QUALITY STATE OF LIPOPROTEINS
IN PATHOLOGIES WITH DIFFERENT GENESIS

Vasylchenko V. S., Kuchmenko O. B.

INTRODUCTION

Homeostasis is ensured by the consistency of multifunctional reactions of the human body. Their important component is the metabolism of lipids and lipoproteins. The particles of low and high-density, provide afferent and efferent transport of cholesterol\(^1\). Cholesterol plays numerous functions in the body of chordates, the most important of which are structural, regulatory and numerous others\(^2\).

The involvement of cholesterol in cardiovascular and immune systems had been studied the best\(^3\). Beginning in 1948, with the initiation of large-scale research in the city of Framingham, it was considered one of the main indicators of the development of cardiometabolic diseases. During the nearly seventy-year period, the study provided significant insights into the spread and risks of cardiovascular disease\(^4\).

The first large-scale Framingham study had shifted focus from treatment interventions to preventative ones and the increase in pressure, along with such risk factors as obesity, smoking, the elevation of total cholesterol and haemoglobin, have become markers of the possible development of cardiometabolic syndromes. Scientists began to pay attention to other indicators that reflect the quality of lipid metabolism. In particular, the amount of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, changes in the level of which are associated with the development of cardiovascular diseases and the qualitative state of high-density lipoproteins\(^5\).

The enzymatic potential of high-density lipoproteins is played a cardioprotective role and protected particles, endothelial cells and

---

cardiomyocytes from modifications and excessive formation of free radicals with their destructive effects.\(^6\)\(^7\). It is necessary to determine the quantitative state of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol simultaneously with the functional state since both low and high concentrations are inversely associated with cardiovascular disease. The approved results were obtained by specialists of large-scale research in Copenhagen. According to the results of the population study of different groups by age and gender, the paradoxical fact of an increase of mortality in groups with extremely high cholesterol content of high-density lipoproteins was confirmed.\(^8\)

Indicators of lipid metabolism, which is also determined by cardiovascular disease, include triacylglycerol’s structural changes the composition of lipoprotein particles.\(^9\) Since lipoproteins include proteins other than lipids, the determination of their state identifies their functional activity. The most common modifications are oxidation and structural rearrangement of enzymes on the surface of particles. Pro-oxidation of proteins in the composition of high-density lipoproteins and low-density lipoproteins occurs in the development of many pathological conditions, in particular, in hypertension, heart and kidney diseases.\(^10\)\(^11\)

Increased systolic and diastolic pressures occur with the development of many cardiometabolic syndromes. Stable increase in blood pressure, that is, acquired disease – hypertension, according to preliminary estimates, scientists have been diagnosed in half of the population in developed countries.\(^12\)\(^13\). In related diseases, such as neurodegenerative, diabetes and

---


\(^12\) Proteomic diversity of high-density lipoproteins: our emerging understanding of its importance in lipid transport and beyond / A. Shah et al. *Journal of Lipid Research*. 2013. № 54. P. 2575–2585. DOI: 10.1194/jlr.R035725.

chronic inflammatory processes, it leads to secondary complications and progression of atherosclerosis.\textsuperscript{14}

Currently, there is no unified list of prognostic markers of cardiovascular disease, so the study of potential indicators of the development of pathological conditions of the cardiovascular system is necessary and important for their prevention and avoidance of secondary complications\textsuperscript{15;16;17}. Also, the full mechanism of the occurrence of primary and secondary cardiometabolic risks is completely unknown. In particular, it is important for patients with kidney diseases with complication which can be caused by changing of lipoprotein oxidative status. Therefore, the aim of our research work is to summarizing investigated data about the qualitative state of high-density lipoproteins by the activity of their associated enzymes, in particular paraoxonase-1 and myeloperoxidase, for arterial hypertension, namely the second type and resistant arterial hypertension, myocardial infarction, chronic heart failure, chronic kidney disease and chronic lung disease.

The venous blood samples were taken from 260 patients (women and men, average age – 18–55 years): 35 of them with arterial hypertension the second type and 40 with resistant arterial hypertension, 32 with myocardial infarction, 35 with chronic heart failure (patients with the cardiovascular disease treated at National Scientific Center “M.D. Strazhesko Institute of Cardiology”), 85 with chronic kidney disease I–V stage (patients treated at SI Institution of Nephrology NAMS) and 33 with chronic lung disease (patients treated at SO “National institute of phthisiology and pulmonology named after F.G. Yanovsky NAMS of Ukraine”). The control group had consisted of 41 healthy donors of the same age. The informed consent was given by all participants before the procedure of obtaining their blood for research. The protocol of investigating (№ 7, 30.08.2016) was approved by the Commission on Bioethics of SI Institution of Nephrology NAMS. Blood from the cubit al vein had been centrifuged for 15 min at 1 500 g and treated with serum.

The activity of paraoxonase-1 is determined by the amount of specific substrate (4 mM phenylacetate) used during the biochemical interaction, which is measured at a wavelength of 270 nm and expressed in kU/l.\textsuperscript{18} The


\textsuperscript{17} Proteomic Analysis of Human Serum from Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease / Y. Romanova et al. Biomolecules. 2020. № 10. P. 257. DOI: 10.3390/biom10020257.

\textsuperscript{18} Reduced Paraoxonase 1 Activity as a Marker for Severe Coronary Artery Disease / C. Zhou et al. Disease Markers. 2013. № 35(2). P. 97–103. DOI: 10.1155/2013/816189.
activity of myeloperoxidase is determined by the oxidation of the chromogenic substrate (3,8 mM 3,3’-dimethoxybenzidine) during the biochemical interaction, which is measured at a wavelength of 460 nm during 8 min and expressed in conventional units per litre (c.U / l)\textsuperscript{19}. Statistical analysis is provided by Shapiro-Wilk normality test, criteria of Newman – Keuls method (p < 0.05). The difference between the group’s indexes was significant (p < 0.05).

1. Characterization of the qualitative state of lipoproteins

Lipoproteins are complexes formed by proteins and lipids to transport substances through the bloodstream. The functional activity of lipoproteins can predict by the number of proteins in the composition and the activity of lipoprotein-associated enzymes. The enzymes play a key role in many receptor interactions, catalysis of biochemical reactions, and a specific set of polar and nonpolar lipids forms a hydrophilic outer layer and a hydrophobic chamber\textsuperscript{20,21}.

One of the most important enzymes in the composition of high-density lipoproteins is paraoxonase, namely, the first isoform (paraoxonase-1). Paraoxonase-1 is a multifunctional enzyme. It promotes regression of atherosclerotic plaques by exhibiting antiatherogenic properties and normalizes the work of cardiomyocytes as a cardioprotective enzyme\textsuperscript{22,23,24}. Paraoxonase has hydrolase, arylesterase and lactonase activities. Enzyme conducts esterase hydrolysis of oxidized lipids which can lead to a decrease in the size of atherosclerotic plaques\textsuperscript{25}.

Paraoxonase-1 together with myeloperoxidase formed an associated complex. Both enzymes partially inhibit each other, which reduces their affinity for high-density lipoprotein particles. The substrate for

\textsuperscript{19} Новые подходы к определению концентрации и пероксидазной активности миелопероксидазы в плазме крови человека / И. Горудко и др. Биоорганическая химия. 2009. № 35 (5). С. 629–39.
\textsuperscript{24} Коваленко В., Кучменко О., Мхітарян Л. Молекулярно-генетичні особливості функціонування параоксонази та її значення в розвитку серцево-судинної патології. Український кардіологічний журнал. 2014. № 5. С. 105–116.
myeloperoxidase is hydrogen peroxide. The enzyme has a peroxidase activity and also able to carry out two-electron oxidation of halogens and pseudohalogen.

Peroxidase activity is increased in infectious and inflammatory processes, which, in turn, induces the processes of free radical lipid and non-radical oxidation and the appearance of reactive oxygen species.\(^{26,27}\)

Lipoproteins are multifunctional transport complexes that are evolutionarily adapted for the transport of lipids and other fat-soluble components in the bloodstream. The state of high-density lipoproteins reflectsparaoxonase-1 and myeloperoxidase in their content. Paraoxonase protects particles from modification and carries out esterase hydrolysis of oxidized lipids.

2. The qualitative state of lipoproteins in cardiovascular diseases

The low-density lipoproteins play a key role in atherosclerotic changes, among all classes of lipoproteins, that lead to chronic and acute cardiovascular disease. The numerous modifications of particles can undergo during their metabolism. These include low-density lipoprotein oxidation, malondialdehyde formation, glycosylation, carbonylation, and desialiation.\(^{28,29}\) Only oxidized low-density lipoproteins are capable of accumulating in macrophages and deposited in the vascular walls. The oxidation reaction can be induced by reactive oxygen species, metal ions (iron and copper), enzymes related to the metabolic transformations of lipoproteins of different fractions, and other lipoprotein-associated enzymes. Metal ions are involved in the oxidation of lipid components, while enzymes (lipooxygenases and myeloperoxidase) – in proteins.\(^{30}\)

The metabolism of high-density lipoproteins provides a normal physiological and morphological state of the body, removing cholesterol from cells and excreting it. Endothelial cells are the first link that suffers from the disruption of lipoprotein’s metabolism. Cholesterol-overloaded macrophages are incapable of being transported to the liver and penetrating

---


the subendothelial layer, contributing to the formation of plaques in the vessels. Dysfunction of high-density lipoproteins is associated with changes in their proteome. Modifications of the molecules may be oxidation, excess reactive oxygen species, phosphorylation, dephosphorylation of terminal amino acids, and protein displacement of the acute phase of inflammation. Myeloperoxidase can provoke the destruction of the surface of the plaquelayers in vitro, which became unstable, and, in turn, leads to the formation of blood clots.

The link between the qualitative state of lipoproteins and the development of cardiovascular disease in historical retrospective has not always been evaluated as interdependent changes. To date, a clear relationship has been established between lipid metabolism and cardiometabolic risks. For the first time, researchers from the Framingham group drew attention to this. At the time, they made sensational conclusions that hypertension, together with impaired lipid metabolism, leads to the emergence and exacerbation of cardiovascular pathologies.

In cardiovascular diseases, including hypertension, high-density lipoproteins lose their cardioprotective properties and structural integrity.

Under normal metabolism, high-density lipoproteins reduce platelet aggregation, prevent accumulation in the vascular endothelium of cholesterol. Particles protect also from oxidation themselves, regulate glucose metabolism, vascular constriction and have cytoprotective effects on endothelial cells.

According to our research, myeloperoxidase activity in patients with resistant hypertension was increased twice times and almost three times in patients with second-degree arterial hypertension in contrast with conditionally healthy donors (Table 1.1). Patients with myocardial infarction characterized the higher level of enzyme’s activity in contrast with donors but this may be explained by the compensatory mechanisms that are triggered after acute cardiometabolic events.

---

The activity of paraoxonase-1 decreased vice versa in all groups with heart diseases: on 51% patients with second-degree arterial hypertension; on 60,4% patients with resistant hypertension; on 79,5% patients with myocardial infarction; on 61,6% patients with chronic heart failure.

### Table 1

| Indicators of activity of enzymes associated with high-density lipoproteins |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Groups                          | Practically healthy | Patients with second-degree arterial hypertension | Patients with resistant hypertension | Patients with myocardial infarction | Patients with chronic heart failure |
| Myeloperoxidase (cU/l)          | 2,2 ± 0,11         | 6,1 ± 0,18     | 3,9 ± 0,21     | 3,5 ± 0,17     | 3,6 ± 0,4       |
| Paraoxonase-1 (kU/l)            | 5,65 ± 0,2         | 2,76 ± 0,13    | 2,24 ± 0,09    | 2,16 ± 0,15    | 2,17 ± 0,19     |

Increased myeloperoxidase activity and decreased paraoxonase-1 occurred in myocardial infarction, hypertension (second degree and resistant) of patients compared to controls. Patients with chronic heart failure demonstrated the highest value. The ratio between the two enzymes was used to unify the changes in the oxidative state of high-density lipoproteins. This index was 0,389 in practically healthy donors, 2.21 in patients with second-degree arterial hypertension, 1,74 in patients with resistant hypertension, 1,65 in patients with chronic heart failure and 1,6 in patients with myocardial infarction. Thus, the activity of enzymes in the composition of high-density lipoproteins reflects their functional status and indicates pathological changes in the body.

### 3. The role of high-density lipoprotein in the pathogenesis of chronic lungs and kidney disease

The pathogenesis of the respiratory disease is accompanied by metabolic changes not only of lung cells but also of transport molecules, including high-density lipoproteins. Bronchitis, both chronic and non-chronic, is an inflammatory disease of the mucous membrane of the bronchi. This pathological condition is accompanied, as a rule, by coughing, increased sputum production and alteration of its physicochemical properties. In chronic bronchitis, the cough lasts for more than four weeks a year and the frequency of exacerbations and their course are of greatest concern to patients.

---

The concept the chronic obstructive pulmonary disease includes diseases such as chronic bronchitis and emphysema. Pathological conditions lead to degenerative changes in the tissues of the respiratory tract, deterioration of the morphofunctional state of the alveoli and a decrease in the total volume of the lungs. The gene polymorphism of apoM in European and African populations leads to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, especially those members of the population are smokers\(^{39}\).

The inflammatory process, which is locally concentrated in the lungs, reflects on the general state of the human body. Firstly, oxygen metabolism and carbon dioxide removal from the alveoli are impaired. Secondly, the number of antigens to which the body’s modified cells and the etiological objects of bacterial or viral origin that are inducers of this condition increase. Third, the intensive flow of lipid and protein peroxidation begins overtime, which exacerbates pathological changes in the links associated with the regulation of the metabolism of all cells of the body. This changing is reflected in the state of the lipoproteins as evidenced by the 65% increase in the peroxide modification index of the low and high-density lipoproteins in chronic bronchitis. Oxidation of the N-terminal region of high-density lipoproteins may give them the ability to become antigenic, promote autoimmune processes and fixing their potential (quantity and activity)\(^{40}\).

The most characteristic functional enzymes studied in pulmonary pathological conditions of different a etiology are myeloperoxidase, superoxide dismutase and catalase. The direct relationship between the state of high-density lipoproteins and the course of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease opens new horizons in this research area\(^{41}\).

Dysfunction of high-density lipoproteins is associated with changes in their proteome. Modifications of the molecules may be oxidation, excess reactive oxygen species, phosphorylation, dephosphorylation of terminal amino acids, and protein displacement of the acute phase of inflammation. Nitric oxide is a key mediator of the respiratory system. Its secretion by endothelial cells inhibits platelet adhesion and aggregation and acts as a vasodilator, that is, it dilates arterioles and arteries, thus regulating vascular resistance\(^{42}\).


\(^{40}\) Активність ліппротеїн-асоційованих ензимів параоксонази-1 та мієлопероксидази у пацієнтів із хронічною хворобою нирок / В. Васильченко та ін. Український журнал медицини, біології та спорту. 2019. Т. 4. № 6 (22). С. 321–329. DOI: 10.26693/jmbs04.06.321.


Reduced activity of paraoxonase-1 leads to the increased manifestation of oxidative stress in the body and is involved in the development of many multifactorial diseases. The paraoxonase-1 is capable of hydrolyzing lipid peroxides and it promotes the elimination and mediated transport of oxidized low-density lipoprotein; inhibition of cholesterol biosynthesis. Reduced paraoxonase activity may undertake decreased high-density lipoproteins antioxidant capacity in hemodialyzed uremic patients, and, as a result, evaluate the risk of atherosclerosis developing.

The high-density lipoproteins particles are highly heterogeneous and, under chronic kidney disease, may alter their properties, resulting in increased cardiovascular risk. Epidemiological and clinical studies have shown that cardiovascular disease is the major cause of morbidity and mortality among patients with chronic kidney disease. Therefore, damage to large arteries is one of the contributing factors to increased cardiovascular morbidity and mortality of renal patients. The altered high-density lipoproteins subclasses distribution, changed paraoxonase-1 activities on different high-density lipoproteins subclasses as well as diminished antioxidative protection could be important factors in atherosclerosis development in chronic kidney disease and with last-stage renal disease on dialysis patients.

The results of biochemical studies have shown that patients with chronic bronchitis and chronic kidney disease have an intensification of oxidative reactions and a decrease in the activity of paraoxonase-1, which can induce oxidative stress. Reduction in the activity of paraoxonase-1 for chronic bronchitis occurs by 66%, and for chronic kidney disease by 50–70% (Table 2).

The activity of paraoxonase decreases in both pathologies, and myeloperoxidase, on the contrary, increases according to our research data (Table 2). An increase in myeloperoxidase activity for chronic kidney disease is observed by 40–80%, and for chronic bronchitis – three times.

The chronic kidney disease and chronic bronchitis caused the changing in the activity of enzymes in high-density lipoproteins to contain which can admonish about cardiovascular events.

---

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>Practically healthy</th>
<th>Patients with chronic bronchitis</th>
<th>Patients with chronic kidney disease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indicators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>I–II stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myeloperoxidase (c.U / l)</td>
<td>2,2 ± 0,11</td>
<td>8,6 ± 0,3</td>
<td>3,24 ± 0,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraoxonase-1 (kU / l)</td>
<td>5,65 ± 0,2</td>
<td>1,92 ± 0,1</td>
<td>2,2 ± 0,28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2,3 ± 0,16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4,7 ± 0,75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONCLUSIONS

Lipoproteins are multifunctional transport complexes for the transport of lipids and other fat-soluble components in the bloodstream. The activity of lipoprotein-related enzymes is the most informative data about their functional state. Paraoxonase-1 and myeloperoxidase protect high-density lipoproteins from modification and carry out esterase hydrolysis of oxidized lipids. Myeloperoxidase reduces hydrogen peroxide and, in nimity of their reactions, inhibits the activity of paraoxonase-1. Therefore, enzymes act as antagonists for each other.

A decrease in the activity of paraoxonase-1 and an increase in the activity of myeloperoxidase are observed in both types of hypertension and myocardial infarction.

Thus, the cardioprotective potential of high-density lipoproteins is reduced and the processes of free radical oxidation induced by myeloperoxidase as a cationic protein, which binds to the cell membrane and is capable of causing tissue damage in inflammatory cells, are activated.

The activity of enzymes in the composition of high-density lipoproteins varies also equally in chronic kidney disease and chronic bronchitis: the activity of paraoxonase-1 is reduced, and myeloperoxidase is increased.

Reduction of arylesterase activity of paraoxonase-1 leads to the loss of its inherent antioxidant and antiatherogenic properties. Since the enzyme is involved in the metabolism of high-density lipoproteins and protects them from modification, its activity is reduced during the excessive oxidation of lipoprotein particles in chronic kidney and pulmonary diseases. The decreased activity of paraoxonase and increase activity of myeloperoxidase can be the basis for the development and progression of cardiovascular pathologies in a patient with renal and pulmonary diseases.

Consequently, the metabolism of lipoproteins is one of the links which change cardiovascular, renal and pulmonary diseases, so their components can serve them adequate prognostic markers. Since cardiovascular pathologies are the most severe and susceptible to drug correction, this is the initial stage of dysfunction development, so these markers can increase levels of diagnosis and prevent the development of complications.
**SUMMARY**

Lipoproteins are multifunctional transport complexes that are evolutionarily adapted for the transport of lipids and other fat-soluble components in the bloodstream. The most informative data on functional capacity is the activity of lipoprotein-related enzymes. For high-density lipoproteins, it is paraoxonase and myeloperoxidase. Isoforms 1 and 3 paraoxonase protect lipoproteins from modification and carry out esterase hydrolysis of oxidized lipids. And myeloperoxidase inhibits the activity of paraoxonase, that is, they act as antagonists for each other. The state of lipoproteins can be determined by different parameters. Functional or qualitative status is determined by the activity of enzymes that are part of lipoproteins because the presence of the enzyme does not guarantee the fulfillment of its direct functions. Therefore, the aim of our research work is to summarizing investigated data about the qualitative state of high-density lipoproteins by the activity of their associated enzymes, in particular paraoxonase-1 and myeloperoxidase, for arterial hypertension, namely the second type and resistant arterial hypertension, myocardial infarction, chronic heart failure, chronic kidney disease and chronic lung disease. The venous blood samples were taken from 260 patients (women and men, age – 18–55 years): 142 patients with the cardiovascular disease treated at National Scientific Center “M.D. Strazhesko Institute of Cardiology”, 85 with chronic kidney disease I–V stage treated at SI Institution of Nephrology NAMS and 33 with chronic lung disease treated at SO “National institute of phthisiology and pulmonology named after F.G. Yanovsky NAMS of Ukraine”. The control group had consisted of 41 healthy donors of the same age. The activity of paraoxonase-1 is determined by the amount of phenylacetate used during the biochemical interaction. The activity of myeloperoxidase is determined by the oxidation of the chromogenic substrate during the biochemical interaction. The activity of paraoxonase significantly decreases in all pathologies, and myeloperoxidase, on the contrary, noticeably increases according to our research data; in renal and pulmonary diseases decrease the activity of paraoxonase and increase activity of myeloperoxidase can be the basis for the development and progression of cardiovascular pathologies.

**REFERENCES**


15. Hering D., Trzebski A., Narkiewicz K. Recent advances in the pathophysiology of arterial hypertension: potential implications for clinical
109


40. Активність ліпопротеїн-асоційованих ензимів параоксонази-1 та мієлопероксидази у пацієнтів із хронічною хворіюю нирок /


**Information about authors:**

**Vasylchenko V. S.,**

PhD Student of the Department of Biology

National University of “Kyiv-Mohyla Academy”

2, Skovorody str., Kyiv, 04070, Ukraine

Junior Research Fellow

State Institution “Institute of Nephrology of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine”

17 V, Dehtiarivska str., Kyiv, 04050, Ukraine

**Kuchmenko O. B.,**

Doctor of Biological Sciences,

Associate Professor at the Department of Biology

Nizhyn Mykola Gogol State University

2, Grafska str., Nizhyn, 16600, Ukraine

Department of Biology

National University of “Kyiv-Mohyla Academy”

2, Skovorody str., Kyiv, 04070, Ukraine