

発表論文

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Hemoglobin A_{1c} Levels and the Risk of Cardiovascular Disease in People Without Known Diabetes

A Population-Based Cohort Study in Japan

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Abstract: High hemoglobin A_{1c} (HbA_{1c}) levels are strongly associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD) in people with and without diabetes. However, information regarding the relationship between low HbA_{1c} levels and the risk of CVD among people without known diabetes is limited. The aim of this large-scale, prospective, population-based cohort study was to clarify the association between HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk among people without known diabetes.

We followed-up 10,980 men and 18,079 women (46–80 years old and free of CVD and cancer at baseline) in the Japan Public Health Center-based Prospective Study. Using Cox models, we estimated the hazard ratios for CVD risk with adjustments for age, sex, geographic areas, body mass index, smoking status, sports and physical exercise, alcohol intake, systolic blood pressure, non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol.

During the median follow-up of 9.4 years, 935 CVD events (770 strokes and 165 coronary heart diseases) occurred. We observed a nonlinear association between HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk in participants without known diabetes. Compared with HbA_{1c} levels of 5.0 to 5.4% (31–36 mmol/mol), the hazard ratios for CVD in participants without known diabetes were 1.50 (95% confidence interval: 1.15–1.95), 1.01 (0.85–1.20), 1.04 (0.82–1.32), and 1.77 (1.32–2.38) for HbA_{1c} levels of <5.0% (<31 mmol/mol), 5.5 to 5.9% (37–41 mmol/mol), 6.0 to 6.4% (42–47 mmol/mol), and ≥6.5% (≥48 mmol/mol), respectively (*P* value for nonlinear trend: <0.001). In addition, the hazard ratio for CVD was 1.81 (1.43–2.29) in patients with known diabetes compared with participants with HbA_{1c} levels of 5.0 to 5.4% and without known diabetes. This nonlinear relation persisted after excluding people with kidney dysfunction, liver dysfunction, anemia, body mass index <18.5 kg/m², or early events within 3 years of follow-up (*P* value for nonlinear trend: <0.01 for all tests).

In conclusion, both low and high levels of HbA_{1c} were associated with a higher risk of CVD in a Japanese general population without known diabetes.

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Abbreviations: CVD = cardiovascular disease, HbA_{1c} = hemoglobin A_{1c}, JPHC Study = Japan Public Health Center-based Prospective Study.

INTRODUCTION

Although substantial efforts have been made to control major cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk factors (eg, hypertension

and smoking), CVD remains to be the leading cause of death globally.^{1–3} Biomarkers, such as hemoglobin A_{1c} (HbA_{1c}), may be useful for identifying people with increased risk of CVD and eventually help reduce the global burden of CVD.^{4,5}

It has been well established that high HbA_{1c} levels are strongly associated with a high risk of CVD in people with⁶ and without^{4,7} diabetes. Accordingly, several researchers have suggested that HbA_{1c} measurement may be useful for identifying people with an increased risk of CVD.^{4,7} However, the association between low HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk is not well understood. In some studies,^{8–10} but not all,⁶ it has been suggested that patients with type 2 diabetes and low HbA_{1c} levels may have a higher CVD risk, which is consistent with the observation that severe hypoglycemia is associated with an increased CVD risk among patients with type 2 diabetes.¹¹ However, the association between low HbA_{1c} levels in people without known diabetes and CVD risk remains unknown. Although a possible association between low HbA_{1c} levels and increased mortality in populations without known diabetes has been previously reported,^{4,12,13} the biological mechanisms underlying this association are currently unknown.^{13–15} Investigating the association between low HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk may improve our understanding of health risks associated with low HbA_{1c} levels. The aim of this large-scale, prospective, population-based cohort study was to address the question whether low HbA_{1c} levels are associated with a higher CVD risk among people without known diabetes using strictly standardized HbA_{1c} levels and detailed measurements of covariates in a general Japanese population free of CVD and cancer at baseline.

METHODS

Study Design and Population

The Japan Public Health Center-based Prospective Study (JPHC Study) was initiated in 1990 for cohort I and in 1993 to 1994 for cohort II. All subjects were Japanese inhabitants from 11 public health center areas, and aged 40 to 59 years in 1990 (cohort I) and 40 to 69 years in 1993 (cohort II). Details of the study design have been described elsewhere.¹⁶ The JPHC Diabetes Study, involving HbA_{1c} measurements and an additional questionnaire concerning diabetes and lifestyle, was conducted among JPHC participants at the time of their health check-ups (the first survey in 1998–2000 and the second survey in 2003–2005).¹⁷ Two public health center areas from Tokyo and Osaka were excluded because information regarding the incidence of coronary heart disease and stroke was not available. Therefore, this present study involved subjects from 9 areas (cohort I: 4 areas; cohort II: 5 areas). Individuals who participated in either of the JPHC Diabetes Study surveys were included in the present study. Among the 35,197 participants from the JPHC Diabetes Study, we excluded 1004 and 984 participants with a history of CVD and cancer, respectively, as well as 4150 participants with missing anthropometric or laboratory data. In total, we analyzed data for 29,059 participants. All participants provided written informed consent before participating in this study. The JPHC Diabetes Study was approved by the institutional review board of the National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Japan.

Measurements

Detailed procedures for the HbA_{1c} measurements have been described previously,¹⁷ and these were performed using

high-performance liquid chromatography or immunochemical assays. The overall intra-assay coefficient of variation for HbA_{1c} ranged from 0.0 to 3.4%, and the maximal inter-assay coefficient of variation among the various laboratories ranged from 2.2 to 2.8%. The HbA_{1c} measurement methods differed according to the public health center areas, and therefore, HbA_{1c} values were strictly standardized to minimize inter-laboratory variation. For the calibration procedure, standard samples (approved by the Japan Diabetes Society) were provided to each public health center area before the surveys. HbA_{1c} values were converted to National Glycohemoglobin Standardization Program values.¹⁸ Censoring events (which defined the individual's final data point) were defined as the first CVD event, death, change of residence, loss to follow-up, December 31, 2009 (cohort I), or December 31, 2008 (cohort II). For individuals who participated in both surveys of the JPHC Diabetes Study before the censoring events (35.1% of the study population), the average HbA_{1c} levels were used for analyses to capture their long-term exposure.¹⁰ The sensitivity analyses using the time-dependent Cox proportional hazard models to update the HbA_{1c} levels and diabetes status did not materially change the estimates.

Each participant completed a self-administered questionnaire at the 5-year and/or 10-year follow-up of the JPHC Study, which comprised questions regarding previously diagnosed medical conditions, medication, and lifestyle factors, including physical activity, alcohol intake, dietary intake, and smoking.¹⁹ In the present study, we used data from the JPHC Study questionnaire at the time of entry into the JPHC Diabetes Study, except for participants from cohort I who only participated in the second JPHC Diabetes Study survey (10% of the study population). These participants completed the JPHC Study questionnaire 5 years before their entry into the JPHC Diabetes Study, and these data were used in the current analysis. Sensitivity analyses for excluding these participants did not materially change study findings. At the time of the 2 JPHC Diabetes Study surveys, blood pressure, weight, height, hemoglobin, serum creatinine, alanine aminotransferase, and lipid levels were measured. Body mass index was calculated as weight (kg) divided by height squared (m²).

We defined CVD as either stroke or coronary heart disease, including myocardial infarction or sudden cardiac death. CVD events were documented based on active patient notifications from the local hospitals, hospital record reviews for participants who reported CVD in the follow-up questionnaires, and a review of death certificates.²⁰ A total of 78 major hospitals capable of treating patients with acute CVD were included in the registry of CVD events within the 9 public health center areas. Overall, 97% of stroke and 92% of myocardial infarction cases in the 9 areas were treated at these registry hospitals. CVD events were included in this study if they occurred between the time of entry into the JPHC Diabetes Study and December 31, 2009 (cohort I) or December 31, 2008 (cohort II). Changes in residential status, including survival status, were identified using the residential registry in each area. During the follow-up period, 1273 (4.4%) participants died, 420 (1.4%) moved out of the study areas, and 28 (0.1%) were lost to follow-up.

Stroke diagnoses were confirmed according to the National Survey of Stroke criteria²¹ by the presence of sudden or rapid-onset focal neurological deficits that last >24 h or until death. Strokes were classified according to subtype: hemorrhagic or ischemic (lacunar or nonlacunar).²⁰ A diagnosis of definite myocardial infarction was confirmed according to the Monitoring Trends and Determinants of Cardiovascular Disease Project

criteria²² on the basis of typical chest pain and evidence from electrocardiograms and/or cardiac enzyme levels. For cases of typical prolonged chest pain (>20 min) that were not confirmed by electrocardiograms or cardiac enzymes (8.5% of the total myocardial infarctions), a diagnosis of possible myocardial infarction was made, and these cases were included in the myocardial infarction cases. Sensitivity analyses for excluding cases with possible myocardial infarction did not materially change the findings. In the absence of myocardial infarction diagnoses, deaths that occurred within 1 h from symptom onset were considered as sudden cardiac deaths. Only the first CVD event during the follow-up was included in the analysis; recurrent events were excluded.

Statistical Methods

We followed-up 29,059 participants (46–80 years old) and calculated their person-years from the time of entry into the JPHC Diabetes Study until their censoring event. If individuals participated in both JPHC Diabetes Study surveys, the time of entry at the first survey was considered the starting point. We also calculated the baseline characteristics for patients with diabetes and 5 groups of people without known diabetes categorized by their HbA_{1c} levels: <5.0% (<31 mmol/mol), 5.0 to 5.4% (31–36 mmol/mol), 5.5 to 5.9% (37–41 mmol/mol), 6.0 to 6.4% (42–47 mmol/mol), and ≥6.5% (≥48 mmol/mol). We defined participants as having known diabetes if they had self-reported diabetes or were receiving treatment for diabetes. Following conventional practice,⁴ the HbA_{1c} category of 5.0 to 5.4% (31–36 mmol/mol) was used as the reference category.

To examine the CVD risk in the 6 groups of people, we used Cox proportional hazards models and estimated the hazard ratios and 95% confidence intervals (categorical models). These models were adjusted for age, sex, health center areas, body mass index, smoking status (never smoked, past smoker, or current smoker), alcohol intake (current nondrinker, occasional drinker, or current drinker), sports and physical exercise (≥1 day/week or other), systolic blood pressure (mmHg), high-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels (mmol/L), and non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels (mmol/L). Slightly different physical activity questionnaires were used during the 5-year and 10-year follow-ups of the JPHC Study. Therefore, we first calculated separate estimates for participants who completed the 5-year follow-up questionnaire and for those who completed the 10-year follow-up questionnaire. Because there was no apparent difference in the estimates between these 2 groups, we computed the pooled results using the fixed-effects model with inverse variance weighting.²³

Among the participants without known diabetes, we computed 2-sided *P* values for linear trends by assigning a mean HbA_{1c} value for each category and including the variables as continuous variables in the models. We also computed 2-sided *P* values for quadratic trends (*P* value for quadratic trend) by including a quadratic term in each linear trend model. The proportional hazards assumption was assessed using the scaled Schoenfeld residuals²⁴ and found to be appropriate. For sensitivity analysis, we further examined the association between HbA_{1c} levels and CVD after excluding people with kidney dysfunction (estimated glomerular filtration < 60.0 mL·min⁻¹·1.73 m⁻²),²⁵ liver dysfunction (alanine aminotransferase ≥100 IU/L), anemia (hemoglobin < 100 g/L), or low body mass index (<18.5 kg/m²). Further analyses were also conducted after excluding CVD cases with an early diagnosis (within

3 years of follow-up) from both the numerator and denominator (278 participants). To examine the shape of the association between continuous HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk among people without known diabetes, we fitted restricted cubic spline models by including transformed variables of HbA_{1c} levels in the Cox models, with adjustment for the same covariates that were used in the categorical models. We fitted the models using 3, 4, and 5 knots at percentiles, and chose the number of knots that produced the smallest Akaike Information Criterion. The level of significance was set at *P* value < 0.05. Analyses were performed using Stata version 12.1 (StataCorp, College Station, TX).

RESULTS

The baseline characteristics of the study population according to the 6 groups are shown in Table 1. Compared with participants with lower HbA_{1c} levels, participants with higher HbA_{1c} levels or known diabetes tended to be older; current or past smokers; have a higher body mass index, blood pressure, and non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels; have lower high-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels; use lipid-lowering medication(s); be engaged in physical activity; and consume more calories.

During the median follow-up of 9.4 years (238,456 person-years), 770 strokes (226 lacunar infarctions, 232 nonlacunar infarctions, 311 hemorrhagic strokes, and 1 stroke of undetermined type) and 165 coronary heart diseases (129 definite myocardial infarctions, 12 possible myocardial infarctions, and 24 sudden cardiac deaths) were documented. Table 2 shows the associations for CVD, coronary heart disease, and stroke risk in the 6 groups. After multivariable adjustment for potential confounding factors, we observed a nonlinear relation between HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk (model 2; *P* value for quadratic trend: <0.001). The nonlinear trend was observed even after excluding people with kidney dysfunction, liver dysfunction, anemia, and low body mass index (*P* value for quadratic trend: <0.05 for all tests). Further adjustment for the use of lipid-lowering medication(s) or total energy intake resulted in similar results (*P* value for quadratic trend: <0.001 for all tests, data not shown). Similar findings were observed when CVD cases with an early diagnosis (within 3 years of follow-up) were excluded (*P* value for quadratic trend: 0.002). Spline curves indicated a U-shaped relation, with increased CVD risk observed in participants with low and high levels of HbA_{1c} (Figure 1A). A similar pattern was observed for stroke risk (Table 2, Figure 1B). Because nonlinear associations were observed, particularly for stroke, we further examined the association between HbA_{1c} levels and stroke subtypes. We observed nonlinear trends for the risks of hemorrhagic and nonlacunar ischemic stroke (model 2; *P* values for quadratic trend: 0.018 and 0.006, respectively), and a similar pattern was suggested for lacunar stroke (model 2; *P* value for quadratic trend: 0.066). Participants with high HbA_{1c} levels (≥6.5%, ≥48 mmol/mol) or known diabetes had an increased risk of ischemic stroke (both lacunar and nonlacunar; model 2). A linear relation was suggested for coronary heart disease risk (Table 2, Figure 1C), although the number of coronary heart disease cases was likely too small to examine its risk in participants with low HbA_{1c} levels. Participants with known diabetes had increased risks of CVD, stroke, and coronary heart disease (model 2).

Stratified analysis according to sex suggested an increased CVD risk existed in men with low and high levels of HbA_{1c} (Table 3). Among women, increased CVD risk was apparent in

TABLE 1. Baseline Characteristics According to Hemoglobin A_{1c} Levels and Known Diabetes

Characteristic	HbA _{1c} Levels in Participants Without Known Diabetes					Known Diabetes N = 1780
	<5.0% (<31 mmol/mol) N = 2008	5.0–5.4% (31–36 mmol/mol) N = 8177	5.5–5.9% (37–41 mmol/mol) N = 12,450	6.0–6.4% (42–47 mmol/mol) N = 3635	≥6.5% (≥48 mmol/mol) N = 1009	
HbA _{1c} , %	4.8 ± 0.2	5.2 ± 0.1	5.7 ± 0.1	6.1 ± 0.1	7.1 ± 0.9	7.0 ± 1.3
Age, years	61.5 ± 8.1	62.1 ± 7.3	62.8 ± 6.6	63.3 ± 6.4	63.5 ± 6.5	64.2 ± 6.4
Men*, %	43.2	36.3	34.5	39.5	47.6	51.3
Body mass index*, kg/m ²	23.4 ± 3.1	23.4 ± 3.1	23.7 ± 3.1	24.3 ± 3.3	25.0 ± 3.6	24.3 ± 3.4
Diabetes treatment, %						64.1
No medication, %						46.1
Oral hypoglycemic agent only, %						47.4
Insulin, %						6.5
Current smoking*, %	13.9	12.8	14.6	18.8	25.1	19.2
Past smoking*, %	10.1	9.7	10.4	11.8	12.6	15.1
Sports and physical exercise*, ≥1 day/week, %	34.8	40.7	46.5	48.1	50.3	48.9
Current alcohol drinking*, %	35.6	31.7	30.2	34.6	39.3	37.2
Ethanol intake*, g/week	5 (0–190)	6 (0–161)	16 (0–162)	42 (1–252)	78 (1–262)	40 (1–252)
Systolic blood pressure*, mmHg	130 ± 17	130 ± 17	130 ± 17	132 ± 17	135 ± 18	133 ± 17
Diastolic blood pressure*, mmHg	77 ± 11	77 ± 11	78 ± 10	79 ± 11	79 ± 11	77 ± 10
Non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol*, mmol/L	3.52 ± 0.85	3.75 ± 0.84	3.92 ± 0.85	4.01 ± 0.88	4.13 ± 0.95	3.89 ± 0.89
High-density lipoprotein cholesterol*, mmol/L	1.53 ± 0.39	1.55 ± 0.39	1.52 ± 0.38	1.49 ± 0.38	1.41 ± 0.35	1.45 ± 0.39
Lipid-lowering medication use*, %	3.3	5.9	8.8	11.6	12.3	13.1
Total energy*, kcal/day	1865 (1471–2401)	1926 (1530–2420)	1970 (1564–2468)	1987 (1597–2497)	2027 (1615–2532)	1891 (1505–2382)

Data are presented as mean ± standard deviation, percentage, or median (interquartile range). HbA_{1c} = hemoglobin A_{1c}.

* All variables (with the exception of age and HbA_{1c}) were adjusted for age.

TABLE 2. Incidence of Cardiovascular Disease According to Hemoglobin A_{1c} Levels and Known Diabetes

		HbA _{1c} Levels in Participants Without Known Diabetes					<i>P</i> for Linear Trend		<i>P</i> for Quadratic Trend		Known Diabetes N = 1780
		<5.0% (<31 mmol/mol)	5.0–5.4% (31–36 mmol/mol)	5.5–5.9% (37–41 mmol/mol)	6.0–6.4% (42–47 mmol/mol)	≥6.5% (≥48 mmol/mol)					
		N = 2008	N = 8177	N = 12,450	N = 3635	N = 1009					
Cardiovascular disease	Person-years	17,043	70,311	101,292	28,226	7700				13,885	
	No. of events	80	228	352	108	60				107	
	Crude incidence rate*	7.7	3.2	3.5	3.8	7.8				7.7	
	Model 1	1.46 (1.13–1.90)	1.00	1.05 (0.89–1.25)	1.13 (0.89–1.43)	2.10 (1.57–2.81)	0.005	< 0.001	1.92 (1.52–2.42)		
	Model 2	1.50 (1.15–1.95)	1.00	1.01 (0.85–1.20)	1.04 (0.82–1.32)	1.77 (1.32–2.38)	0.069	< 0.001	1.81 (1.43–2.29)		
	Model 2 + excluding participants with kidney dysfunction	1.49 (0.997–2.22)	1.00	1.03 (0.79–1.34)	1.05 (0.73–1.51)	2.18 (1.39–3.42)	0.10	0.001	1.37 (0.92–2.03)		
	Model 2 + excluding participants with liver dysfunction	1.48 (1.13–1.92)	1.00	1.00 (0.84–1.19)	1.04 (0.82–1.32)	1.80 (1.34–2.41)	0.053	< 0.001	1.78 (1.41–2.26)		
	Model 2 + excluding participants with anemia	1.50 (1.15–1.95)	1.00	1.00 (0.84–1.19)	1.03 (0.81–1.31)	1.73 (1.28–2.33)	0.099	< 0.001	1.81 (1.43–2.28)		
Stroke	Model 2 + excluding participants with low body mass index	1.51 (1.15–1.97)	1.00	1.01 (0.84–1.20)	1.04 (0.81–1.32)	1.77 (1.31–2.39)	0.069	< 0.001	1.83 (1.45–2.32)		
	Model 2 + excluding early diagnosis cases	1.53 (1.12–2.10)	1.00	1.11 (0.90–1.36)	1.33 (1.01–1.75)	2.07 (1.45–2.94)	0.004	0.002	1.83 (1.37–2.44)		
	No. of events	71	193	288	83	49				86	
	Crude incidence rate*	4.2	2.7	2.8	2.9	6.4				6.2	
	Model 1	1.55 (1.17–2.05)	1.00	1.02 (0.84–1.22)	1.03 (0.79–1.34)	2.06 (1.49–2.85)	0.072	< 0.001	1.84 (1.43–2.38)		
	Model 2	1.55 (1.17–2.05)	1.00	0.99 (0.82–1.20)	0.97 (0.74–1.26)	1.80 (1.30–2.50)	0.24	< 0.001	1.79 (1.38–2.31)		
	Hemorrhagic stroke	No. of events	33	85	125	32	13				23
		Crude incidence rate*	1.9	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.7				1.7
Model 1		1.74 (1.15–2.62)	1.00	0.98 (0.74–1.30)	0.89 (0.59–1.35)	1.26 (0.70–2.27)	0.31	0.010	1.22 (0.76–1.95)		
Ischemic stroke	Model 2	1.72 (1.14–2.60)	1.00	0.97 (0.73–1.29)	0.87 (0.57–1.32)	1.15 (0.63–2.09)	0.27	0.018	1.23 (0.76–1.97)		
	No. of events	38	108	162	51	36				63	
	Crude incidence rate*	2.2	1.5	1.6	1.8	4.7				4.5	
Lacunar stroke	Model 1	1.45 (0.99–2.13)	1.00	1.04 (0.81–1.34)	1.15 (0.81–1.34)	2.72 (1.83–4.04)	< 0.001	< 0.001	2.31 (1.69–3.17)		
	Model 2	1.47 (0.996–2.15)	1.00	1.00 (0.78–1.29)	1.06 (0.75–1.51)	2.29 (1.53–3.42)	0.011	< 0.001	2.19 (1.60–3.00)		
	No. of events	18	53	77	27	17				34	
Nonlacunar ischemic stroke	Crude incidence rate*	1.1	0.8	0.8	1.0	2.2				2.4	
	Model 1	1.40 (0.81–2.44)	1.00	0.98 (0.68–1.41)	1.21 (0.74–1.97)	2.81 (1.55–5.09)	0.014	0.052	2.52 (1.63–3.89)		
	Model 2	1.41 (0.81–2.46)	1.00	0.94 (0.65–1.35)	1.10 (0.68–1.80)	2.21 (1.20–4.06)	0.067	0.066	2.38 (1.54–3.68)		
	No. of events	20	55	85	24	19				29	

		HbA _{1c} Levels in Participants Without Known Diabetes							Known Diabetes
		<5.0% (<31 mmol/mol)	5.0–5.4% (31–36 mmol/mol)	5.5–5.9% (37–41 mmol/mol)	6.0–6.4% (42–47 mmol/mol)	≥6.5% (≥48 mmol/mol)	P for Linear Trend	P for Quadratic Trend	N = 1780
		N = 2008	N = 8177	N = 12,450	N = 3635	N = 1009			
Coronary heart disease	Crude incidence rate*	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.9	2.5			2.1
	Model 1	1.50 (0.88–2.56)	1.00	1.10 (0.78–1.56)	1.08 (0.66–1.78)	2.81 (1.65–4.79)	0.018	0.005	2.09 (1.33–3.30)
	Model 2	1.51 (0.89–2.58)	1.00	1.07 (0.75–1.52)	1.02 (0.62–1.69)	2.47 (1.43–4.25)	0.066	0.006	1.99 (1.26–3.16)
	No. of events	9	35	64	25	11			21
	Crude incidence rate*	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.4			1.5
	Model 1	1.07 (0.50–2.30)	1.00	1.26 (0.82–1.92)	1.69 (0.997–2.88)	2.56 (1.29–5.07)	0.004	0.82	2.23 (1.33–4.06)
Model 2	1.23 (0.57–2.56)	1.00	1.09 (0.71–1.67)	1.42 (0.83–2.43)	1.92 (0.96–3.85)	0.046	0.61	1.94 (1.11–3.41)	

Model 1 was adjusted for age, sex, and public health center areas. Model 2 was further adjusted for body mass index, smoking status, sports and physical exercise, alcohol intake, systolic blood pressure, non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol. Data are presented as hazard ratios (95% confidence interval) unless otherwise indicated. HbA_{1c} = hemoglobin A_{1c}.
* Crude incidence rate per 1000 person-years.

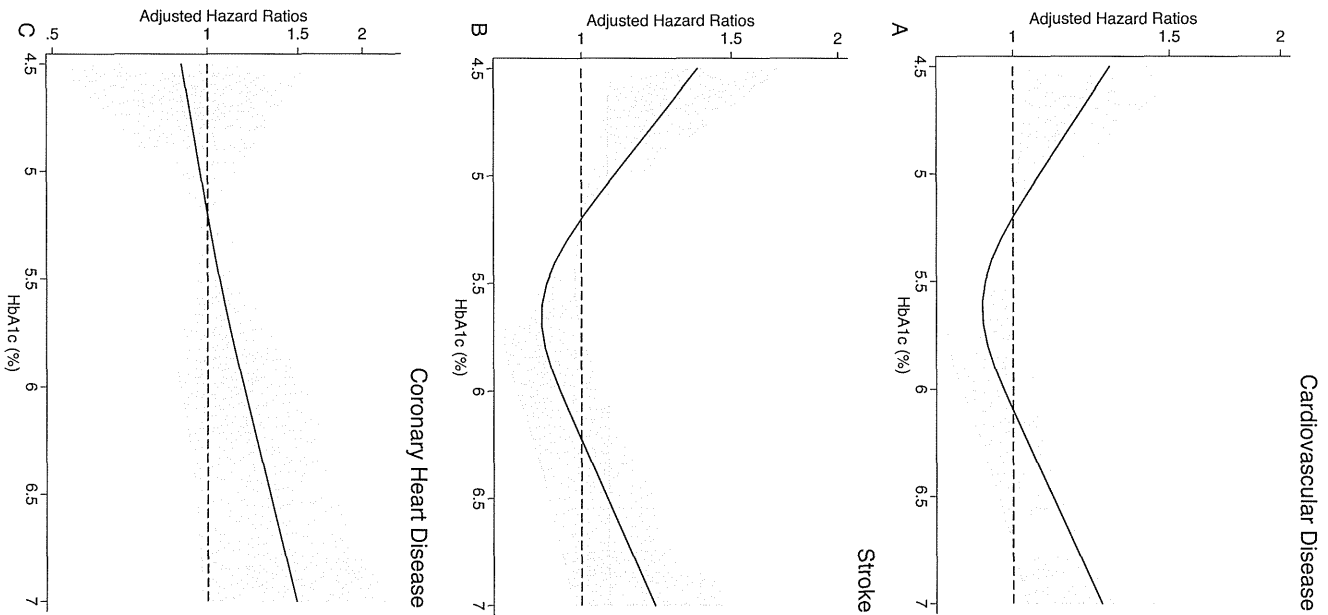


FIGURE 1. Hazard ratios for cardiovascular events according to continuous hemoglobin A_{1c} (HbA_{1c}) levels among participants without known diabetes. Restricted cubic spline models with the inclusion of transformed variables in the Cox model were used to estimate hazard ratios (solid curve) with point-wise 95% confidence intervals (grey shaded area) for (A) cardiovascular disease, (B) stroke, and (C) coronary heart disease. An HbA_{1c} level of 5.3% (ie, the mean HbA_{1c} level in people with HbA_{1c} levels of 5.0–5.5%) was used to estimate all hazard ratios. We chose the number of knots that produced the smallest Akaike Information Criterion. Hazard ratios were adjusted for age, sex, public health center areas, body mass index, smoking status, alcohol intake, sports and physical exercise, systolic blood pressure, non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol.

TABLE 3. Sex-Stratified Incidence of Cardiovascular Disease According to Hemoglobin A_{1c} Levels and Known Diabetes

	HbA _{1c} Levels in Participants Without Known Diabetes					<i>P</i> for Linear Trend	<i>P</i> for Quadratic Trend	Known Diabetes N = 930
	<5.0% (<31 mmol/mol)	5.0–5.4% (31–36 mmol/mol)	5.5–5.9% (37–41 mmol/mol)	6.0–6.4% (42–47 mmol/mol)	≥6.5% (≥48 mmol/mol)			
Men	N = 855	N = 2946	N = 4312	N = 1452	N = 485			
Person-years	6948	24,567	33,882	11,065	3539			7037
No. of events	58	113	167	63	36			75
Crude incidence rate*	8.3	4.6	4.9	5.7	10.2			10.7
Model 1	1.89 (1.36–2.63)	1.00	1.08 (0.84–1.37)	1.32 (0.96–1.80)	2.21 (1.50–3.27)	0.046	<0.001	2.16 (1.61–2.91)
Model 2	1.95 (1.40–2.71)	1.00	1.02 (0.80–1.30)	1.20 (0.87–1.65)	1.83 (1.23–2.73)	0.22	<0.001	2.06 (1.53–2.79)
Women	N = 1153	N = 5231	N = 8138	N = 2183	N = 524			N = 850
Person-years	10,095	45,744	67,410	17,160	4161			6848
No. of events	22	115	185	45	24			32
Crude incidence rate*	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.6	5.8			4.7
Model 1	0.93 (0.58–1.47)	1.00	1.02 (0.80–1.34)	0.93 (0.65–1.33)	2.06 (1.32–3.21)	0.032	0.048	1.60 (1.08–2.37)
Model 2	0.94 (0.59–1.50)	1.00	0.99 (0.78–1.26)	0.87 (0.61–1.25)	1.82 (1.16–2.85)	0.12	0.049	1.50 (1.01–2.22)

Model 1 was adjusted for age and public health center areas. Model 2 was further adjusted for body mass index, smoking status, sports and physical exercise, alcohol intake, systolic blood pressure, non-high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol. Data are presented as hazard ratios (95% confidence interval) unless otherwise indicated. HbA_{1c} = hemoglobin A_{1c}.
*Crude incidence rate per 1000 person-years.

those with HbA_{1c} levels of $\geq 6.5\%$ (≥ 48 mmol/mol) or known diabetes.

DISCUSSION

In this large-scale, prospective, cohort study in a general Japanese population, both low and high levels of HbA_{1c} were associated with an increased risk of CVD among participants without known diabetes. The nonlinear association between HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk persisted even after excluding participants with kidney dysfunction, liver dysfunction, anemia, and low body mass index. Furthermore, the patterns of the association between low HbA_{1c} levels and each CVD subset differed from that for diabetes or high HbA_{1c} levels. Low HbA_{1c} levels were associated with an increased risk of stroke, especially hemorrhagic stroke, while diabetes and high HbA_{1c} levels were associated with increased risks of coronary heart disease and stroke, especially ischemic stroke. The observed CVD risk in individuals with diabetes in this study was also consistent with accumulating evidence of diabetes as a risk factor for CVD.^{26,27} These findings emphasize a possible increased CVD risk among people without known diabetes and with low HbA_{1c} levels.

The observed CVD risk among people with low HbA_{1c} levels and no known diabetes is particularly important, because this increased risk could not be related to hypoglycemia¹¹ induced by diabetes treatment. Although a possible increased CVD risk or low HbA_{1c} levels among people without known diabetes have been suggested,^{4,13,28} most studies did not find a statistically significant association.^{4,13} However, we found a significant association between low HbA_{1c} levels and CVD, particularly stroke, possibly because of a sufficient number of stroke events in this study. Earlier studies were limited by small sample sizes and HbA_{1c} measurements that were obtained from frozen whole blood samples that were stored for >10 years.^{4,13} A significant nonlinear association between HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk among people without known diabetes has been reported in a recent pooled analysis; however, the lack of assay standardization and the significant heterogeneity between assay characteristics for HbA_{1c} measurements may have limited the interpretation of the results.²⁸ As previously shown, low HbA_{1c} levels are associated with increased all-cause mortality in people without diabetes.^{4,12,13} According to our findings, the elevated incidence of CVD may partially explain the increased mortality among people with low HbA_{1c} levels. HbA_{1c} level is increasingly being used to screen for diabetes and therefore, our findings may facilitate the interpretation of low HbA_{1c} levels in the nondiabetic population.

We were also able to confirm that HbA_{1c} levels of $\geq 6.5\%$ (≥ 48 mmol/mol) in people without known diabetes were associated with an increased CVD risk, which was consistent with other studies that were conducted in Japan^{7,29,30} and other countries.^{4,8} Although a significantly increased CVD risk was not observed for the groups with elevated HbA_{1c} levels in the nondiabetic range, the spline analyses (Figure 1A) appeared to suggest a positive linear association between continuous HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk in those with HbA_{1c} levels of $\geq 5.5\%$ (≥ 37 mmol/mol). Earlier investigators have also documented an increased CVD risk with increasing HbA_{1c} levels within the nondiabetic range.^{4,7,29,31} Furthermore, individuals with prediabetes (defined by glucose levels during oral glucose tolerance tests) may have a 20% increased risk of CVD, compared to those with normal glycemia according to recent meta-analyses.^{32,33} Therefore, hyperglycemia within the nondiabetic range may be associated with an increased CVD risk in a continuous manner.

The mechanisms responsible for the observed association between low HbA_{1c} levels and increased CVD risk among people without known diabetes remain largely unknown. In addition, it is unknown whether low blood glucose levels not induced by diabetes treatment could have a direct effect on blood vessels. We observed similar results (data not shown) when we adjusted for casual blood glucose levels, which suggested that the association between low HbA_{1c} levels and increased CVD risk may not be explained by blood glucose levels. Abnormal red-cell turnover, which can lead to low HbA_{1c} levels,¹³ might explain the association. However, the association persisted after we excluded participants with factors that affect red-cell turnover, including kidney dysfunction, liver dysfunction, and anemia. Alternatively, chronic inadequate nutrition may explain the possible increased risk among people with low HbA_{1c} levels. However, the total energy intake did not indicate inadequate nutrition in participants with HbA_{1c} levels of $<5.0\%$ (<31 mmol/mol), and adjustment for total energy intake did not change the results. Further, excluding people with a low body mass index at baseline provided similar results. Therefore, confounding by these factors alone may not explain the observed association. Although the biological mechanisms underlying this association remain unresolved, our data support the notion that low HbA_{1c} levels may be a marker for identifying people who are at increased risk of CVD.¹³ In addition, based on our findings, diabetic patients with low HbA_{1c} levels (eg, $<5.0\%$, <31 mmol/mol) may have an increased risk of CVD, possibly due to glycemic and nonglycemic factors.

This study has several strengths. First, we strictly standardized the HbA_{1c} values using approved standard samples to reduce the possibility of measurement error, leading to less biased estimates. Second, the use of a population-based prospective cohort design with low loss to follow-up and a large sample size should minimize the possibility of selection bias. Third, the systematic surveys of CVD events likely reduced outcome misclassification in our study. Finally, we were able to examine the relation between HbA_{1c} levels and stroke subtypes because of the large number of stroke events.

Despite these strengths, certain limitations of the present study merit consideration. First, HbA_{1c} levels and diabetes status may have changed during the follow-up, but only single measurements of HbA_{1c} were available for most participants (65%). If HbA_{1c} levels during the follow-up had been available for all participants, the association between HbA_{1c} and CVD risk would likely have been stronger. Second, the increased CVD risk observed in individuals with low HbA_{1c} levels may not necessarily indicate a causal association. Third, information regarding socioeconomic status was not available, which might explain the increased CVD risk among people with low HbA_{1c} levels. However, there is no clear evidence that people with low socioeconomic status have low HbA_{1c} levels. Fourth, we could not consider the genetic background of our participants because genetic variants linked to CVD or risk factors (eg, hypertension³⁴) were not measured in our study. However, it is unlikely that the missing information on such variants would bias the association between HbA_{1c} levels and CVD risk because such variants do not tend to affect HbA_{1c} levels. Finally, our results may not be applicable to other populations, especially Western populations, because East Asians tend to have a higher incidence of stroke and lower incidence of coronary heart disease compared with those in Western populations.³⁵ Therefore, the nonlinear relation between HbA_{1c} and stroke might be especially relevant to Asians.

In conclusion, both low and high levels of HbA_{1c} were associated with a higher risk of CVD in a general Japanese population without known diabetes. These data support the notion that very low and high HbA_{1c} levels may be markers for identifying people with an increased health risk.

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Okada, and I. Saito, Ehime University, Ehime; N. Yasuda, Kochi University, Kochi; S. Kono, Kyushu University, Fukuoka; S. Akiba, Kagoshima University, Kagoshima.

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OTHER INFORMATION: CONTRIBUTORS: AG analyzed data, drafted the manuscript, reviewed and edited the manuscript, and contributed to discussion. MN and ST conducted, designed, and supervised the study, and contributed to discussion. YM analyzed data and contributed to discussion. MG analyzed data, reviewed and edited the manuscript, and contributed to discussion. MK, AI, TM, MI, and TK conducted the research. YT, KY, IS, YK, and NS conducted the research and contributed to discussion. KK, SO, and AN contributed to discussion. HY reviewed and edited the manuscript, and contributed to discussion. All authors have read and approved the final manuscript.

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V 主なマスコミ報道

1) NHK 総合テレビ 2014年5月24日 (土) 午後 7:00～7:30「NHKニュース7」

糖尿病治療の中断防げ 医師の取り組みは NHKニュース



2014年(平成26年)5月25日【日曜日】

文字サイズ: 小 中 大

[ツイート](#)
[シェアする](#)
[チェック](#)

トップページ > 科学・医療ニュース一覧 > 糖尿病治療の中断防げ 医師の取り組みは

ニュース詳細



糖尿病治療の中断防げ 医師の取り組みは

5月24日 16時53分

糖尿病の患者が治療を中断し、重症化するケースが多いことから、厚生労働省の研究班は、夜間や週末に診察したり、価格の安い後発医薬品の処方を検討したりするなどとした医師向けの対策マニュアルをまとめました。

厚生労働省の推計によりますと、糖尿病の患者は950万人で、その可能性がある予備群の人も合わせると2000万人を超えています。

症状が重くなると失明したり、腎不全になったりするなど深刻な症状を引き起こしますが、国の調査では治療を中断している患者が55万人に上ると推計されています。このため厚生労働省の研究班は治療の中断を防ごうと、医師向けのマニュアルをまとめました。

この中では、治療中断の理由として、痛みがないため治療の必要を感じないほか、治療しようとしても仕事などが忙しく通院が難しいケースや、治療費の負担が重いと感じるケースが多いと分析しています。

そのうえで、対策として夜間や休日に診察するなど受診時間の融通を図るほか、後発医薬品など価格の安い薬を積極的に処方するよう求めています。

また、予約した日に受診しなかった患者に対しては、電話や手紙などで連絡するよう呼びかけています。

マニュアルをまとめた国立国際医療研究センターの野田光彦部長は「医療機関はこれまで患者の受診行動に受け身な姿勢だったが、患者が治療を中断することを念頭に置いて、対応を取ることが重要だ」と話しています。

主要ニュース

- 1 「常軌逸した近接」防衛相が中国を強く批判
- 2 各地で気温上昇 午後から真夏日予想
- 3 タイ 軍が統制強化 抗議行動拡大も
- 4 ウクライナ大統領選もなく投票開始
- 5 3万枚超の顔写真で地球の画像作成
- 6 大人用紙おむつ 市場拡大で増産
- 7 世界リレー 女子400m予選敗退

Facebookページはこちら

WEB特集

- 1 次の巨大地震に備える 5月24日(土)
- 2 ワールドカップ開催 大丈夫? 5月23日(金)
- 3 「私が真犯人」無罪撤回の背景は 5月22日(木)
- 4 STAP 未公表の新たな疑義 5月21日(水)
- 5 浅田真央 休養の背景、その先に 5月20日(火)

アクセスランキング

5月25日 5月24日 一週間

- 1 中国軍戦闘機が自衛隊機に異常接近
- 2 支払いに準備金名義のカード
- 3 米西海岸で車から発砲 容疑者含む7人が死亡
- 4 ロシア 北方領土問題で日本の出方見極め
- 5 「常軌逸した近接」防衛相が中国を強く批判
- 6 海浜公園 線量目安超え一部立ち入り禁止
- 7 北陸新幹線 長野～金沢228キロつながる

(●はその日のニュース)



放送予定

総合

2014年5月25日(日)午後9時00分～9時49分 総合

[シリーズ エネルギーの奔流第2回 欲望の代償 破局は避けられるか](#)

2014年5月30日(金)午後10時00分～10時49分 総合

[シリーズ 東日本大震災防潮堤 400キロ～命と暮らしを守るか～](#)



クローズアップ現代

毎週 月～木曜 午後7時30分～7時56分

<次ページにつづく>

医療者側から働きかける必要

茨城県つくば市にある糖尿病専門の診療所では、患者の治療中断を防ごうと、いち早く対策を始めています。

初診のときにパンフレットで治療継続の重要性を説明したうえで、予約の日に受診せず、3か月以上来院しない患者には、スタッフが電話をして受診の再開を促しています。

また、受診の間隔を開けたり、土曜日に受診したりするよう助言しています。

こうした取り組みの結果、治療を中断した人の6割に当たる人が再開したということです。

診療所の川井紘一医師は「患者には仕事など生活のいちばんの関心事があって治療を中断しているので、それを防ぐには医療者側から『心配しますよ』という姿勢で働きかける必要がある」と話しています。



アフリカゾウ絶滅危機とテロ

2014年5月27日(火)放送

未定

2) 読売新聞 2014年5月25日(日)朝刊
(東京版) 社会面(32面), 朝刊(大阪版) 社会面(30面)

東京版

糖尿病治療 1割が中断
患者1年調査 理由「多忙」「体調が悪い」

糖尿病で治療中の患者の4人に1人が、積極的に受診を呼びかけたり食事・運動の指導を行ったりしながら、残りの1246人では特別な対応はせず、通院通りの診療を行った。

その結果、通院通りの診療を受けた患者の8割が2か月以上、医療機関への受診を中断し、受診の呼びかけや指導をした患者の中断者は3%にとどまった。

中断者は、50歳未満の働く男性に多く、血糖状態を示す数値がより高い方の群が、比較的低い群より約4倍多かった。主な中断の理由は、忙しい、体調が悪い、お金がかかるといった。

大阪版

糖尿病 1割が通院中断
1年間調査 働き盛り男性多く

糖尿病で治療中の患者のうち、1年間で約1割が医療機関への通院を中断しているという調査を厚生労働省研究班がまとめた。24日、大阪府で開かれた日本糖尿病学会で発表した。糖尿病では患者が自己判断で治療を中断することが問題になっているが、研究班では全国規模の実態が明らかになったのは初めてではないかとしている。

研究班は2009年10月～10年9月末、東京都板橋区や大阪市など11地域にある診療所で治療を受けている2200人に同意を得た上で調査を実施。954人では、受診を呼びかけたり食事と運動の指導を行ったが、残りの1246人は特別な対応はせず、通院通りの診療を行った。

その結果、通院通りの診療を受けた患者の8割が2か月以上、医療機関への受診を中断した。受診の呼びかけや指導をした患者の中断者は3%にとどまった。

中断者は、50歳未満の働く男性に多く、血糖状態を示す数値がより高い方の群が、比較的低い群より約4倍多かった。主な中断の理由は、忙しい、体調が悪い、お金がかかるといった。

研究をまとめた国立国際医療研究センター糖尿病研究部の野田光彦部長は「糖尿病は、脳卒中や心臓病の要因になるが、自覚症状がなく軽くみる患者が多い。医療機関は受診の呼びかけや生活指導を行っていても、比較的安い後発医薬品に切り替えるなど、医療費負担にも配慮する取り組みが必要だ」と話している。

V 主なマスコミ報道

3) 朝日新聞 2014年5月25日(日)朝刊 社会面(38面)



朝日新聞
DIGITAL



検索

トップニュース スポーツ カルチャー 特集・連載 オピニオン 写真

新着 社会 政治 経済・マネー 国際 テック&サイエンス 教育 環境・エネルギー 医療・健康

トピックス 東北六魂祭きょうまで 錦織圭、前人未到への挑戦 タイでクーデター グローバルホーク H.

ツイート 11

朝日新聞デジタル > 記事

医療・健康・福祉 (アビタル)

糖尿病患者、年間8%が受診中断 失明・突然死の恐れも

武田耕太 2014年5月25日12時02分

印刷 メール スクラップ

糖尿病患者で受診を中断してしまう人は年間8%で、約22万人にのぼるとの推計を厚生労働省 研究班がまとめた。治療を勝手にやめると、自覚しないうちに病気が進んで失明や足の切断、突然死 につながりかねない。研究班はかかりつけ医に向け、中断を防ぐ手引書をつくった。

大阪市 で開かれた日本 糖尿病 学会で24日発表した。全国11地域の医師会の協力を得て2009～10年、生活習慣が原因とされる2型 糖尿病患者約2200人(40～64歳)を調査。予定された受診日から2カ月の間に来院しなかった人を受診の中断として集計すると8・2%が該当した。厚労省の患者調査(11年)の受診者数にあてはめると約22万人になった。

中断の理由は「仕事で忙しい」や「体調がよい」、「経済的に負担」が多かった。手引書は、多忙な患者への受診時間の配慮や知識の啓発、価格の安い 後発医薬品 の使用の検討などを勧めた。電話や郵便物、メールなどで受診を促すのも「有効な手段」とした。

厚労省の推計では、糖尿病 患者は約950万人(受診していない人を含む)。糖尿病 は進行すると、視力が落ちる網膜症や足の切断につながる神経障害、腎不全 に陥る腎症などが起きる。

研究代表者の野田光彦・国立国際医療研究センター 糖尿病 研究部長は「気付かないうちに血糖値が上がって 合併症 が進むことはしばしばある。継続的に受診してほしい」と話す。(武田耕太)

4) 北海道新聞 2014年6月11日(水)朝刊 生活面(16面)

仕事や学業忙しい・体調かまい

糖尿病受診 中断者が1割

糖尿病は血糖値を抑えるための食事制限や運動が必要だが、受診を中断すると大抵が戻り、合併症を併発する危険性もある。厚労省の調査によると、今年5月、受診を中断する患者は1割近くいるという。厚労省は「糖尿病は、研究班が多くの糖尿病患者を調査している。その中には医師向けにマニュアルを作り、研修を呼びかけている。(厚労省)

かかりつけ医向け 厚労省が防止マニュアル

糖尿病は血糖値を抑えるための食事制限や運動が必要だが、受診を中断すると大抵が戻り、合併症を併発する危険性もある。厚労省の調査によると、今年5月、受診を中断する患者は1割近くいるという。厚労省は「糖尿病は、研究班が多くの糖尿病患者を調査している。その中には医師向けにマニュアルを作り、研修を呼びかけている。(厚労省)」

糖尿病の治療を中断する人で多いのは…

- 男性で仕事を抱えている人
- 血糖コントロールのかなり良い人(過信してしまう)
- 20代~30代の若者
- 過去に受診を中断した人
- 血糖コントロールの悪い人

糖尿病の治療を中断した人の主な理由

- 仕事(学業)が忙しい
- 体調が良いと感じている
- 医療費が経済的に負担

糖尿病治療中断の防止策

- 初診時に継続的な治療の重要性を伝える
- 受診時間に融通を利かせる
- 電話や手紙で受診を呼びかける

(厚生労働省研究班「糖尿病受診中断対策マニュアル」より抜粋)



合併症の危険大 来院呼び掛け工夫を

小沢さんは「体力がひどく落ちたが、今は大丈夫。命拾いしたと思う。これからは、糖尿病を治すために、医師の指導に従って受診を再開したい」と話す。

厚労省の研究班は2009~10年、千歳市や札幌市、釧路市などの医師会との協力を得て、生活習慣病の原因となる糖尿病患者のうち、46歳から65歳までの2200人を調査した。このうち、4人が介入群には食事指導を徹底したり、受診を呼びかけたりして、受診を再開した。残り12人は介入群に入らず(毎週の診察でためめ、受診を呼びかけたりもなかった)であった。

その結果、介入された受診日からの2ヶ月間に来院しなかった人は、介入群が3割だったのに対し、非介入群は6割に上った。研究班は、この数字を調査の最終報告書の補添資料としてまとめた。糖尿病を中断する患者は、介入群で行うと推定している。

研究班を指導した厚労省の糖尿病センター(栗原)の野田光彦・糖尿病研究班長は「糖尿病患者全体の1割は、50歳以上で、受診を中断する。受診を中断した患者は、血糖値が上がり、合併症の危険性が高くなる。医師は、患者の生活習慣や仕事状況を把握し、受診を呼びかける工夫が必要だ」と話す。

野田部長は、糖尿病を中断する患者は、血糖値が上がり、合併症の危険性が高くなる。医師は、患者の生活習慣や仕事状況を把握し、受診を呼びかける工夫が必要だ」と話す。

V 主なマスコミ報道

6) 共同通信 2014年7月29日(火) (産経新聞 2014年8月20日(水)朝刊 (20面)などに配信)

The screenshot shows a news article from the 'Medical Category' section of a website. The article is titled '重症低血糖に注意を 心筋梗塞リスクが2倍に' (Attention to severe hypoglycemia: Heart attack risk doubles). It is dated 2014.07.29. The article discusses the risks of severe hypoglycemia in diabetes treatment and cites a study from the National International Medical Research Center. A bar chart compares the risk of heart attack for those with and without severe hypoglycemia, showing a 2.05-fold increase for those with it. The article also mentions that the risk is higher for older people and those with kidney or liver disease.

Medical Category 医療新世紀 MEDICAL NEWS

からだ・こころナビ
2014.07.29

重症低血糖に注意を 心筋梗塞リスクが2倍に

0 ツイート 14

糖尿病の治療では、目や腎臓の合併症を防ぐために薬などで血糖値を下げるのが大切だ。しかし、下げすぎて重症の低血糖になると、深刻な心臓や脳の病気になるリスクが高まる恐れがあることが、最近の研究で分かってきた。

国立国際医療研究センター（東京）糖尿病研究部の野田光彦部長、後藤温・上級研究員らのチームは、2型糖尿病患者に関する六つの疫学研究論文を詳しく分析し、重症の低血糖になったことがある人はそうでない人に比べ、心筋梗塞や脳卒中になるリスクが約2倍高いことを突き止め、英医学誌BMJに発表した。

分析した研究は米国のほか、欧州や台湾などで行われ、計90万人余りの患者データを含む。各研究の患者の平均年齢は60～67歳。1～5・6年の追跡期間中に0・6～5・8%の患者が、血糖値が極端に低くなって意識を失うなどの重症の低血糖発作を起こしていた。発作を起こさなかった人が心筋梗塞などになるリスクを1とすると、起こした人のリスクは2・05だった。

別の持病の影響で低血糖が起きやすくなることもあるため、チームはそうした影響も踏まえて分析したが、重症低血糖が心臓病や脳卒中の直接のリスクである可能性は否定できなかったという。

野田さんは「重症低血糖になると血圧が上がったり、不整脈が起きたりして心筋梗塞や脳卒中のリスクが高まると考えられる」と指摘した上で「高齢者や腎臓、肝臓が弱った人は重症低血糖になりやすいので、主治医と相談して血糖値管理を少し緩くするなど、低血糖を防ぐ工夫をしてほしい」と話している。

心筋梗塞などのリスク
なし 1
あり 2.05
重症低血糖の経験

重症低血糖と心筋梗塞のリスク
※2型糖尿病患者のBMJ論文を基に作製

健康ワンポイント

産経新聞 2014年8月20日(水)朝刊 (20面)への配信

重症低血糖に注意を

心筋梗塞リスクが2倍に

糖尿病の治療では、目や腎臓の合併症を防ぐために薬などで血糖値を下げるのが大切だ。しかし、下げ過ぎて重症の低血糖になると、深刻な心臓や脳の病気になるリスクが高まる恐れがあることが最近の研究で分かってきた。

国立国際医療研究センター(東京都新宿区)糖尿病研究部の野田光彦部長、後藤温・上級研究員のチームは、2型糖尿病患者に関する6つの疫学研究論文を詳しく分析し、重症の低血糖になったことがある人はそうでない人に比べ、心筋梗塞や脳卒中になるリスクが約2倍高いことを突き止めた。英医学誌『BMJ』に発表した。

分析した研究は米国のほか、欧州や台湾などで行われ、計90万人余りの患者データを含む。各研究の患者の平均年齢は60〜67歳。15・6年の追跡期間中に

0.6〜5.8%の患者が、血糖値が極端に低くなつて意識を失つなどの重症の低血糖発作を起こしていた。発作を起こさなかった人が心筋梗塞などになるリスクを1とすると、起こした人のリスクは2.05だった。別の持病の影響で低血糖が起きやすくなることもあるため、チームはそうした影響も踏まえて分析したが、重症低血糖が心臓病や脳卒中の直接のリスクである可能性は否定できなかったという。

野田部長は「重症低血糖になると血圧が上がったり、不整脈が起きたりして心筋梗塞や脳卒中のリスクが高まると考えられる」と指摘したうえで、「高齢者や腎臓、肝臓が弱った人は重症低血糖になりやすいので、主治医と相談して血糖値管理を少し緩くするなど低血糖を防ぐ工夫をしてほしい」と話している。

V 主なマスコミ報道

7) 共同通信 2014年8月19日(火)毎日新聞 2014年9月4日(木)朝刊 (14面) に配信

The screenshot shows a news article from the 'Medical Category' section of a Japanese news website. The article title is '糖尿病治療の中断防げ 高まる合併症の恐れ 医療側の工夫求める' (Prevent discontinuation of diabetes treatment, fear of complications increases, seek medical side's ingenuity). The article is dated 2014.08.19. It discusses a study by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare that found that 8% of patients discontinued their diabetes treatment over a year, with a higher rate for men aged 50 and under. The article mentions that medical professionals should be more proactive in supporting patients to prevent this. A sidebar on the left lists various medical categories, and a right sidebar provides additional statistics on diabetes patients and reasons for discontinuation.

Japan Press Network
47NEWS
ORICON
STYLE

テナントの
あなたのビジネスの

トップ 地域ニュース 共同ニュース トピックス スポーツ 政治 エンタメ カルチャー コラム 医療 マネ

47NEWS > 共同ニュース > 医療・健康 > 医療新世紀 > 糖尿病治療の中断防げ高まる合併症の恐れ医療側の工

Medical Category 医療新世紀 MEDICAL NEWS

がん
脳神経
感染症
内科
外科
アレルギー・免疫
小児
耳鼻咽喉科
眼科
女性・老年
精神・神経
皮膚科
泌尿器科
歯科
医療問題
薬情報
その他
今週のニュース
からだ・こころナビ
連載

今週のニュース
2014.08.19
糖尿病治療の中断防げ
高まる合併症の恐れ
医療側の工夫求める

0 ツイート 4

BI 11 チェック

悪化すると腎臓や目などに重い合併症の恐れがあるが、自覚症状が乏しい2型糖尿病。年に患者の1割近くが治療を中断しているとみられることが厚生労働省研究班の調査で明らかになった。仕事を持つ50歳未満の男性など、中断しやすい患者の特徴も判明。

研究班は結果を基に、中断を減らす対策マニュアルを作成し、医療側に積極的な対応を求めている。

▽年50万人
研究班は2009～10年、2型糖尿病患者2200人を2群に振り分けた研究を実施。特別なことはしない「通常診療群」では1年間に8%の治療中断があったのに対し、電話などで受診を促したり療養の助言をしたりする「支援群」では中断は3%にとどまった。

糖尿病で治療中の患者は国内に約620万人（12年国民健康・栄養調査）で、ほとんどは2型。その8%という年約50万人が治療を中断する計算になる。「中断者には合併症が多いことが過去の研究で分かっている。医療側の働きかけで中断が減らせると分かった意味は大きい」と研究代表の野田光彦・国立国際医療研究センター糖尿病研究部長は言う。研究班が、過去の研究も加味して中断者を分析すると、働いている男性で50歳未満、血糖コント

2型糖尿病患者の受診中断者の特徴

- こんな人に多い
 - 仕事を持っている男性
 - 高齢者よりも若年者（50歳未満）
 - 血糖コントロールの悪い人、かなり長い人
 - 過去に受診中断をしたことがある人
- 中断の理由で多いもの
 - 仕事などで忙しいから
 - 体調が良いから
 - 今通院しなくても大丈夫だと思う
 - 医療費が経済的に負担

※厚生労働省研究班「糖尿病治療中断対策マニュアル」を基に作成

野田光彦・国立国際医療研究センター糖尿病研究部長

<次ページにつづく>