



## A STUDY OF EXERCISE TREADMILL TEST IN DETECTING ASYMPTOMATIC CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE IN TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS

**Paul Joy Pazhampillil**

Senior Resident, Department of Internal Medicine, Madurai Medical College

**Sundaraj Ravindran**

Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Madurai Medical College.

**Prasannan Gokul**

Junior Resident, Department of Internal Medicine, Madurai Medical College

### ABSTRACT

**INTRODUCTION:** Patients with type2 DM show a greater risk for CAD. But the risk stratification in asymptomatic CAD patients has not been established. This study investigated the prevalence of CAD in type2 DM patients since CAD accounts for 70-80 % of mortalities in diabetic patients. CAD risk for those with type2 DM is as great as that associated with a previous history of MI. However progressive CAD is asymptomatic in many cases of type 2 DM, which is difficult to diagnose at proper time. The diagnosis of asymptomatic CAD in type 2 diabetic patients is largely made based on the recommendations of ADA. The ADA recommends that DM patients perform a treadmill exercise test(TMT) if they have additional cardio vascular risk factors. However clinically significant severe CAD is often discovered in patients with fewer risk factors

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:** 1. To assess the prevalence of coronary artery disease in type 2 diabetes without hyper tension with normal ECG & normal echo

2. To improve the long term survival of type 2 diabetic patients by early detection of coronary artery disease and timely institution of Treatment

**MATERIALS&METHODS:** The study was conducted among out patients from diabetology & cardiology departments of Government Rajaji Hospital, Madurai during the period of January 2016 to June 2016. The study included 100 diabetic patients who had no previous symptoms of any cardiac disease.

Subjects believed to fulfill all eligibility criteria, and none of the exclusion criteria were included in the study.

**METHODOLOGY:** A previously designed proforma is used to collect the demographic data ,history and clinical details of the patients.

A battery of diabetic profile tests are done in all cases to assess glycaemic status , 12 lead ECG is taken to all patients .Those who are showing normal results are subjected to ECHO. If they show normal observation they will be subjected to exercise induced treadmill test in all patients for half an hour. Any exercise induced ischemia, MI, LBBB, any arrhythmias, are observed from the ECG which is recorded. Comparisons of inducible ischemia in blood sugar levels of fasting, Hba1c, BMI, ppbs are observed. Significance assessed by Students t test. Relation between age, sex, and duration of diabetes are assessed by Pearson correlation test.

**STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:** STUDENTS T TEST, PEARSON CORRELATION TEST, ONE WAY ANOVA, CHI SQUARE TEST

**RESULTS:** The average age for study group was 54.92 years. Among the 100 patients studied 60 were males and 40 females . Among the cases studied 40 had inducible ischemia .Of these 40, 23 having 5-10 years duration of diabetes,9 cases having more than 10 years of diabetes. Rate of inducible ischemia was high in patients with high fasting, high BMI, high HbA1C compared to patients with good glycaemic controls patients .Among the cases rate of occurrence of ischemia was higher in those with poor glycaemic control than with good glycaemic control .Occurrence of ischemia significantly high in patients even they are not having any symptoms of cardiac diseases. Based on TMT results we can observe that CAD risk is high even at the age of 40 and rate of ischemia occurrence is high if good glycaemic control is not maintained.

**CONCLUSION:** Type 2 diabetic patients are more prone for CAD since it is a coronary equivalent.

Hence all diabetics after the age of 40 should be subjected to TMT as a screening tool to diagnose early CAD .

**KEYWORDS :** CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE, TREAD MILL TEST, TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS

### INTRODUCTION:

Approximately diabetes is present in 2-3% of rural population in India. In urban it constitutes 8-12%. NIDDM constitutes nearly 95-97% of total diabetic population. The maximum macro and microvascular complications are associated with NIDDM. 75% diabetic deaths mainly due to macrovascular complications

Recent studies showed that CAD is independently associated with an increased HbA1c levels. More over mortality rates are higher in type 2 diabetic patients with CAD than general population. Patients with type 2 diabetes have a poor prognosis.

The diagnosis of CAD should be done early in type 2 diabetic patients, since diabetes itself is a coronary equivalent. The patients who are more than 40 years of age should be subjected to screening tests for early diagnosis and aggressive treatment.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS:

#### STUDY POPULATION

This study is to be conducted in 100 type 2 diabetic patients attending DIABETOLOGY CLINIC at Govt Rajaji hospital, Madurai.

#### INCLUSION CRITERIA

1. All type 2 diabetic patients

#### EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Patients with

1. Previous CAD/CVA
2. Smokers
3. Previous Dyslipidemia
4. DM with Systemic hypertension
5. Patients with peripheral vascular disease.

**ETHICAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL:** Obtained.

### STUDY PROTOCOL

A previously designed proforma will be used to collect the demographic and clinical details of the patients. Detailed history 45 pertaining to the present illness as well as a thorough history regarding other disease conditions were obtained. Each patient was inquired about previous drug intake for hypertension ,diabetes and any other co-morbid illness.

A thorough clinical examination and essential biochemical investigation was done to categorize the patients into diabetic and non diabetic, symptomatic and asymptomatic. An ECG was recorded in all patients and all of them were subjected to trans thoracic echocardiography. Who are all showing normal ECG and ECHO will be subjected to exercise induced treadmill test.

### LABORATORY EVALUATION

HbA1C

If not done for the past 1 year

1. Overnight fasting blood sugar, post prandial blood sugar
2. Fasting lipid profile
3. LFT
4. Spot ACR
5. Serum creatinine and GFR
6. TSH in patients with dyslipidemia
7. 12 LEAD ECG was taken to all patients. Looked for any ischemic or infarct changes.
8. Trans thoracic ECHO was taken for all patients. Any regional wall motion abnormalities noted. If patients with normal echo will be subjected to treadmill test.

**HISTORY**

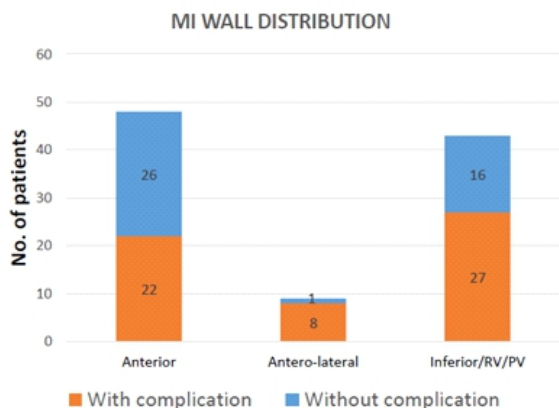
Detailed history of previous CAD, any chest pain, syncope, previous hospitalisation have obtained.

**STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

The data collected in the study was formulated into a master chart in Microsoft Office Excel and statistical analysis was done with the help of a computer by using SPSS software and Sigma Stat 3.5 version (2012). Using this software, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and p-value were calculated through one-way ANOVA, Pearson correlation, and chi-square test, and a p-value of < 0.005 was taken as significant.

**RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION**

In our study, the mean age is 54.96 (+/-) 10 years, with a minimum age of 40 years and a maximum age of 70 years.



SHT	MPV (fL)	SD
No (74)	9.94	0.547
Yes (26)	10.492	0.545

**COMMENTS**

1. 7% of cases below 45 years of age.
2. 11 of study population above 65 years of age.
3. 82% of cases between 46-65 years of age.
4. Majority of study population were males (60%) while the remaining (40%) were females.
5. Among the study population, 33% of cases are having less than 5 years of duration of diabetes.
6. 12% of cases more than 10 years of duration of diabetes.
7. 55% of cases between 5-10 years of duration of diabetes.

In our study population, 89% of patients have a fasting level of more than 100. Among these, 40% are showing TMT positive. Based on these patients with FBS of more than 100, there is an increased risk of CAD compared to patients with a fasting level of less than 100.

In our study population, 42% are showing HbA1c of >7. Among these, 40% are showing positive results for TMT. This means that people with high HbA1c have a significant risk of CAD.

In this study, patients have a mean FBS of 197.48. Based on these observations, a significant p-value of < 0.001 indicates that fasting blood sugar shows a significant association with CAD risk.

**LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

1. Sample size is small.
2. The study population involved patients seeking medical care in our hospital, which is a tertiary care center, and hence they may not represent the general population.
3. Patients with osteoarthritis and any deformities in the lower limb cannot undergo exercise testing.
4. Patients may develop sudden MI during testing, so keen observation is needed.
5. ICU and good cardiac care must be available before doing TMT. Because any time a patient may collapse.
6. Further investigations are needed to go beyond a screening procedure because it is just a screening tool.

**DISCUSSION**

The study was conducted in patients who attended the Diabetology clinic at Govt Rajaji Hospital, Madurai. Diagnosis of Diabetes Mellitus was made according to the AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION STANDARDS OF MEDICAL CARE IN DIABETES-2016. CAD risk is assessed according to ACC/AHA guidelines. Only newly diagnosed asymptomatic diabetic naïve patients were taken in our study. After applying exclusion criteria, 100 patients were selected for the study.

Out of 100 patients, 60 were male and 40 were female (1.5:1). It is consistent with previous studies because the nature of disease is more common in males as compared to females.

Out of 100 diabetic patients, 33 were 5 or less than 5 years of duration of diabetes, 55 were 5-10 years of duration of diabetes, and 12 were >10 years of duration of diabetes. More positivity was seen between 5-10 years of duration of diabetes.

Mee Kyoung Kim and his colleagues selected diabetics with more than 60 years of age, but in our study we have taken even 40 years of age. So, our study is detecting ischemia even yearly than previous studies, so we can decrease diabetes-related morbidity and improve the longevity of diabetic patients.

Won Sang Yoo et al. have conducted a study with 114 diabetic patients. They conducted the study with 2 groups: divided into group A (>2 risk factors), group B with (<1 risk factor). Patients are diagnosed as diabetics by oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT). TMT was performed according to the Bruce protocol using 12-lead ECG. This study proved that Type 2 DM patients had a greater risk of CAD if they are old, have a longer duration of diabetes.

Positive family history of CVD, even if they were asymptomatic. Based on this study, they recommend TMT to be performed to detect CVD in these asymptomatic patients.

But in our study, we conducted with patients without any risk factors like hypertension, CKD, previous CVD, smoking, dyslipidemia, patients with peripheral vascular disease. Only pure diabetics were selected and subjected to TMT study.

Based on our study, we concluded that even pure diabetics without other comorbidities (like SHT, CKD, dyslipidemia, smoking) have the CAD risk since it is a coronary equivalent. The risk is diagnosed early in significant proportion by exercise testing. It is diagnosed earlier by TMT when it is used as a screening tool.

**SUMMARY**

This prospective observational study was conducted to identify the prevalence of asymptomatic coronary artery disease in type 2 diabetes mellitus by using treadmill test as a screening tool. With 100 patients selected carefully and evaluated on clinical and laboratory aspects after an institutional ethical clearance with an informed consent. The data were entered in Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and analyzed statistically.

Occurrence of inducible ischemia is commonly seen in patients with high fasting blood sugar, high HbA1c, high BMI, patients with 5-10 years of duration of diabetes. It is diagnosed early even in newly detected patients of type 2 diabetes. The risk is significantly seen at the age of 40 years in these patients, since it is a coronary equivalent. Strict glycemic control and duration of disease is found to be an important key factor in the occurrence of coronary disease.

**CONCLUSION**

In our study high fasting blood sugar ,high Hba1c, obesity(high BMI), high PPBS 89%,42%,51%, were seen respectively.

Long duration of disease and high fasting blood sugar, increased BMI, poor glycemic control,lack of physical activity are important risk of factor for coronary artery disease.

Increased fasting blood sugar, increased BMI carries high risk of cardiovascular disease. Early diagnosis of CAD by screening tool like TMT and early introduction of treatment will reduce disease related complications.

By controlling fasting blood sugar and reducing the weight we can reduce risk of CAD, we can improve long term survival of diabetic patients.

**REFERENCES:**

1. Libby P, Bonow RO, Mann DL, Zipes DP. Exercise stress testing. Braunwald E, ed. Braunwald's Heart Disease: A Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine. 8th ed. Philadelphia, Pa: WB Saunders; 2007.
2. Botvinick EH. Current methods of pharmacologic stress testing and the potential advantages of new agents. *J Nucl Med Technol.* 2009 Mar. 37(1):1425.
3. Cerqueira MD, Nguyen P, Staehr P, Underwood SR, Iskandrian AE. Effects of age, gender, obesity, and diabetes on the efficacy and safety of the selective A2A agonist regadenoson versus adenosine in myocardial perfusion imaging integrated ADVANCEMPI trial results. *JACC Cardiovasc Imaging.* 2008 May. 1(3):30716.
4. Feil H, Seigel ML. Electrocardiographic changes during attacks of angina pectoris. *Am J Med Sci.* 1928.175:255.
5. Master AM, Oppenheimer ET. A simple exercise tolerance test for circulatory efficiency with standard tables for normal individuals. *Am J Med Sci.* 1929. 177:223.
6. Qureshi WT, Alirhayim Z, Blaha MJ, et al. Cardiorespiratory fitness and risk of incident atrial fibrillation: results from the Henry Ford Exercise Testing (FIT) Project. *Circulation.* 2015 May 26. 131 (21):182734.
7. Miller TD, Askew JW, Anavekar NS. Noninvasive stress testing for coronary artery disease. *Heart Fail Clin.* 2016 Jan. 12 (1):6582..
8. Gibbons RJ, Balady GJ, Beasley JW, et al. ACC/AHA Guidelines for Exercise Testing. A report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines (Committee on Exercise Testing). *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 1997 Jul. 30(1):2
9. Gibbons RJ, Balady GJ, Bricker JT, et al. ACC/AHA 2002 guideline update for exercise testing: summary article. Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines (Committee to Update the 1997 Exercise Testing Guidelines). *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2002 Oct 16. 40(8):15314
10. Weintraub WS, Madeira SW Jr, Bodenheimer MM, et al. Critical analysis of the application of Bayes' theorem to sequential testing in the noninvasive diagnosis of coronary artery disease. *Am J Cardiol.* 1984 Jul 1. 54(1):439.
11. Michaelides AP, Psomadaki ZD, Dilaveris PE, et al. Improved detection of coronary artery disease by exercise electrocardiography with the use of right precordial leads. *N Engl J Med.* 1999 Feb 4. 340(5):3405.
12. Morise AP. Accuracy of heart rate adjusted ST segments in populations with and without post test referral bias. *Am Heart J.* 1997 Oct 134 (4):64755.
13. Okin PM, Kligfield P. Heart rate adjustment of ST segment Depression and performance of the exercise electrocardiogram: a critical evaluation. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 1995 Jun. 25(7):172635.
14. Viik J, Lehtinen R, Malmivuo J. Detection of coronary artery disease using maximum value of ST/HR hysteresis over different number of leads. *J Electrocardiol.* 1999. 32 Suppl:705.
15. Froelicher VF, Lehmann KG, Thomas R, et al. The electrocardiographic Exercise test in a population with reduced workup bias: diagnostic performance, computerized interpretation, and multivariable predict Veterans Affairs Cooperative Study in Health Services #016 (QUEXTA) Study Group. Quantitative Exercise Testing and Angiography. *Ann Intern Med.* 1998 Jun 15. 128(12 1):96574.
16. Anderson JL, Adams CD, Antman EM, et al. ACC/AHA 2007 guidelines for the management of patients with unstable angina/NSTEMI: a report of the ACC/AHA Task Force on Practice Guidelines (Writing Committee to Revise the 2002 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With Unstable Angina/NSTEMI) developed in collaboration with the American College of Emergency Physicians, the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interv... *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2007 Aug 14. 50 (7):e1e157.
17. Anderson JL, Adams CD, Antman EM, et al. 2011 ACC/AHA Focused Update Incorporated Into the ACC/AHA 2007 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With Unstable Angina/NonST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction: a report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines. *Circulation.* 2011 May 10. 123(18):e426579.
18. HARRISON 'S TEXTBOOK OF MEDICINE. 19 TH EDITION
19. API TEXTBOOK OF MEDICINE. 10 TH EDITION