Background

Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) include an increase in left ventricular mass (LVM). Whether the underlying mechanisms of this association are due to the hyperglycaemic state per se, or to other risk factors is unclear. We explored the association between diabetes duration, an index of the chronicity of the hyperglycaemic state, with LVM.

Methods

The Medical Research Council National Survey of Health and Development is a birth cohort study following men and women born in Britain in 1 week in March 1946. When study members were 43 years onwards, had higher mean LVM than those who were not on treatment, irrespective of level of SBP at the same age. LVM was 12.5 g/cm² (95% CI 9.2 to 15.4; p=0.001) higher for those currently on treatment, 10.0 g/cm² higher (95% CI 5.9 to 14.1; p=0.001) for those on treatment at age 53, and 15.1 g/cm² higher (95% CI 5.8 to 24.3; p=0.001) for treatment at age 43. In associated analyses, the effect of mid-life rate of change in SBP (from 36 to 53 years) on LVM at age 60–64 years was 10 times greater than the effect of more recent rate of change in SBP (from 53 years to current).

Conclusions

Our research suggests being on antihypertensive treatment may not normalise LVM due to irreversible cardiac damage occurring in mid-life in poorly controlled hypertensives. Early identification and effective treatment of individuals with rapidly increasing SBP in mid-life may be key to preventing such damage. A review of current guidelines on monitoring and screening of blood pressure may thus be required.
mortality, non-fatal myocardial infarction, referral/admission to hospital with CP) up to a minimum of 6 months after the index assessment were analysed. Typical, atypical and NACP were determined from CP characteristics. 622 patients without confirmed CAD were diagnosed with NACP. Following the 1st visit, 70 patients were recommended coronary angiograms (27 significant CAD, 26 revascularised, 1 treated medically, 7 refused) and 66 had myocardial perfusion scans (14 reversible/2 fixed defects). 62 (10%) patients reached an end-point (2 cancer deaths, 11 non-fatal MI, 40 readmitted and 8 referred with CP, 1 non-haemorrhagic stroke). Of these patients, 29 were previously investigated: 21 angiograms (10 significant CAD), 14 MPS (3 reversible/1 fixed defect). Investigations after reaching end-point showed 3 significant CAD (14 angiograms) and 1 reversible defect (5 myocardial perfusion scan). 14 others were not investigated further due to unequivocally negative exercise ECG. Only the presence of diabetes predicted the end-point (OR 5.21, 95% CI 2.67 to 10.15, p<0.0001) in a multiple logistic regression analysis using age, gender, current smoking, total cholesterol >6.47 mmol/l and diabetes as covariates.

Conclusion 47 (7.6%) patient that are to be discharged without investigation, had significant coronary artery disease. Even with a short follow-up, 10% of these patients needed medical attention for suspected cardiovascular morbidity. It may be unreasonable to discharge patients describing NACP especially diabetics.

REFERENCE

140 ASSESSMENT OF PRE-TEST LIKELIHOOD OF CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE IN PATIENTS WITH CHEST PAIN OF RECENT ONSET
doi:10.1136/heartjnl-2012-301877b.140

I U Haq,* P C Adams. Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Background The NICE guideline for chest pain of recent onset recommends diagnosis of angina based on clinical assessment and estimated likelihood of coronary artery disease (CAD). Pre-test likelihood (FTL) estimates are provided in a simplified table based on the Pryor risk equation. If the FTL of CAD is <10% or >90%, further diagnostic testing is not required. If 10%–29% cardic CT should be offered, if 30%–60% functional imaging, and if 61%–90% coronary angiography. We compared risk estimation methods to determine how much use of the table in an uncritical manner vs use of the full risk equation led to a different referral pattern. We also investigated whether interpolation for risk factor profiles would improve assessment.

Methods Data were collected prospectively for all patients referred to the Rapid Access Chest Pain Clinic, Newcastle upon Tyne, between February 2002 and August 2011. For each patient, FTL of CAD was assessed by three methods: (1) Reference to the NICE table based on chest pain (typical or atypical), age in decades, sex and risk factors—smoking, hyperlipidaemia and diabetes dichotomised into high and low risk. For high risk, all three risk factors needed to be present; otherwise the patient was assumed low risk. (2) As per method one, but risk estimates were interpolated between low and high risk values in the NICE table according to the number of risk factors. (3) Calculation by the Pryor equation which includes, in addition, age in years, prior MI, ECG Q waves, and ST/T changes.

Results Out of an initial 7022 patients, 1820 were excluded as they had non-anginal chest pain. This left 5202 patients, 2889 with atypical angina and 2313 with typical angina. The number (%) of patients in the five different risk groups by the three risk assessment methods is given in Abstract 140 figure 1. Use of the risk equation compared to the table led to half as many people in the category >90%. Fewer patients would be referred for cardiac CT, more for functional imaging and more for invasive coronary angiography. Use of the adapted table correlated with the risk equation better, but there were still discrepancies, and the percentage of patients for coronary angiography would increase overall (Abstract 140 figure 1). The NICE table would classify only 39% of patients with FTL <10% correctly, 60.3% of those with FTL 10%–29%, 44.9% of those with FTL 30%–60%, 62.9% of those with FTL 61%–90%, and 86.3% of those with FTL >90% (Abstract 140 figure 1). The corresponding figures correctly classifying people in the five risk categories using the adapted table were 92.9%, 86.4%, 65.2%, 71.2% and 85.9% respectively (Abstract 140 figure 2).

Abstract 140 Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-test likelihood CAD</th>
<th>&lt;10%</th>
<th>10%–29%</th>
<th>30%–60%</th>
<th>61%–90%</th>
<th>&gt;90%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NICE table—n (%)</td>
<td>365  (7.0)</td>
<td>1247 (24.0)</td>
<td>1069 (20.5)</td>
<td>1424 (27.4)</td>
<td>1097 (21.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modified table—n (%)</td>
<td>127 (2.4)</td>
<td>795 (15.3)</td>
<td>1271 (24.4)</td>
<td>1821 (35.0)</td>
<td>1188 (22.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pryor risk equation—n (%)</td>
<td>183 (3.5)</td>
<td>1002 (19.3)</td>
<td>1180 (22.9)</td>
<td>1633 (31.4)</td>
<td>1194 (23.0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

139 CLINICAL OUTCOMES OF PATIENTS EXCLUDED FROM CARDIAC INVESTIGATION IN THE NICE GUIDELINES FOR CHEST PAIN OF RECENT ONSET
doi:10.1136/heartjnl-2012-301877b.139

1C Patterson,* A Ahmed, E Nicol, D Bell, 1Imperial College, London, UK; 2Ealing Hospital, London, UK; 3Royal Brompton Hospital, London, UK; 4St Thomas’ Hospital, London, UK

Introduction NICE guidance for the investigation of chest pain of recent onset1 recommends clinical assessment and risk stratification within a diagnostic algorithm. Patients with pain considered “non-anginal“, and those with atypical/typical anginal pain but a like-lihood of coronary artery disease (CAD) <10% are not routinely recommended for cardiac investigation. This study sought to assess whether clinical outcomes support these patients being considered at low risk of CAD.

Methods 557 consecutive patients (50.4% male; median age 55 yrs) attending rapid access chest pain clinics (RACPC) at two hospitals were risk stratified using NICE criteria. Frequency of admission with suspected angina, diagnosis of CAD and incidence of major adverse cardiac events (MACE: myocardial infarction (MI), cerebrovascular accident (CVA), emergency revascularisation or cardiac-related death) were compared for all risk categories at 6 months.

Results Of 360/557 patients with “non-anginal” pain, 14 (3.9%) were subsequently admitted with angina, 34 (9.4%) were diagnosed with CAD, 5 (0.8%) with MI and 2 (0.6%) with CVA. This group accounted for 36.9% of all patients diagnosed with CAD and 38.5% of all patients with MACE. Of 10/557 patients with atypical/typical anginal pain and a likelihood of CAD <10%, 1 (10%) was diagnosed with CAD. None were admitted with angina or diagnosed with MACE. This group accounted for 1.1% of all patients diagnosed with CAD.

Conclusions This study suggests one in ten patients routinely excluded from cardiac investigation by the NICE algorithm have CAD and just over one in a hundred of them have a MACE episode. Although these patients are considered low risk, they account for one third of adverse cardiac events in patients attending RACPC.