

Letters to the Editor

[The Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by the correspondents]

High Fibrinogen Level in Patients with Type 2 DM and Ischemic Cerebrovascular Accident — An Experience From A Tertiary Care Hospital of Eastern India JIMA, Vol 118, No 2, February, 2020

SIR, — It has been correctly pointed out that plasma fibrinogen should be considered for screening program to identify people at high risk of vascular events.

The study has not elaborated the definition based on which, diabetic subjects were selected. Stress hyperglycaemia has not been ruled out also.

Glycated haemoglobin (HbA_{1c}) level estimation in these patients would have further helped to study the effect of chronic hyperglycaemia on fibrogen levels further.

The author has also rightly stated that the limitations of this study is the inability to rule out other causes of hyperfibrinogenemia.

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Outcomes of the tunnelled venous catheters for maintenance hemodialysis : an experience from Eastern India JIMA, Vol 117, No 12, December, 2019

SIR, — I have reviewed the article. This is an interesting prospective observational study conducted at a tertiary care hospital, to evaluate outcome of right internal jugular vein (IJV) tunnelled venous catheter (TVC) in maintenance Hemodialysis (MHD) patients. Considering the fact that a good vascular access is life line of MHD patients and timely creation of arterio- venous fistula (AVF) is a major problem in country like India; Rt IJVC TVCs should be more often utilized and explored. As an HD access, TVCs has several advantages over non tunnelled venous catheter (NTVC) and obviously better option in MHD patients with poor prospects for AVF. The article is generally well written and structured. However, I would like to put some questions to author like-

Whether C-Arm was used during the TVC placement.

Any special observation about TVCs in paediatric population; regarding complications and any difference from adult study population.

Is there any relation of TVCs related complications with no of HD sessions per week?

Whether prophylactic antibiotic lock was used in study population.

Though there are number of studies of TVCs, experience and report from eastern India is scarce and this study may add new information regarding is underutilised vascular access to treating physician. The study would have been more complete if bio film assessment and venography would have been done.

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Prevalence of Autoantibodies in patient complaining of multiple joint pain in a tertiary care hospital JIMA, Vol 118, No 1, January, 2020

SIR, — The authors showed the prevalence of auto-antibodies like ANA, RF and dsDNA in apparently healthy population with multiple joint pain. These patients are not categorized as active rheumatoid disease and non rheumatoid arthritis groups. No imaging studies as well as other tests like CBC, ESR, CRP, uric acid of the patients have been performed to classify the disease category and disease activity. There fore the correlation of these auto-antibodies with different arthritis /arthralgia are not well evident. They have observed that more females than males (22.42% versus 8%) had RF but in conclusion they mentioned "Further, RF was associated with gender as it was prevalent more in males compared to females." just opposite.

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Relationship of neck circumference with metabolic syndrome

JIMA, Vol 117, No 9, September, 2019

SIR, — Salam Ranabir *et al*¹ have wonderfully pointed out the relationship between Neck circumference and Metabolic Syndrome. They have shown that "Measurement of NC is a simple, time saving and least invasive measurement tool to identify metabolic syndrome risk factors in patients¹." The landmark NIDDK Sleep Extension Study² has also shown that Greater NC is associated with Obstructive sleep apnea syndrome and metabolic syndrome in short-sleeping obese men and premenopausal obese women. It was noted that Addition of NC to the definition of metabolic syndrome should be considered and needs to be validated in future studies². Girish Mathur *et al*³ have also concluded that Neck Circumference can be used as a sensitive tool for metabolic syndrome and cardiovascular risk factors.

I would like to ask the authors regarding the large proportion of patients with cerebrovascular accident (CVA) (42.8% of the study population) included in the study. Was the study done in a neurology ward and won't the high proportion of CVA patient result in selection bias in the study ?

- 1 Lalrinfela H, Ravi Nishad, S Bhagyabati Devi, Robinson Ningshen, Ningthoukhongjam Reema, Salam Ranabir. Relationship of neck circumference with metabolic Syndrome. JIMA, Vol 117, NO 9, September 2019.
- 2 Cizza G, de Jonge L, Piaggi P, Mattingly M, Zhao X, Lucassen E, Rother KI, Sumner AE, Csako G; NIDDK Sleep Extension Study. Neck circumference is a predictor of metabolic syndrome and obstructive sleep apnea in short-sleeping obese men and women. *Metab Syndr Relat Disord* 2014 May; 12(4): 231-41.
- 3 Rajesh Kumar Bochaliya, Aradhna Sharma, Puneet Saxena, GD Ramchandani, Girish Mathur — To Evaluate the Association of Neck Circumference with Metabolic Syndrome and Cardiovascular Risk Factors *Journal of The Association of Physicians of India*. Vol. 67. March 2019. 60-62.

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