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P4.15

BLOOD PRESSURE, BODY MASS INDEX AND ARTERIAL ELASTIC PROPERTIES IN YOUNG PEOPLE

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Pulse wave velocity (PWV) is widely used for arterial stiffness assessment. Increased arterial stiffness is a predictor of cardiovascular risk in adults. There are limited data on PWV and its determinants in young people. Study was performed to compare PWV and its association with blood pressure (BP) and body mass index (BMI) in healthy high school and university students.

Methods: First group – 42 high school students (22 males) 14-15 years (14.8 ± 0.3 years), the second group – 38 university students (18 males) aged 17-21 years (18.8 ± 1.1 years). To study velocities in elastic (Ve) and muscular (Vm) arteries sphygmomanometry was performed on carotid, femoral and radial arteries. **Results:** Older students had higher BMI 22.2 ± 2.8 vs 20.06 ± 2.05 kg/m²; $p=0.002$ and trend to higher systolic BP (126.2 ± 16.6 vs 119.6 ± 10.2 mm Hg; $p=0.07$). No difference between groups in Vm was found (7.28 ± 1.18 m/s in 1st group; 7.09 ± 1.14 m/s in 2nd). Ve was higher in older group (6.24 ± 1.06 vs 5.57 ± 0.67 m/s in younger group; $p=0.001$). No gender difference was found in Ve or Vm in either group. Correlation analysis performed in both groups revealed that Ve significantly correlated with age ($r=0.26$), BMI ($r=0.34$), systolic ($r=0.29$), diastolic ($r=0.30$) and mean BP ($r=0.33$). Vm correlated only with height ($r=0.28$). Pulse BP did not correlate with Ve or Vm. Multiple regression found only BMI as independent factor associated with Ve ($\beta=0.27$; $p=0.04$).

Conclusions: Elastic arteries stiffness increased with age in young people with no gender difference. It depends on BP and BMI. The main determinant of Ve is BMI.

P4.16

THE MYOTROPHOBLAST OF THE RAT PLACENTA: EX VIVO STUDY OF NITRIC OXIDE SYNTHASE INHIBITION

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Introduction: Endovascular trophoblasts (EVasT) of the rat express smooth muscle (SM) proteins and contract ex vivo upon exposure to endothelin-1 (ET1). Contraction is mediated via ET1 receptors A and B (ETA, ETB). In vascular SM ETB, in variance from ETA, exerts relaxation through activation of nitric oxide synthase (NOS). We investigated the role of NOS expressed by EVasT in reaction to ET1 exposure.

M&M: Cut surface area of remodeled spiral artery rings devoid of SM was measured ex vivo exposed to (a) L-NAME alone, (b) L-NAME and ET1 representing the combined contractile effect of both receptors, and (c) L-NAME with ET1 and ETA antagonist, representing the isolated contractile effect mediated by ETB. These curves were compared with ET1-induced contraction in the presence of receptor antagonists without L-NAME. Statistical analysis was performed 2-way mixed ANOVA.

Results: L-NAME alone reduced lumen cut surface area by $2.2 \pm 0.3\%$ ($p=0.002$). ET1+L-NAME, representing the sum of constrictive effect via ETA and ETB reduced vascular lumen area immediately, compared with a plateau at 60min by addition of ET1 alone, $p=0.004$. ET1 + ETA inhibitor + L-NAME, representing the isolated constrictive effect of ETB ($5.9 \pm 0.6\%$), demonstrated similar vasoconstriction via ETA ($5.3 \pm 0.5\%$) ($p=0.018$).

Conclusions: EVasT of the rat remodeled spiral artery react to ET1 exposure similar to vascular SM of non-modified arteries: contract via ETA and ETB and relax via ETB through NOS activation. This phenomenon may play a role in situations of dysregulation of the vasoactive systems in rat models of pre-eclampsia and IUGR.

P4.17

ARTERIAL STIFFNESS IN YOUNG PATIENTS WITH PERIPHERAL ARTERIAL DISEASE

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Increased arterial stiffness occurs in older patients with peripheral arterial disease (PAD). In this study we compared arterial stiffness and central hemodynamic parameters in young (< 60 years of age) PAD patients and controls. In 31 PAD patients with an ankle-brachial index ($ABI \leq 0.9$) and 42 controls, aortic Pulse wave velocity (aPWV), Augmentation index corrected for heart rate ($AIx@75HR$), aortic Pulse Pressure (aPP), Pulse Pressure Amplification (PPA), were measured using the SphygmoCor device. In young PAD patients aPWV and $AIx@75HR$ were similar ($p=0.10$) ($p=0.58$) With respect to controls but aortic PP was higher ($p=0.02$) and the PP amplification ratio was lower ($p=0.005$). PAD in young subjects is associated with central hemodynamic alterations but not with degenerative stiffness of the large arteries.

P4.18

THE ASSUMPTION THAT BLOOD PRESSURE DECREASES OVER CONSECUTIVE MEASUREMENTS IS FALSE: MAJOR IMPLICATIONS FOR HYPERTENSION DIAGNOSIS AND GUIDELINES

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Background: There is anecdotal belief that clinic blood pressure (BP) drops over consecutive measurements. This has led to guideline recommendations to discard the first BP reading, or take only one reading if systolic BP (SBP) <140 mmHg. However, the magnitude and direction of change in SBP over consecutive measurements is not clear, and the effect of age and BP level on this change in SBP is unknown. We investigated these issues, and their effect on hypertension diagnosis.

Methods: Duplicate BP (or triplicate if large BP differences) was recorded by oscillometry among 20,752 participants (aged 45[95CI; 45,46] years; males 50%) from the 2011-13 Australian Health Survey. SBP change was defined as the difference between measurements.

Results: SBP decreased between the first two measures in only 56%, whereas it increased in 37% and did not change in 7% of the population. There was a strong, age-dependent, J-curved relationship between SBP change and SBP level ($p<0.001$), with the smallest SBP change corresponding to controlled SBP (100 – 140 mmHg). The age-dependent SBP changes resulted in significant diagnostic reclassification compared with the approach of discarding the first reading; 63% and 35% reclassified from hypertension to normal BP, and 4% and 13% reclassified from normal to hypertension among those aged <50 years and ≥ 50 years respectively.

Conclusions: The assumption that SBP drops over consecutive measurements is false, and significant age- and BP-dependent reclassification of hypertension diagnosis will result if the first SBP is discarded. These findings highlight the need for change to some international hypertension guidelines.

P4.19

CARDIOVASCULAR RISK FACTORS AND LEFT VENTRICULAR HYPERTROPHY IN CHILDREN WITH CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE

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Cardiovascular diseases are substantial causes of mortality among patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD). The aim of the study was an assessment of the impact of cardiovascular risk factors on left ventricular hypertrophy (LVH) in children with CKD.

Material and methods: The study was conducted in a group of 71 children with mean age 11 years and CKD stage 1 to 5. Serum cystatin C, albumin

levels, and lipids profile were measured. Ambulatory blood pressure measurements and echocardiography were performed.

Results: LVH was detected in 34 out of 71 children. In children with LVH, significantly higher values of BP were observed in 24-hour measurements: systolic (119 vs. 109 mm Hg; $p=0.002$), diastolic BP (73 vs. 65 mm Hg; $p=0.009$) and MAP (89 vs. 81 mm Hg, $p=0.004$). These significantly higher BP values were observed within day and night. Increased cholesterol level was found in 25, LDL in 12, TGL in 28, and a decreased HDL in 20 children.

In children with LVH higher BMI (18.6 vs. 16.7 kg/m²; $p=0.039$) and lower albumin (41.5 vs. 45.4 g/l; $p=0.013$), HDL (1.14 vs. 1.5 mmol/l; $p=0.001$) and Ca levels (2.36 vs. 2.47 mmol/l; $p=0.03$) were found. Obesity and low HDL level were independent LVH risk factors. The results indicate a 3-fold increase in the risk of LVH in children with hypertension (OR 3.18, $p=0.045$), rising up when 2-3 risk factors were present (OR 6, $p=0.015$).

Conclusions: Hypertension, a decreased HDL cholesterol level and overhydration have significant impact on the development of LVH in CKD children.

P4.20

ASSESSMENT OF BODY COMPOSITION USING BIOELECTRICAL IMPEDANCE ANALYSIS AND BLOOD PRESSURE IN HEALTHY SCHOOL CHILDREN

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Introduction: Bioimpedance analysis (BIA) is becoming more widely used in clinical practice to measure water body compartments. BIA allows to calculate: total body water (TBW), lean body mass (LBM), fat mass (FM), intra- and extracellular water (ICW, ECW).

Aim: The aim of this study was to evaluate the influence of body composition, measured by electrical bioimpedance, on blood pressure (BP) in children.

Methods: The study was performed in 72 children (32 girls and 40 boys) aged: 6-7 and 12-13 years. BIA measurements were taken using Nutriguard Data Input device. Blood pressure was measured twice using oscillometric method.

Results: 8 studied children had body weight <3rd percentile; 1 girl >97th percentile. A statistically significant correlation between systolic BP and TBW ($r = 0.4023$, $p < 0.000$), LBM ($r = 0.3600$, $p = 0.002$), FM ($r = 0.4725$, $p < 0.000$) ECW ($r = 0.4598$ $p < 0.000$) and BMI ($r = 0.4089$ $p < 0.000$) was found. Furthermore, diastolic BP significantly correlated with TBW ($r = 0.3056$, $p = 0.011$), LBM ($r = 0.2783$, $p = 0.021$), FM ($r = 0.3956$, $p < 0.000$) ECW ($r = 0.3869$ $p = 0.001$) and BMI ($r = 0.3550$, $p = 0.002$). Elevated BP values > 95th percentile for gender, age and height were observed in 5 girls and 4 boys.

Conclusions: In the studied children systolic and diastolic BP values correlated with body composition parameters. The problem of unrecognized hypertension and malnutrition in children and adolescents is still underestimated in the Polish population.

P4.21

MICROCIRCULATION EFFECTS OF OBESITY AND/OR DIET: A PRELIMINARY STUDY IN MICE

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Obesity is becoming a global epidemic and is associated with cardiovascular disease. Genetic factors play a significant role in the disease etiology but less is known about the interaction between genes and diet composition. This study is aimed to investigate the effect of diet and/or genotype on microcirculation in mice.

Five groups of male mice (28 weeks) were examined using micro-ultrasound (Vevo2100, VisualSonics): 5 wild type mice on standard diet (WT_DS), 7 wild

type mice on high-fat diet (WT_HF), 7 OB/+ mice on standard diet (OB/+_SD), 5 OB/+ mice on high-fat diet (OB/+_HF) and 4 OB/OB mice on standard diet (OB/OB_SD). The high-fat diet (45% energy as fat) groups were treated for 18 weeks before US scans. Intrarenal vasculature was imaged using Power-Doppler mode and Pulsed-Wave Doppler signals were acquired at the segmental level; Resistivity Index (RI) and Pulsatility Index (PI) were then assessed.

Both RI and PI were significantly lower in WT_DS than in WT_HF (0.57 ± 0.03 vs 0.67 ± 0.06 and 0.86 ± 0.04 vs 1.10 ± 0.09 , respectively). The same result was found for the comparison between OB/+_SD and OB/+_HF (0.63 ± 0.06 vs 0.72 ± 0.04 and 1 ± 0.12 vs 1.22 ± 0.09 , respectively). RI and PI values were significantly different between WT_HF and OB/+_HF mice, while no differences were found for WT_DS-OB/+_DS, WT_HF-OB/OB_SD and OB/+_HF-OB/OB_SD comparisons.

The high-fat diet has effects on the microvasculature of both WT and OB/+ mice. The two genotypes respond differently to the high-fat diet but not to the standard one. Moreover, if treated with high-fat diet, WT and OB/+ animals are not different from OB/OB mice (standard diet) in terms of microcirculation.

P5.1

FROM AORTIC FLOW VELOCITY TO CENTRAL PRESSURE: A NON-INVASIVE PROOF OF CONCEPT

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Estimation of aortic and left ventricular (LV) pressure usually requires measurements that are difficult to acquire during the imaging required to obtain concurrent LV dimensions essential for determination of LV mechanical properties. We describe a novel method for deriving aortic pressure from the aortic flow velocity. The target pressure waveform is divided into an early systolic upstroke and a diastolic decay, interposed by a late systolic portion described by a second-order polynomial. Pulse wave velocity (PWV), mean arterial pressure, diastolic pressure and diastolic decay are required inputs for the algorithm. The algorithm was tested using a) pressure data derived theoretically from pre-specified flow waveforms and properties of the arterial tree using a single-tube 1-D model of the arterial tree and b) experimental data acquired from a pressure/Doppler flow velocity transducer placed in the ascending aorta ($n=18$, mean \pm SD, age: 63 ± 11 years, aortic BP: 136 ± 23 / 73 ± 13 mmHg) at the time of cardiac catheterisation. For experimental data, PWV was calculated from measured pressures/flows and mean, diastolic pressures and diastolic decay were taken from measured pressure. Pressure reconstructed from measured flow agreed well with theoretical pressure: mean \pm SD root mean square (RMS) error 0.7 ± 0.1 mmHg. Similarly, for experimental data, pressure reconstructed from measured flow agreed well with measured pressure (mean RMS error 2.4 ± 1.0 mmHg). First systolic shoulder and systolic peak pressures were also accurately rendered (mean \pm SD difference 1.4 ± 2.0 mmHg for peak systolic pressure). This is the first non-invasive derivation of aortic pressure based on fluid dynamics (flow and wave speed) in the aorta itself.

P5.2

FROM THE WAVE PROPAGATION MODEL TO A TRANSFER FUNCTION: A POSSIBILITY FOR PERSONALISATION

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Since aortic pressure cannot be measured noninvasively, pressure signals are often measured at more superficial arteries and a transfer function is applied to obtain a surrogate for the central pressure curve. These transformations are usually derived from measurements in a specific group of subjects and a generalised transfer function is calculated thereof. In contrast, in this work a one-dimensional wave propagation model is used to derive a patient-specific transfer function.

A model of the arterial tree is combined with the theory from Womersley for blood flow in elastic vessels. This approach allows an explicit solution of the wave equations. Thus the pressure at each location in the arterial tree can be calculated from a stationary component and forward and backward travelling waves. To obtain a transfer function, it is sufficient to derive the transfer function from one arterial segment to its parent vessel by relating forward and backward travelling waves via the reflection coefficient of the