

RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Anthropometry in Elderly Mexican Patients with Diabetes Treated with Insulin or Hypoglycemic Agents

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#### ABSTRACT

**Objectives:** To evaluate Anthropometry in elderly Mexican patients with diabetes treated with insulin or hypoglycemic agents.

**Material and Methods:** Cross-sectional study. Secondary analysis of the multicenter SABE study who had the following measures: height, weight, waist and hip size, treatment with insulin or hypoglycemic agents. It was analyzed the frequency distribution, percentages, ranges, standard deviation, and Student's t-test for the mean difference for the corresponding variables.

**Results:** A total of 179 women and 138 men with diabetes were included. Of which 57 used insulin and 260 hypoglycemic agents. In a total of 57 patients with insulin treatment, a diastolic blood pressure of 79mmhg, body mass index of 22.2 kg/m2 and waist-hip ratio was obtained 0.96 cm. While a total of 260 patients without insulin treatment were obtained an average systolic blood pressure of 134, blood pressure 81.1, body mass index 22.8 kg/m2 and waist hip ratio 0.94.

**Conclusion:** There is a majority of diabetic patients that use hypoglycemic oral agents rather than treatment with insulin. There is a significant difference between the body mass index in patients with insulin treatment and oral hypoglycemic agents. Being higher in patients treated with insulin.

#### Introduction

In Mexico, the process of demographic aging is not reversible nevertheless there is an epidemiological transition, characterized by the persistence of infectious diseases, as well as chronic diseases, such as diabetes mellitus, hypertension, dementia, joint diseases and arteriosclerosis [1]. Many of these pathologies begin in the early stages of life and reach old age, with a range of comorbidities, complications and disabilities, which generate a significant increase in health care expenditures [2].

Aging is a multifactorial process characterized by several changes. There are observed variations in body mass, fat, muscles and bones, all of which are strongly influenced by gender, race or ethnicity, and physical activity.

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The variation of body mass throughout life has been studied by several authors due to the ability to mask several pathologies [3].

The most affected system being the musculoskeletal system. In striated muscle, progressive loss of fiber and a fat-free mass are observed [4,5]. The muscle is about 40% of the total body mass and 75% of the cell mass. The sum of the visceral and muscular cell mass predicts the energy needs. The hormonal growth axis / insulinlike growth factor-1 (IGF-1) is the main regulator of tissue mass in the early stages of life. In the elderly, a decrease in IGF-1,2,4,8 has been reported, probably due to a decrease in growth hormone [6].

Nutrition plays a very important role in the aging process, through the modulation of changes in the various organs and functions of the body. The nutritional status of the elderly is determined by many factors, such as socio-economic, functional, mental, psychological and physiological factors. Therefore, the complete assessment of nutritional status should include information on these dimensions with the objective of helping to understand the etiology of possible deficiencies, and to create more efficientinterventions [7].

The greatest attraction of anthropometry is its simplicity, however, isolated measures have limited value. Although these measures are obtained with relative ease, they are difficult to assess in the elderly. The most commonly used anthropometric measures for the assessment of nutritional status are weight and height, body mass index (BMI), perimeters and skin folds [8,9].

The BMI is an attempt to quantify the amount of tissue mass (muscle, fat, and bone) in an individual, and then categorize that person as underweight, normal weight, overweight, or obese based on that value. However, there is some debate about where on the BMI scale the dividing lines between categories should be placed [10]. Commonly accepted BMI ranges are underweight: under  $18.5~{\rm kg/m^2}$ , normal weight:  $18.5~{\rm to}~25~{\rm kg/m^2}$ , overweight:  $25~{\rm to}~30~{\rm kg/m^2}$ , obese: over  $30~{\rm kg/m^2}$ . People of Asian descent have different associations between BMI, percentage of body fat, and health risks than those of European descent, with a higher risk of type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease at BMIs

lower than the World Health Organization cut-off point for overweight,  $25 \text{ kg/m}^2[11]$ .

It is important to emphasize that a direct relationship has been found in the literature between leptin, insulin and growth hormone, since they influence fat mass, body composition and fat distribution [12]. As with oral hypoglycemic agents, including the following groups: sulfonylurea, meglitinide, and D-phenylalanine derivatives weight gain was also found [13].

To evaluate Anthropometry in elderly Mexican patients with diabetes treated with insulin or hypoglycemic agents

#### **Materials and Methods**

Transversal study, an analysis was carried out on the data of people aged 60 years or older in the state of San Luis Potosí participating in the multicenter health and wellness and aging studyThe SABE study methodology was used to calculate the size of the sample of questionnaires to be applied, for each zone, 95% confidence interval parameters, a maximum allowed error of +5% and a success rate to 50%, as well as the population size corresponding to inhabitants of 60 years and over, according to the II Count of Population and Housing 2005 of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography.

The data were processed with the following formula to calculate the size of the finite population sample, based on proportions, considering a binomial distribution of the questionnaire, where the probability of success is in function of locating a person 60 years or older.

Field personnel selected and trained by the Universidad Autonoma of San Luis Potosí. After 8 weeks of field work, 2,320 questionnaires were applied in a total of 260 localities, including the 58 municipal headwaters of the state. The survey was carried out across the state, both in urban and rural areas, including areas where the indigenous population is located. Obtaining a total of 2320 records of the survey SABE corresponding to the year 2011-2012 with the authorization of the committee of bioethics with the following registration R-2015-2402-11.



The SABE San Luis Potosí Survey is a questionnaire composed of 11 sections, with a total of 486 items, plus a section of identification data, as well as a section of questions and final comments. There were included only in this study of diabetic patients, being a total sample of 317 that included the following data: height, weight size, hip size, systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, insulin treatment or hypoglycemic agents. To obtain the parameters, it was requested the data base of the 2320 questionnaires for the selection of the variables of interest.

With the information was obtained, a database with a total of 317 patients was created in the Excel program, (Table 1) all personal data of the participants were kept confidential. Subsequently, it was analyzed the frequency distribution, percentages, ranges, standard deviation, and Student's t-test for the mean difference for the corresponding variables.

Quetelet index is a value derived from the mass (weight) and height of an individual. The BMI is defined as the body mass divided by the square of the body height, and is universally expressed in units of kg/m2, resulting from mass in kilograms and height in meters.

Matched paired samples were found according to whether there was insulin treatment or hypoglycemic agents. It was evaluated SBP, DBP, BMI and WHR, the differences between both groups is shown in table 2.

The correlation found with SBP, DBP, BMI and WHR in both groups as mentioned is found in table no.4. It was found that diabetic patients with insulin have a higher BMI than people who have not used it (Table 3).

#### **Discussion**

In two studies in the united states it was found that Increased BMI was associated with increased prevalence of diabetes mellitus, hypertension and dyslipidemia (p < 0.001).

**Table 1:** It shows the characteristics of the population studied.

General Population	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Standar Deviation	
Systolicbloodpressure (mmHg)	90	198	134.57	19.20	
DiastolicBloodPressure (mmHg)	60	129	80.76	11.67	
Weight (kg)	50.00	68.61	68.61	10.14	
Height (cm)	137	181	156.03	9.24	
Waistsize (cm)	79	128	100.43	9.155	
Hip Size (cm)	80	136	106.09	9.197	
Waist/Hip Ratio(cm)(WHR)	0.75	1.1 <i>7</i>	0.94	0.07	
Body Mass Index(kg/m²)(BMI)	1 <i>7</i> .11	30.18	21.96	2.79	
n=317					

### Results

A total of 317 diabetic patients 43.5% were women and 56.5% men with a mean age of  $71\pm8.2$  years. Divided into two groups, there were 18% of diabetic patients that had a treatment with insulin and the second group diabetic patients 82% had a treatment with hypoglycemic agents (Table 1).

The Waist-hip ratio or waist-to-hip ratio (WHR) used is a ratio of the circumference of the waist to that of the hips. This is calculated with waist measurement divided by hip measurement. The Body Mass Index (BMI) or For each condition, more than 75% of patients had BMI  $\geq 25 \text{ kg/m2.Which}$  is found similarities within our study having a higher BMI in diabetic patients with insulin treatment. However differing in the Mean BMI of our study being 21.96 kg/m². Obtaining 27.8 kg/m² for SHIELD(Study to Help Improve Early evaluation and management of risk factors Leading to Diabetes) and 27.9 kg/m² for NHANES(National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys) [14].



Table 2: Differences of paired samples.

	Differences of paired samples						
	Average	verage Standard Deviation	Standard	95% of difference interval of confidence		Student t	Significance p< 0.05
	, werage		on error average	Inferior	Superior		
SBP	1.9649 1	30.04756	3.9799	-6.00778	9.9376	0.494	0.623
DBP	0.3684 2	17.07089	2.2611	-4.1611	4.89794	0.163	0.871
BMI	3.9509 3	2.08638	0.27635	3.39734	4.50452	14.297	0
WHR	0.0308	0.09212	0.0122	0.00639	0.05528	2.527	0.014

n=317

Table 3: Correlation of paired samples.

n=317	Correlation	Significance p<0.05
SBP	-0.196	0.144
DBP	-0.133	1.326
BMI	0.974	0.000
WHR	0.091	0.500

In Mexico, the prevalence of type 2 diabetes had a remarkable growth in recent years. The percentage of the population that has been already diagnosed. The prevalence is even greater if asymptomatic cases are considered [15]. A study realized in Mexico in 2012 it was found he factors significantly associated with the onset of diabetes were: education, hypertension and BMI.Presenting similarities with the present study.

There is a clear relationship between the increases in body mass index with the increase in the prevalence of diabetes mellitus type 2. Presenting a peak of prevalence at 60 to 65 years of age. However, a decrease is subsequently found due to premature mortality presented in diabetic patients. Which is the reason the population studied in the present study, we found a lower BMI than that reported in the literature [16].

The majority of diabetic patients treated with oral hypoglycemic agents in Mexico receive secretagogues (glibenclamide) and biguanide (metformin). Weight gain in the secretagogues is well known while a reduction in weight is found in the biguanide group. Making us think that their weight remains neutral while in insulin there is an increase on the body mass index observed due to its pure anabolic effect [17].

## **Conclusion**

There is a majority of diabetic patients that use hypoglycemic oral agents rather than treatment with insulin.

The majority of diabetic patients treated with oral hypoglycemic agents in Mexico receive secretagogues (glibenclamide) and biguanide (metformin). The rest of hypoglycemic oral agents being used is a minority.



There is a significant difference between the body mass index in patients with insulin treatment and oral hypoglycemic agents. Being higher in patients treated with insulin.

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