

Comparison of HbA1C With Sitagliptin Plus Metformin and Pioglitazone Plus Metformin

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ABSTRACT

Background: Hyperglycemia had proven to be a major risk factor in microvascular complication developments in patients with Type II DM. Contrary to this many clinical trials proved the reduction in HbA1c can control the complication development in type II DM patients.

Aim: To compare the HbA1c with sitagliptin + metformin and pioglitazone + metformin in patients with Type II

Methods: This was an analytical study where the opted design was analytical prospective. All the patients were given the treatments randomly and assigned a group. Group I contained all patients, which were treated with sitagliptin + metformin as of their usual doses for 12 weeks, on the other hand group II was given pioglitazone + metformin for 12 weeks, the dose of treatment was usual as well.

Results: A total of 120 patients were recruited for this study. Both the group contains 60 type II DM patients each. Group I was treated with sitagliptin + metformin and group II was treated with pioglitazone + metformin. In group I the mean age was 51.3 ± 6.8 and in-group II was 54.45 ± 5.2 years. We observed in our study that HbA1c level has been upgraded in group I from 8.7 ± 0.50 to 7.72 ± 0.80 where the p value was 0.001, whereas in group II similar improvement were seen with significance value of 0.001.

Conclusion: We may concluded in our study both the treatment options were effective to reduce the HbA1c, fasting blood glucose and blood glucose two hours after a meal and no significant difference was observed between the two treatment groups in improving the outcomes.

Key words: Type II Diabetes Mellitus (Type II DM), Insulin, HbA1c, Blood glucose, Hyperglycemia

INTRODUCTION

The hyperglycemia elevated over time in type II diabetes mellitus (type II DM) due to the decline in the pancreatic beta cells function and resistance of insulin^{1,2}. Hyperglycemia had proven to be a major risk factor in microvascular complication developments in patients with Type II DM^{3,4}. Contrary to this many clinical trials proved the reduction in HbA1c can control the complication development in type II DM patients^{5,6}. For example one degree reduction in HbA1c level may reduce the risk to 35% to microvascular complications⁷. There is a recommendation of 7% reduction by lowering HbA1c level in Type II DM patients by the American Diabetes Association (ADA)^{8,9}. In attaining the desired results or goals in type II DM patients, a single drug option is limited, that's why a combination therapy may be required in type II DM management⁶⁻¹². The drug Metformin may reduce the HbA1c by rising liver and outlying tissue sensitivity to glucose, preclude hepatic gluconeogenesis and glycogenolysis. The decrease in HbA1c is between 1.2- 3%, but this drug may not prevent beta cells failure⁷⁻¹⁵. Pioglitazone is one of the thiazolidinediones. Thiazolidinediones are Peroxisome Proliferator Activated Receptor γ (PPAR- γ) agonists and are appropriate for use as monotherapy and in combination with metformin and/or a sulphonylurea in patients with Type II DM^{16,17}. These drugs defer the development of Type II DM and can progress beta cell function and create a sustainable reduction in HbA1c^{7,18,19,20}. The Aim of the study was to compare the two treatment combinations in patients with type II DM.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This was an analytical study where the opted design was analytical prospective. All the patients were given the treatments randomly and assigned a group. Group I contained all patients, which were treated with sitagliptin + metformin as of their usual doses for 12 weeks, on the other hand group II was given pioglitazone + metformin for 12 weeks, the dose of treatment was usual as well. The duration of the study was of one year starting Feb 2015 conducted in abc department of xyz hospital. The exclusion criteria include all the patients with Cardiac disease, ketoacidosis history, nephropathy, impaired hepatic function, impaired renal function whereas all patients of both gender and aged above 30 with type II diabetic Mellitus and patients with HbA1c above 8 and less than 9.5 (insufficient glycemic control) were included in this study. Firstly along with treatment patients were asked to increase the time of exercise daily to 30 minutes and a nutrition plan was opted or provided for them. Along side the demographic and diagnostic values were evaluated and noted. Standard operating procedures were followed for the laboratory diagnostic tests. An informed consent was also taken from the patients or attendant of the patient. Ethical considerations were taken in to account by taking approval Hospital ethical Committee.

Statistical analysis: All the collected data was stored electronically & analyzed later by using SPSS version 18. Descriptive statistics were applied to calculate mean and standard deviation. Frequency distribution and percentages were calculated for qualitative variables like gender, body mass index etc. Over all a P values less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

RESULTS

A total of 120 patients were recruited for this study. Both the group contains 60 type II DM patients each. Group I was

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treated with sitagliptin + metformin and group II was treated with pioglitazone + metformin. In group I the mean age was 51.3 ± 6.8 and in-group II was 54.4 ± 5.2 years. Both the groups have higher number of female participants i.e., 35(58.3%) in group I and 42(70%) in group II. The baseline demographic and diagnostic characteristics for type II DM patients were given in table 1.

WE observed in our study that HbA1c level has been upgraded in group I from 8.7 ± 0.50 to 7.72 ± 0.80 where the p value was 0.001, whereas in group II similar improvement were seen with significance value of 0.001. The average FBS levels in the group I enhanced from 170.09 ± 46.41 to 151.60 ± 42.33 ($p < 0.001$), whereas in group II, FBS improved from 169.26 ± 58.144 to 148.72 ± 46.66 ($p < 0.001$). This difference was not statistically significant. The difference in the improvements between both groups

before the treatment and after treatment can be observed in table 2.

Table 1: baseline demographic and diagnostic characteristics for HCV patients were given in table 1.

Characteristic/parameter	Group I	Group II	Significance
Age (Mean)	51.3 ± 6.8	54.45 ± 5.2	0.003
Weight (kg)	75.3 ± 11.3	71.4 ± 10.34	0.562
BS2hpp	271.5 ± 58.45	242.4 ± 78.1	0.003
HbA1c (%)	8.7 ± 0.50	8.62 ± 0.60	0.34
BUN (mg/dl)	09.80 ± 1.99	10.60 ± 2.25	0.18
Creatinin(mg/dl)	0.93 ± 0.17	0.85 ± 0.15	0.78
ALT (U/L)	39.89 ± 26.19	27.60 ± 6.37	0.0001
Chol (mg/dl)	175.0 ± 45.51	176.44 ± 33.99	0.83
HDL (mg/dl)	42.16 ± 8.22	42.85 ± 7.67	0.55

Table 2: Comparison among groups before and after treatment

Variables	Group I		P Value	Group II		P Value
	Before treatment	After Treatment		Before Treatment	After Treatment	
FBS (mg/dl)	171.09 ± 46.41	152.60 ± 42.33	0.001	170.26 ± 56.144	149.72 ± 46.66	0.000
BS2hpp	271.5 ± 58.45	228.29 ± 63.18	0.002	242.4 ± 78.1	212.49 ± 66.56	0.000
HbA1c (%)	8.7 ± 0.50	7.74 ± 0.90	0.001	8.62 ± 0.60	7.88 ± 1.20	0.000
BUN (mg/dl)	09.80 ± 1.99	10.18 ± 1.99	0.56	10.60 ± 2.25	10.80 ± 2.67	0.55
Creatinin (mg/dl)	0.93 ± 0.17	0.958 ± 0.15	0.43	0.85 ± 0.15	1.005 ± 0.81	0.56
ALT (U/L)	39.89 ± 26.19	38.14 ± 16.83	0.65	27.60 ± 6.37	26.26 ± 6.80	0.22
Chol (mg/dl)	175.00 ± 45.51	153.31 ± 34.91	0.000	176.44 ± 33.99	171.50 ± 37.98	0.23
HDL (mg/dl)	42.16 ± 8.22	46.35 ± 12.19	0.005	42.85 ± 7.67	44.12 ± 8.28	0.88

DISCUSSION

The study was planned to compare the two treatment options among groups of patients with type II DM that had been ineffectively organized. We observed in our study that various variables that were controlled after treatment for the two treatment regimens vary. We observed no significant difference in the reduction of HbA1c between two groups. Both the treatments have great influence on HbA1c reduction. This finding is well supported by the study finding of sung-Chen Liu et al. where the difference of the treatment was insignificant²¹. We reports our results better than the mentioned study, this may be due to the difference of age (mean) between two studies. Thus older age may reduce the treatment response, with older age the resistance to insulin increased in comparison to younger aged people^{22,23}. The findings of another study conducted by Chawla had no statistical difference in HbA1c level reduction between two treatment groups as well²⁴. Interestingly, another study conducted in Japan had compared the two treatments and they reported that group I treatment is more effective than the group II treatment, moreover the difference between the groups was also significant¹³. This might be due to the low body weight of the population and the regional differences were also obvious. Insulin may have also act differently, they may have lower levels of insulin excretion and insulin confrontation than other races^{25,26}. We observed in our study that the reduction in FBS was significant with the intervention in groups, but this reduction difference was insignificant when comparing the two treatments. Similar findings were available in the literature to support our study^{13,24} contrary to our results Sung Chen Liu et al highlighted the treatment in group II has better reduction in FBS from baseline to end point²¹. Studies propose that the influence of pioglitazone on blood sugar is by taming

hepatic and outlying insulin resistance^{19,24}. Studies also available for comparing the therapies effect on BS2hpp, We observed in our study that treatment given to group I is better and effective in BS2hpp. Treatment I can improve both fasting and postprandial hyperglycemia excellently^{26,27,28,29} on the other hand group II treatment may improves the fasting hyperglycemia more effectively³⁰. We reported the gain in weight especially the treatment provided in group II was well known consequence^{31,32}. An association observed in overweight and insulin resistance, this may conclude that the loss in weight may lead to improve the insulin resistance thus yielding a better response to the drug^{33,34}. Thus the weight neutrality of the treatment option I offers better compensations to manage the type II DM. To measure the efficacy and safety of the drugs we reported no side effects such as hypoglycemia and gastrointestinal symptoms due to the two treatment regimens. Fewer studies reported these side effects with the both the treatments combinations¹³.

CONCLUSIONS

We may concluded in our study both the treatment options were effective to reduce the HbA1c, fasting blood glucose and blood glucose two hours after a meal and no significant difference was observed between the two treatment groups in improving the outcomes.

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