.223	3.764	.000	
DM DURATION		2.300	.325	.439	7.081	.000	
HTN DURATION		.116	.293	.017	.397	.692	
3		(Constant)	141.545	34.696		4.090	.000
		BMI	-.362	.556	-.030	-.852	.515
	WAIST/HIP	51.011	35.448	.066	1.439	.152	
	ABI	-109.123	11.914	-.389	-9.159	.000	
	LVEF %	-.435	.191	-.098	-2.283	.023	
	HBA1C	-1.972	.955	-.102	-2.066	.040	
	TC/HDL	1.560	.373	.171	4.180	.000	
	CREATININE	-13.038	5.107	-.125	-2.553	.011	
	URINE MICROALBUMIN	.090	.024	.218	3.771	.000	
	DM DURATION	2.329	.315	.444	7.385	.000	
	4	(Constant)	143.827	34.474		4.172	.000
		WAIST/HIP	40.728	31.702	.053	1.285	.200
		ABI	-109.127	11.899	-.389	-9.171	.000
LVEF %		-.451	.189	-.102	-2.392	.018	
HBA1C		-2.008	.952	-.104	-2.110	.036	
TC/HDL		1.568	.372	.172	4.209	.000	
CREATININE		-13.188	5.095	-.126	-2.588	.010	
URINE MICROALBUMIN		.089	.024	.216	3.743	.000	
DM DURATION		2.327	.315	.444	7.385	.000	
5		(Constant)	182.871	16.295		11.222	.000
		ABI	-108.960	11.916	-.388	-9.144	.000
		LVEF %	-.453	.189	-.102	-2.395	.017
		HBA1C	-1.999	.953	-.103	-2.097	.037
	TC/HDL	1.577	.373	.173	4.228	.000	
	CREATININE	-12.008	5.019	-.115	-2.392	.018	
	URINE MICROALBUMIN	.086	.024	.207	3.615	.000	
	DM DURATION	2.384	.312	.455	7.633	.000	

a. Dependent Variable: GENGINI SCORE

Table 5: Multiple regression analysis of all variables in subjects.

correlation between duration of diabetes and Gensini scores (P value 0.007). My finding was confirmed by data published in year 2010 in a study by GuoLixin et al. [13], where Spearman's correlation analysis was performed with Gensini score as dependent variable and all risk factors as independent variables. This analysis showed that Gensini score was positively correlated with duration of diabetes mellitus.

In our study, we found statistically significant higher severity of CAD in subjects with microalbuminuria ($P<0.001$). This matched with the study of Devoci et al. [14] who studied the relationship between microalbuminuria and the presence and extent of coronary atherosclerosis in four hundred and two subjects and found a positive correlation between microalbuminuria and extent of CAD both in the diabetic and nondiabetic subjects and concluded that Microalbuminuria is an independent predictor for the presence ($P<0.001$) and severity of CAD ($P<0.001$, $\beta=0.563$). Also our result goes hand in hand with the data published by Defilippis et al. [15] in 2010 who conducted the MESA study (Multi Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis).

GuoLixin et al. [13] also concluded that there was a positive correlation between severity of CAD and microalbuminuria and that this association was significant in the subgroup of subjects with type 2 diabetes ($P=0.045$) and in those without diabetes ($P=0.023$).

Our study results showed positive correlation of Gensini score with TC/HDL, with Karl Pearson correlation coefficient of 0.266, $p<0.001$.

Multiple regression analysis showed positive correlation of Gensini with Diabetes duration, urine microalbumin and TC/HDL (coefficient beta of 0.455, 0.207 and 0.173 respectively).

Limitations of our Study

A detail of treatment of diabetes and hypertension was not collected in detail.

Details of content, amount and type of alcohol was not collected.

In the future, there is a need for study with larger sample size to confirm the results obtained.

Conclusion

Severity of CAD as assessed by Gensini Score was higher in subjects with diabetes when compared to nondiabetic Indian subjects.

Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to the study participants who voluntarily took part in study. We wish to acknowledge support provided by department of cardiology, KMC Mangalore.

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