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Case Report

Prediabetes can be Reversed Using Low Dose Tadalafil: Non- Classical Treatment of Diabetes as A New Medical Hypothesis

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Abstract

Diabetes type 2 represents a global health problem, and it is expected to influence approximately 530 million people by 2030. Usually, diabetes type 2 is developed through more than one stage. Prediabetes is a preliminary stage of diabetes before developing full episodes of diabetes. Diabetes type 2 can be preventable following appropriate lifestyles. The main objective of this study is to describe a case with liver cirrhosis and the patient was recommended for liver transplantation. Following reviewing of his profile, it was apparent that the patient had prediabetes (glucose level was 126mg/dl). The patient was recommended to use tadalafil 5 mg daily to offer improvement of liver function based on previous experience. Glucose level was daily measured. It was interestingly found that glucose levels were restored to normal levels between 85-100 mg/dl. Taken together, prediabetes can be treated using non-classical therapeutic approaches and full events can be prevented accordingly.

Keywords: Diabetes Type 2; Pre-Diabetes; Tadalafil; Glucose; Liver

Introduction

Type2 diabetes (T2D) can result from various reasons, it develops with time [1]. Lifestyle behaviors and environmental factors play significant roles in developing T2D [2]. Risk factors attributing to T2D include age, obesity, race, family history of T2D, abdominal adiposity and physical inactivity, and depression [1,3]. The prevalence of type 2 diabetes is dramatically increasing at international level [4].

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) defined pre-diabetes in terms of impairment in fasting glucose (5.6–6.9 mmol/L), or impairment in oral glucose tolerance test (2-h OGTT glucose 7.8–11.0 mmol/L) [5]. Pre-diabetic can be determined by a low glucose tolerance and delayed insulin secretion [6].

Pre-diabetes may pass unnoticed because patients do not clinically exhibit specific symptoms that require medical interactions, and it needs to be investigated thoroughly because

people may have various hypoglycemic states. Pre-diabetes can be fully developed into diabetes [7,8].

We have recently reported a paper about induction of prediabetic model in rats. We demonstrated in this study that the use of Urtica pilluliferain restoring pre-diabetic status into normal status in terms of glucose level, lipid profile, and oxidation stress [4]. However, our accumulated experience in diabetic studies showed that development of diabetes is associated with molecular changes in different tissues such as brain [9], and liver [10]. The most common feature in our studies is the upregulation of HSP70 as a factor showing improvement in diabetic status.

Tadalafil is a member of phosphodiesterase-5 inhibitors, and it is widely used for the treatment of erectile dysfunction due to its long acting properties [11]. The use of tadalafil has been associated with antioxidant activities in blood and tissues [12-15].[16] reported the existence of certain benefits of using daily tadalafil

5 mg such as increasing some regional cerebral blood flow (CBF) as well as improving cognitive function among patients who have erectile dysfunction (ED), and with those who have mild cognitive impairment. In another study by [17], it was found that there was an influence of using a chronic tadalafil treatment in cognitive function of Alzheimer Disease (AD). We also previously found that in rat diabetic model, heat shock protein was downregulated in the white matter [18].

Studycase

A male, 32 years old, had liver cirrhosis. He was recommended to subject for liver transplantation. After reviewing his profile, he had several abnormal findings including liver function test, lactate dehydrogenase enzyme (LDH). His glucose level was estimated from 126 -160 mg/dl, but in most readings, his glucose level was about 130 mg/dl. The patient and his family members were looking for other therapeutic options. He was recommended to use low dose tadalafil (5 mg/daily). The course was recommended for one month. During that time, the patient was required to measure fasting blood glucose daily at the morning.

Results

The main results were as the following: glucose level started declining and reached 100-93mg/dl within the first 5 days. After one month, biochemical and hematological tests were carried out. Fasting blood sugar was 94 mg/dl. Lactate dehydrogenase level dropped from 2000-1200 U/L. Liver function tests were almost within their normal reference.

Discussion

We have conducted several studies on T2D that led us to think of diabetes to be more neurological than its metabolic classical perspectives [9,18]. The use of low dose tadalafil has been reported to have beneficial effects in various cases of depression by working as antioxidant [11-15].

We think that detection and treatment of pre-diabetic cases is possible and feasible to prevent the development of full episode of diabetes. From accumulative experience of our studies, we think that the use of tadalafil upregulates the expression of HSP70.

Conclusion

The use of low dose tadalafil is beneficial in treating prediabetes to prevent the development of diabetes.

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