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### YEAR OF PUBLICATION – 2018

S. No	Name of the teacher	Title of paper
1	Dr. M Shalini	" Implementation of Hindi Word Recognition and Classification System Using Artificial Neural Network"
2	Dr. K. Kusuma Dorcas,	Purification and Characterization of Protease produced by Bacillus subtilis MD2
3	Dr. K. Kusuma Dorcas,	Antimicrobial susceptibility of various natural extracts on coliforms
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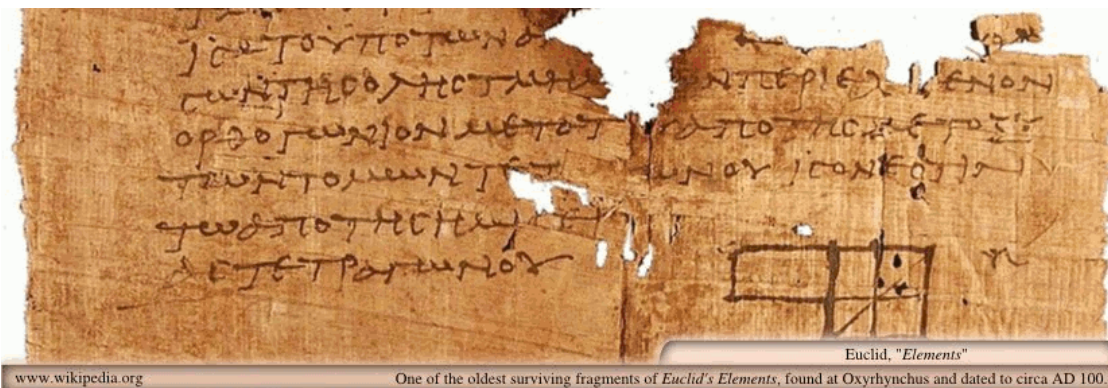
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ISSN 1311-8080 (printed version)  
ISSN 1314-3395 (on-line version)



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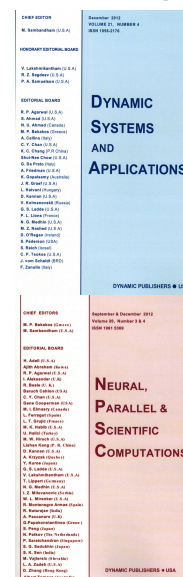
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### COMMUNICATIONS IN APPLIED ANALYSIS





## IMPLEMENTATION OF HINDI WORD RECOGNITION AND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM USING ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK

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**Abstract :** Extensive research has been taken place in the areas of pattern recognition and image processing. Character recognition is one of the important tasks in pattern recognition. A neural network is one of the techniques widely used for character recognition. This paper manages the qualities of Devanagari script particularly Hindi. Line segmentation, word segmentation techniques are used for extracting Hindi text from given image. Algorithms like grey scale algorithm, noise removal, thinning, MSER, Horizontal and Vertical projection algorithms are used in this research. The accuracy of the network pattern is analysed by giving various test pattern to the net.

**Keywords :** pattern recognition, grey scale algorithm, noise removal, thinning, MSER.

**Introduction:** Artificial Intelligence giving machines the human like abilities, has one of the most challenging areas in computer science in last few decades. Due to the growth of technology in India, it becomes important to devise ways so that people can communicate with computer in Indian languages. One of the major tasks of Artificial Intelligence (AI), giving machines the human like abilities, has one of the most challenging areas in computer science in last few decades. Due to the growth of technology in India, it becomes important to devise ways so that people can communicate with computer in Indian languages. One of the major tasks of Artificial Intelligence is to make the machines to see, interpret and the ability to read text. Lot of research work has been done in this field, but still the problem is not solved in its full complexity. A good text recognizer has many commercial and practical applications. Artificial Intelligence techniques are widely used in Pattern Recognition field. The patterns to be classified are usually groups of measurements or observations defining points in an appropriate multidimensional space. A complete pattern recognition system consists of a sensor that gathers the observations to be classified or described.

The Pattern Recognition approaches can be classified as Statistical, Syntactic (or structural), Neural Networks and Hybrid. Statistical pattern recognition is based on statistical characterizations of patterns, assuming that the patterns are generated by a probabilistic system. Structural pattern recognition is based on the structural interrelationships of features.

Neural pattern recognition employs the neural computing paradigm that has emerged with neural networks. A brief introduction about neural networks is presented in the following sections.

## **ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS**

An Artificial Neural Network (ANN) is an information processing paradigm that is inspired by the way biological nervous systems, such as the brain, process information. The key element of this paradigm is the novel structure of the information processing system. It is composed of a large number of highly interconnected processing elements called neurons, working in unison to solve specific problems. ANN's, like people, learn by example. An ANN is configured for a specific application, such as pattern recognition or data classification, through a learning process. Learning in biological systems involves the neurons. The aim of introducing ANN's is to mimic the behaviour of brain. Neural Networks with their remarkable ability to derive meaning from complicated or imprecise data can be used to extract patterns and detect trends that are too complex to be noticed by either humans or other computer techniques. A trained neural network can be thought of as an "expert" in the category of information it has been given to analyse. This expert can then be used to provide projections given new situations of interest and answer "what if" questions.

### **Back Propagation Algorithm**

In order to train a neural network to perform some task, we must adjust the weights of each unit in such a way that the error between the desired output and actual output is reduced. This process requires that the neural network compute the error derivative of the weights (EW). In other words, it must calculate how the error changes as each weight is increased or decreased slightly. The back propagation algorithm is the most widely used method for determining the weights. The back-propagation algorithm is easiest to understand if all the units in the network are linear. The algorithm computes each weight by first computing the rate at which the error changes as the activity level of a unit is changed (EA). For output units, the EA is simply the difference between the actual and the desired output. To compute the EA for a hidden unit in the layer just before the output layer, we first identify all the weights between that hidden unit and the output units to which it is connected. We then multiply those weights by the EAs of those output units and add the products. This sum equals the EA for the chosen hidden unit. After calculating all the EAs in the hidden layer just before the output layer, we can compute in like the EAs for other layers, moving from layer to layer in direction opposite to the way activities propagate through the network. This is what gives back propagation its name. Once the EA has been computed for a unit, it is straight forward to compute the EW for each incoming connection of the unit. The EW is the product of the EA and the activity through the incoming connection [1].

### **Feed Forward Neural Network**

A single artificial neuron can be interconnected in many different ways leading to a variety of Neural Networks with different architectures, learning rules and abilities. The most important

ones are Feed Forward Neural Networks (FFNN), Adaptive Resonance Theory (ART), Hopfield Nets, Radical Basis Functions(RBF), Boltzman Machines, and Cascade-Correlation.

Feed Forward Neural Networks (FFNN) is a very simple way to organize the neurons in several layers as shown in figure. This architecture is called a feed forward net, since neurons of one layer are only connected with neurons of the succeeding layer, without any recurrent connections. These networks consist of one input layer, one or two hidden layers and one output layer. With such net, input data are mapped from the n-dimensional input space to an m-dimensional output space.

This paper describes and discusses the classification and recognition of printed Hindi document using Artificial Neural Networks. Some of the related works are given in section II, Methodology in section III, Testing and Results are discussed in section IV.

### **Related Works**

Major research activities have been carried out on the recognition of characters in foreign languages. Significant contribution is made in the recognition of characters in Chinese, Arabic, English and Japanese languages.

In [CHW02], the author proposed a Neural Network based application to optical symbol recognition. They say that node heads could be easily recognized by using a set of Fuzzy rules extract from the parameters of trained Neural Networks and also showed that only 12 features are sufficient to achieve a high recognition rate.

In [Ban99], the author designed a Devnagari text recognition system by integrating knowledge sources, features of characters such as horizontal zero crossing, moments, aspect ratios, pixel density in nine zones, number, and position of vertex points, with structural descriptions of characters. These were used to recognize characters

#### **Character Recognition for Devanagari Script - C h i t r a k s h a r i k a**

This paper [47] gives an efficient way to convert optically scanned images of printed materials into computer process able data files. The technical attributes include Recognizing Hindi, Marathi & Nepali., Scanning images via TWAIN interface, Auto Image segmentation, de-skewing, detection of text, table & pictures, Image editing features, Embedded spell checker for Hindi and text & scanned images in different formats. The system is implemented using ANSI C and hence portable to any platform. The performance rate of accuracy is 96.8% [47].

Dr. P.S. Deshpande et.al, proposed a novel approach on character encoding and regular expressions for shape recognition in their paper [2]. The method is independent of the specific aspect of individual shapes, such as thickness of line, size of character and shapes. In this, features are extracted in the form of regular expression. They achieved an accuracy of 90%.

A Devanagari text recognition system was designed by VeenaBansali [3] in her research work by integrating knowledge sources, features of characters such as horizontal zero crossings, moments, aspect ratios, position of vertex points and pixel density, with structural description of characters.

AditiGoyal, KartikayKhandelwal, PiyushKeshri [4], in their paper discussed about various image pre-processing, feature extraction and classification algorithms, to design high performance OCR software for handwritten Hindi alphabets. Image preprocessing included Median filtering, Background removal, Threshold and sparsity removal. In feature selection and extraction, histograms of oriented gradients were used. This provides a flexible feature and helps to deal with high bias and high variance issues. The basic back-propagation algorithm is used to determine the weight matrix. Features were tested on a reduced training set using naïve Bayes and support vector machines. They observed that SVM gave better results than naïve bayes. The performance obtained with handwritten letters is 98 %.

### **Methodology**

One of the most important tasks in pattern recognition process is character recognition. Artificial neural networks is one of the techniques widely used for document recognition. The different phases involves:

- Data Collection
- Image Acquisition
- Image Digitization
- Image Preprocessing
- Word Segmentation
- Feature Extraction
- Word Classification
- Storing the recognized document in a text file
- Display the recognized document

**Data Collection:** Data in the form of Hindi Text document with different font styles are collected for testing.

**Image Acquisition:** The first step in any document recognition task is to acquire a digital image. The grey level images of Hindi document is obtained through Scanner.

**Image preprocessing:** the digital image thus obtained is preprocessed, the various steps in preprocessing are

- Extraction of intensive values from grey level Hindi document
- Noise Elimination
- Binarization
- Size Normalization
- Thinning

### **Extraction of grey level image**

The intensity values of each grey level image is extracted and stored in a matrix form.

### **Noise Elimination**

Smoothing can be used to reduce fine textured noise in an image. The simple way to eliminate noise is by using average filters or median filters.

**Binarization**

The next preprocessing technique is conversion of grey level to binary image (generally referred as threshold).

There are two approaches for conversion of grey level image to binary. They are Global threshold and Locally adaptive threshold.

**Size Normalization**

To make the processing more efficient and robust, size normalization is required. The input to the neural network is an array of fixed size. Hence to make the image suitable to the network, size normalization is required.

**Thinning**

The final stage in preprocessing is thinning. Image thinning extracts a skeleton of the image without loss of the topological properties.

The above preprocessing steps are applied to all the Hindi scanned documents. Then these characters are used in further recognition process.

**Word Segmentation**

Segmentation is one of the most important phases in OCR development. It directly affects the efficiency of any OCR. So a good segmentation technique can increase the performance of OCR. Segmenting text from scanned image helps in optical character recognition. An automated text detection algorithm is used to detect a large number text region and removes non text regions. Maximally stable external regions function is used to detect text regions from the scanned text document. This algorithm works well for text because the consistent color and high contrast of text leads to stable intensity profiles. A simple rule based approach is used to filter non-text regions based on geometric properties. The geometric properties that are good for discriminating between text and non-text regions are aspect ratio, eccentricity, Euler number, extent and solidity. Text with little stroke width variation is done by estimating the stroke width by using distance transformation and binary thinning operation.

Individual text regions are merged into words or text lines by finding neighboring text regions and then form a bounding box around these regions. This makes the bounding boxes of neighboring text regions overlap such that text regions that are part of the same word or text line form a chain of overlapping bounding boxes. The overlapping bounding boxes can be merged together to form a single bounding box around individual words or text lines. Ocr function is used to recognize the words from Hindi text within each bounding box.

**Feature Extraction and classification**

The recognized words are stored in a text file and displayed. The recognized words are thus classified into two sub groups based on certain significant features, sub groups are categorized as

- words without matras
- words with matras

A Support Vector Machine(SVM) using the feature extracted by performing Principal Component Analysis is used for classification of words into sub groups.

**Testing and Experimental Results**



Testing was performed on paragraph of different Hindi documents of different styles and fonts consisting of approximately 30 words. An average accuracy of approximately 95 – 97% is achieved.

Image word	Detected Text	Recognition Accuracy (%)
कल	कल	98
कलश	कलश	90
वकील	वकील	88
पकाना	पकाना	98
कैसे	कैसे	90
कुपित	कुपित	90
आज	आज	96
आजकल	आजकल	96
माता	माता	98
नमस्कार	नमस्कार	90

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### Classification

Table showing the classification of words into two sub groups

Words without matras	Words with matras
चमक	उठी
वह	में
तलवार	पुरानी
कल	थी
कलश	बुंदेले
पकाना	हरबोलों
आज	कुपित

### Results

Training of the system is done by using different dataset or sample and accuracy is measured. Training and testing is done for each word, feature were computed and stored for training the network. Recognition Accuracy of Printed Hindi words is 98%.

### Limitations

Poor Recognition rate for words with touching characters and words with similar characters.

Hindi Words	Words which are not recognized correctly
झाँसीवाली	झाँसीत्रचवाली
सन्	सन्स
सत्तावन	न्सत्तावन
हमने	हबने
लड़ी	लही

## Conclusion

Document recognition is one of the important applications of pattern recognition. Instead of using only one neural network for recognition and classification we divided the words into two sub-groups based on certain significant features. Support Vector Machine using Principal Component Analysis is used for classification into two different groups. It observed that Recognition accuracy is increased by using the concept of subgrouping using PCA to 95 – 97%.

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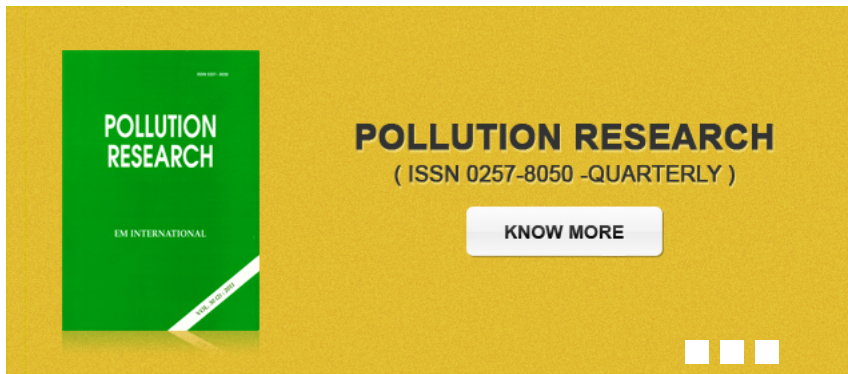
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### PURIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF PROTEASE PRODUCED BY BACILLUS SUBTILIS MD2

KUSUMA DORCAS AND PAVAN KUMAR PINDI

#### Abstract

Bacillus subtilis MD2 (NCBI Accession no KX784212), a soil isolate was grown in casein agar and later shake flask method was used for protease production. The enzyme was purified using ammonium sulphate precipitation followed by dialysis and further concentrated using ion exchange chromatography. The SDS PAGE revealed molecular weight of the protease to be 32 kDa. The specific activity of purified enzyme was found to be 2.21 U/mg and 1.90 fold purity. The enzyme yield was 41.52% from crude protein. The optimum pH was 8.0, while the optimum temperature was 37 °C. The enzyme showed maximum activity with 1.2 % casein as substrate. It also showed increase in activity with 0.1M Fe<sup>2+</sup>, while its activity was inhibited by EDTA. 1mM of Mg<sup>2+</sup> metal ion showed maximum protease activity.

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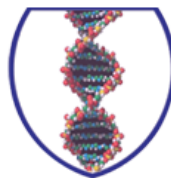
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## Neophobic tendencies and dietary behaviour in a cohort of adolescent girls in Secunderabad

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to examine the relationship between neophobic tendencies and general dietary patterns and to assess adolescent perceptions about factors influencing their food choices. This cross-sectional study was carried out in a girls' college in Secunderabad. A survey was administered to 1446 girls, aged 15-19 years to collect information on general neophobia, food neophobia, dietary practices, and consumption of energy-dense snacks. There were 274 vegetarians (average food neophobia score [FNS] = 38.8), 371 students who were vegetarians that consumed eggs (FNS=39.2), and 801 were non-vegetarians (FNS=36.6).

Our findings indicate independence of food neophobia and general neophobia scores ( $r^2=0.037$ ) for this population. The independence of food neophobia from general neophobia may potentially be mediated by cultural factors associated with food neophobia for this population, such as restraint/caution towards foods outside of the

regular diet, due to religious beliefs and traditions. Evidence for this is seen in results showing the non-vegetarian group and vegetarian group having lowest and highest food neophobia scores, respectively (36.6 vs. 38.8). Lower food/general

neophobia was a significant indicator of greater consumption of meals outside the home. Greater consumption of energy-dense foods (such as pizzas and burgers) was also associated with low food/general neophobia scores.

The findings from this study demonstrate that the vegetarians and ovo-vegetarians were more neophobic than the non-vegetarians. The non-vegetarian group had less neophobic tendencies and was more open to trying new/novel foods and cuisines than the vegetarian and ovo-vegetarian groups.

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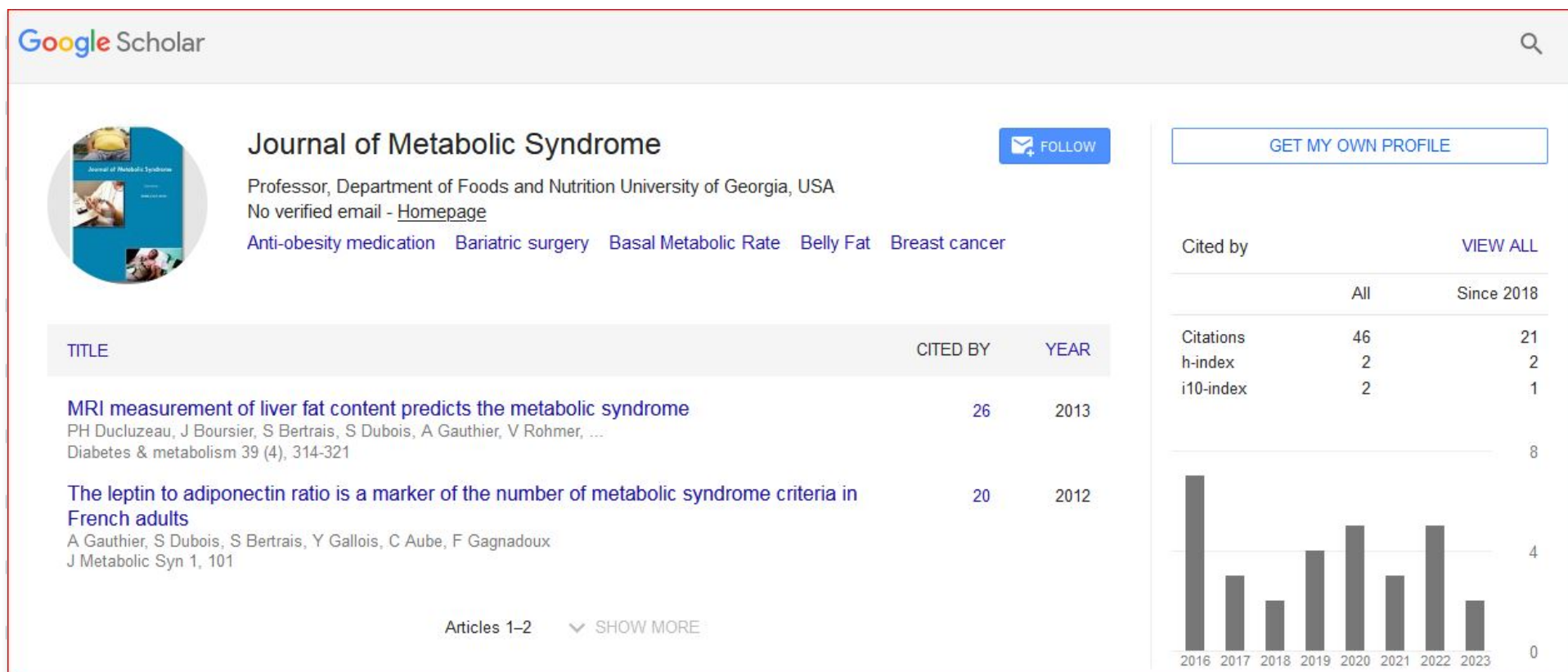
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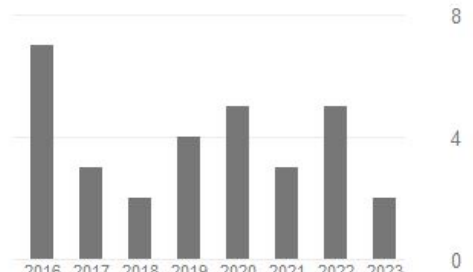
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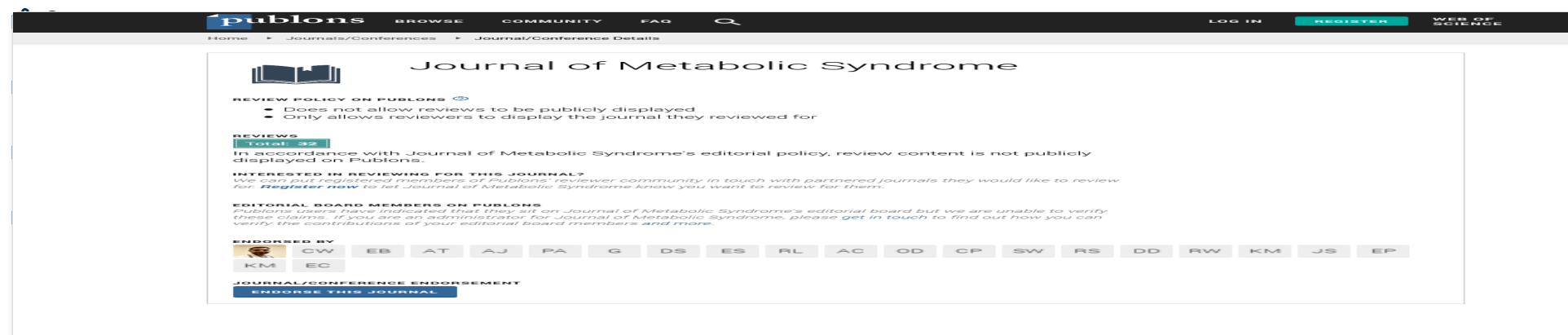
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## Evaluation of Glycemic, Lipid, Immune-Inflammatory and Oxidative Stress Markers in Various Clinical Stages of Type 2 Diabetic Nephropathy

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Received date: February 16, 2018; Accepted date: February 27, 2018; Published date: March 06, 2018

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### Abstract

Type 2 Diabetic nephropathy (DN), chronic multifactorial disorder is a devastating complication of DM and a main cause of end stage renal failure. A variety of factors like metabolic, hemodynamic, genetic and multiple pathogenic events contribute to the renal damage in type 2 DN. The present study was designed to assess blood glucose, serum lipid profiles, immune-inflammatory and oxidative stress markers in type 2 DN patients in different stages of the disease and healthy controls. Our study showed that FBS, PPG, HbA1c, TC, TG, LDL-C, ADA, CRP, MDA, NO and DNA damage were significantly high in type 2 DN patients ( $p < 0.01$ ) compared to controls. In stage wise comparison also FBS, PPG, HbA1c, LDL-C, CRP, MDA, NO and DNA damage showed significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ ). Further, a significant positive correlation was found between PLBS, LDL-C and CRP and oxidative stress markers (MDA, NO, DNA damage) suggesting that monitoring these biochemical parameters at regular intervals may reduce the stage wise progression of type 2 DN and might help in early detection, precise prognosis/therapeutic modalities.

**Keywords:** Type 2 diabetic nephropathy; HbA1c; Lipid profiles; Immune-Inflammatory; Oxidative stress markers; DNA damage

### Introduction

Globally the incidence of diabetes mellitus (DM) is increasing in all age-groups and the prevalence was estimated to be 2.8% (175 million people) in 2000 while recent trends show that it might increase to 4.4% (366 million people) in 2030 [1]. Type 2 diabetic nephropathy (DN) can conveniently be categorized into different stages with respect to renal hemodynamic, systemic blood pressure, urinary findings and susceptibility to therapeutic interventions. The glycosylated hemoglobin (HbA1c) levels in most type 2 DN patients were indicative of uncontrolled DM [2].

Prolonged hyperglycemia induces dyslipidemia in type 2 DN. Lipids may induce both glomerular and tubulointerstitial injury through inflammatory mediators, ROS and through hemodynamic changes [3,4]. Immune-inflammatory disturbances in type 2 diabetics have an association with cell mediated responses, inappropriate T-lymphocyte function and low-grade inflammatory status, which further leads to the increased production of oxidative stress associated with type 2 DN. This inflammation and oxidative stress are both deeply inter-related and are known to play an important role in diabetic vascular complications [5].

Type 2 diabetes in India harbors the largest number of diabetics, among which incidence of DN is on rise. In view of the above, the present study has been explored to study the association of blood glucose levels, HbA1c, lipid profiles, immune-inflammatory markers (ADA & CRP), oxidative stress markers (MDA, NO & COMET) and their susceptibility to type 2 DN patients and its progression to end-stage renal disease (ESRD).

### Materials and Methods

#### Study subjects

The present study population consisted of a total of 620 subjects including 310 patients recruited from Department of Nephrology, Nizam Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad, Telangana state, INDIA, with type 2 DN and an equal number of healthy individuals without any systemic disorders from the local population included in the study (medical history & physical examination). Patients undergoing anti-diabetic treatment were enrolled from the department of nephrology between the period from March 2012 to August 2017.

**Inclusion criteria:** All the type 2 DN patients enrolled for the study had a minimum of 5 years history of type 2 diabetes mellitus with fasting sugar  $>110$  mg/dl and postprandial blood sugar  $>140$  mg/dl respectively and serum creatinine  $<1.2$  mg/dl as defined by clinical presentation by nephrologist will be included in the study.

**Exclusion criteria:** Patients presenting with systemic inflammatory disease, liver disease, congestive heart failure, malignancy, and AIDS were excluded from the study. Patients on treatment with ACE inhibitors, lipid lowering agents, anti-inflammatory drugs, anti-oxidant and multivitamin supplements were excluded from the study.

According to the pathological classification of Tervaert et al. (2010) based on glomerular lesions and GFR rate the 310 type 2 DN patients were categorized into stages: stage-1: 33 (10.64%), stage-2: 49 (15.8%), stage-3: 112 (36.1%), stage-4: 78 (25.16%), and stage-5: 38 (12.25%). The study protocol was approved by the ethical committee of the institution, written informed consent was obtained from all the subjects.

### Covariables

In the present study covariables include gender, age, body mass index (BMI), diabetes, hypertension, serum creatinine, glomerular filtration rate (GFR), hyperlipidemia, urea, diet, smoking and alcohol. The BMI of the subjects was computed by dividing the body weight by square of the height. The blood pressures of subjects were measured with sphygmo-manometer by clinician, hypertension was defined as systolic blood pressure >130 mm/Hg and/or diastolic pressure >80 mm/Hg.

Alkaline Picrate method used for estimation of creatinine in serum. GFR values were calculated by Cockcroft-Gault equation.  $Cr_{cl} = \frac{((140 - \text{age}) \times \text{Weight})}{72 \times \text{Scr}} \times 0.85$  (if female). Diacetyl Monoxime (DAM) method is used for determination of urea in serum. Smoking and alcoholism were defined as positive for current smokers and alcoholics.

### Blood sample collection

From each subject 8ml of blood sample was drawn in the morning after a 12 h fast (from 8 pm to 8 am) and in the afternoon 1 h after lunch; where, 4 ml of the blood sample was collected in EDTA tubes for the determination of glycated hemoglobin and comet assay. 4 ml of blood sample was collected in a clot activator tube and left to clot to obtain serum, which was used for the other biochemical estimations like glucose, lipids, immune-inflammatory and oxidative stress markers.

### Estimation of biochemical markers

Fasting blood sugar (FBS) and postprandial blood sugar (PLBS) were analyzed by ERBA kit (Transasia, Germany), glycosylated hemoglobin (HbA1c) was measured by Fluckiger and Winterhalter calorimetric method [6].

Lipid profile (Total cholesterol (TC), Triglyceride (TG), High density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C) were carried out by commercially available kits (ERBA, Transasia, Germany). LDL-C was calculated using the Friedewald's formula:  $LDL-C = \text{total cholesterol} - (\text{HDL} - \text{triglycerides}/5)$  mg/dL [7].

Serum adenosine deaminase (ADA) levels were estimated by the method of Giusti and Galanti (1981) [8] and serum circulating levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) were determined by Immunoturbidimetric method using RHELAX-CRP kit (Latex Agglutination slide test for detection of CRP) [TULIP diagnostics (P) LTD., INDIA].

Oxidative stress markers, MDA was measured by thiobarbituric acid (TBA) using Meloni et al., (1992) [9] method. Nitric oxide was estimated using Griess reagent (1:1 mixture of 1% sulphanilamide in 5% H3PO4 and 0.1% N-[1-naphthyl] ethylene diamine) using Lepoivre et al., (1990) [10] method, DNA damage was assessed by Comet assay using Singh et al., [11] and Ahuja (1999) [12] methods.

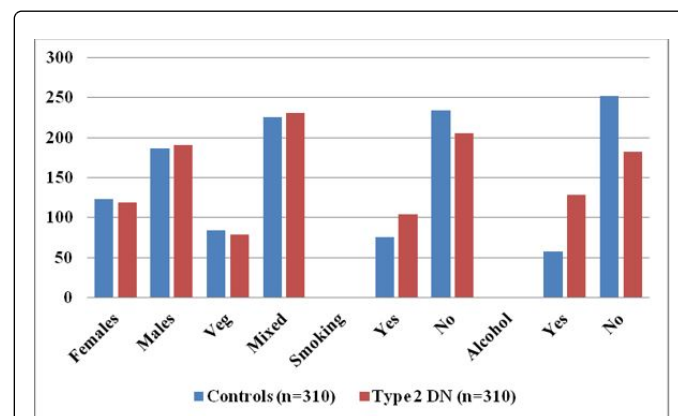
### Statistical analysis

All statistical analyses were performed with online statistical software tools such as Open Epi version 3.03. Differences in demographic, clinical, and biochemical variables were statistically analyzed by one-way ANOVA in type 2 DN patients and healthy controls. All p-values  $\leq 0.05$  were considered statistically significant. All numeric values are expressed as the mean  $\pm$  SD. Pearson's correlation coefficient (r) was used to quantify continuous variables

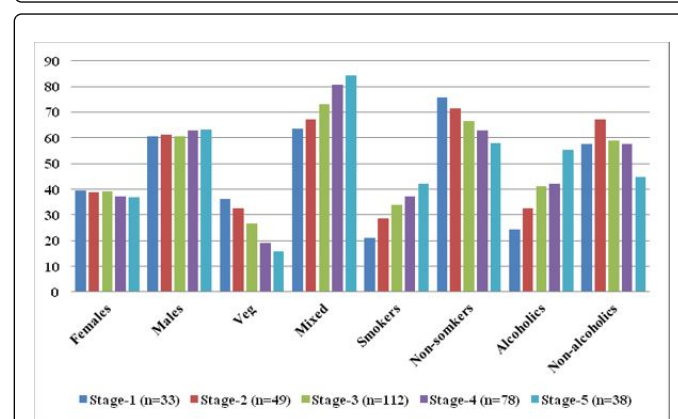
such as hyperglycemia (fasting and postprandial), HbA1c, lipid profiles, ADA, CRP with oxidative stress markers using SPSS statistical software (version 20).

### Results

The distribution of baseline demographic and biochemical data in healthy individuals (310) and type 2 DN patients (310) are represented in (Table 1 and Figure 1) and among type 2 DN stages are depicted in (Table 2 and Figure 2). With respect to age no significant difference observed between controls and type 2 DN patients (Table 1) however the mean age of patients in stage 4 and 5 was high when compared to patients in stages 1, 2 and 3 but no significant difference observed among the type 2 DN clinical stages (Table 2). The number of males was more than that of females in the patient population. Mixed diet, habit of smoking and alcohol consumption were also higher in-patient population (Figure 1).



**Figure 1:** Demographic data in controls and type 2 DN patients.



**Figure 2:** Demographic data of patients among type 2 DN stages.

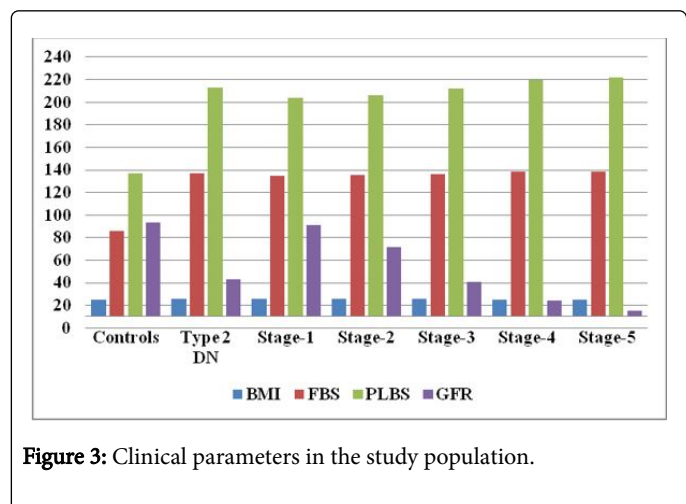
Variables	Controls (N=310)	Type 2 DN (N=310)	p-value
Age (years)	52.84 $\pm$ 7.99	56.92 $\pm$ 8.77	0.1
Systolic BP (mmHg)	121.23 $\pm$ 7.37	136.5 $\pm$ 13.99	0.01*
Diastolic BP (mmHg)	80.88 $\pm$ 7.02	86.32 $\pm$ 14.66	0.01*

HbA1c	5.12 ± 2.65	10.66 ± 5.78	0.01*
Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.91 ± 0.24	2.04 ± 0.38	0.01*
Urea (mmol/24h)	18.16 ± 4.63	96.17 ± 7.17	0.01*
*Significant at p<0.01			

**Table 1:** Baseline and biochemical parameters in controls and type 2 DN patients.

Parameter	Stage- 1 (N=33)	Stage- 2 (N=49)	Stage- 3 (N=112)	Stage- 4 (N=78)	Stage- 5 (N=38)	p-value
Age (years)	54.30 ± 8.99	54.69 ± 8.84	56.59 ± 8.84	59.11 ± 7	59.92 ± 10.20	0.72
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	25.44 ± 3.16	25.80 ± 4.21	25.82 ± 4.72	26.48 ± 3.81	25.33 ± 4.10	0.61
Systolic BP (mmHg)	134.24 ± 10.79	135.12 ± 12.19	135.20 ± 14.83	138.28 ± 15.88	139.69 ± 16.29	0.04*
Diastolic BP (mmHg)	83.48 ± 12.77	84.12 ± 14.18	86.55 ± 14.96	87.92 ± 15.12	89.53 ± 16.30	0.02*
HbA1c (%)	9.83 ± 4.24	9.93 ± 5.28	10.62 ± 5.92	10.80 ± 6.53	12.14 ± 6.94	0.03*
Serum Creatinine (mg/dL)	1.26 ± 0.21	1.37 ± 0.26	1.9 ± 0.34	2.5 ± 0.48	3.22 ± 0.62	0.01*
Urea (mmol/24h)	80.95 ± 4.91	90.23 ± 5.82	98.64 ± 7.82	100.41 ± 8.55	110.62 ± 8.75	0.01*
*Significant at p<0.01						

**Table 2:** Baseline and biochemical parameters in different stages of type 2 DN.

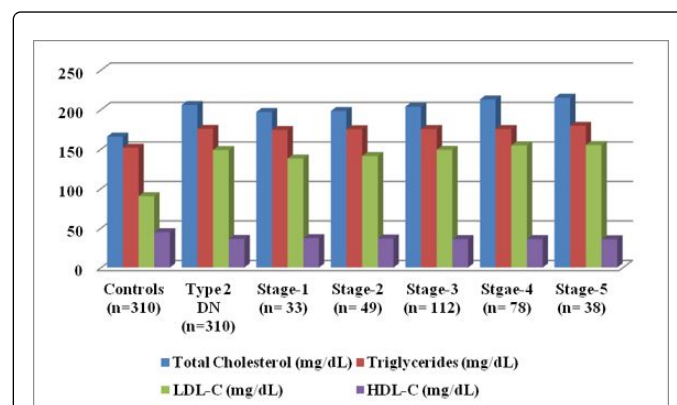


**Figure 3:** Clinical parameters in the study population.

The distribution of clinical parameters BMI, FBS, PLBS and GFR in the study population are represented in Figure 3. There was no significant difference with respect to BMI among the study subjects. Glycemic parameters FBS and PLBS levels were higher in patient and showed a gradual increase in different stages of type 2 DN compared to controls (p<0.01). Serum creatinine and GFR are commonly used parameters to indicate renal dysfunction [13]. The GFR values showed

decreasing trend among type 2 DN stages suggesting the reduced kidney function from stage-1 to stage-5 (Figure 3).

Lipid profiles of the study subjects are represented in Figure 4. Our results revealed that TC, TG, LDL levels were significantly higher in type 2 DN stages compared to controls (p<0.01), whereas LDL levels were significantly increased in type 2 DN stages from stage-1 to stage 5 compared to controls (p<0.01). The mean SBP and DBP values were significantly high in type 2 DN compared to controls (p<0.01) (Table 1) and there was a progressive increase in SBP and DBP values from stage 1 to stage 5 which was also found to be significant at (p<0.04) and (p<0.02). Mean HbA1c levels of type 2 DN found to be more than that of controls which was found significant at (p<0.01) (Table 1). The mean HbA1c levels of patients also increased from stage 1 to stage 5 of type 2 DN patients (p<0.01) (Table 2). Mean serum creatinine and urea levels were found to be more compared to controls which was significant at (p<0.01) (Table 1). Serum creatinine and urea levels showed gradual increase from stage-1 to stage -5 with the advanced stage of the disease which was found to be significant at (One-way ANOVA, p<0.01) (Table 2).



**Figure 4:** Lipid profiles in the study population.

The prevalence of nephropathy is strongly related to the duration of diabetes. In most individuals were with 5-10 years history of diabetes, i.e., stage 1: 69.69%, stage 2: 65.30%, and stage 3: 63.39% when compared to stage 4: 52.56% and stage 5: 26.31%. Furthermore, 38.46% of the individuals in stage 4 were presented with 10-15 yrs of type 2 DM. While 44.73% individuals in stage 5 were reported with 10-15 years and 28.94% were reported with 15-20 yrs of duration of diabetes. Overall our results indicate that longer the duration of diabetes, higher is the risk for disease progression as shown in Table 3.

Duration (years)	Stage-1 (N=33) (%)	Stage-2 (N=49) (%)	Stage-3 (N=112) (%)	Stage-4 (N= 78) (%)	Stage-5 (N=38) (%)
5-10	23 (69.69)	32 (65.30)	71 (63.39)	41 (52.56)	10 (26.31)
10-15	9 (27.27)	15 (30.61)	35 (31.25)	30 (38.46)	17 (44.73)
15-20	1 (3.0)	2 (4.08)	6 (5.35)	7 (8.97)	11 (28.94)

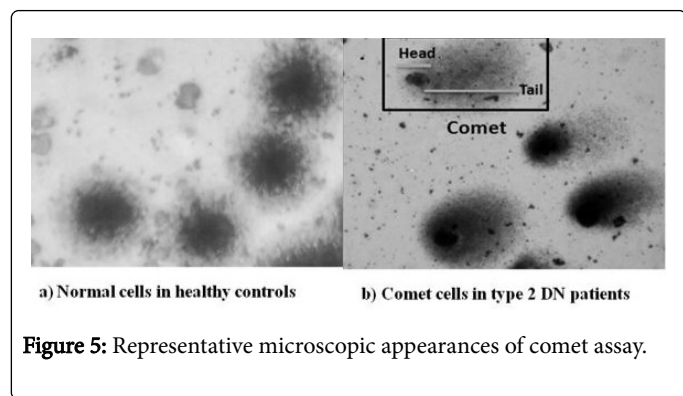
**Table 3:** Duration of type 2 diabetes mellitus in different stages of type 2 DN.

Immune-inflammatory markers ADA and CRP levels were found to be higher in type 2 DN patients compared to controls. The difference



in the mean values was statistically significant at  $p < 0.01$  (Table 4). The mean CRP of patients with different stages of type 2 DN patients also showed significant difference, whereas no significant difference was observed with ADA in stage wise comparison (Table 5).

In the present study oxidative stress was measured by indices of lipid peroxidation (LP) (MDA: malondialdehyde) and nitric oxide (Nitrate/Nitrite). The mean level of malondialdehyde and DNA damage (Comet tail length) were significantly higher in type 2 DN patients compared to controls as shown in Table 4 and Figure 5. In the present study the mean levels of MDA and DNA damage in patients with different stages of type 2 DN patients also showed a gradual increase of these oxidative stress markers from stage 1 to stage 5 (One-way ANOVA,  $p < 0.01$ ) (Table 5). The mean NO levels in type 2 DN patients were high compared to controls which was significant at  $p < 0.01$  shown in Table 4, whereas no significant result was observed among type 2 DN patients among different clinical stages (Table 5).



Parameter	Biochemical variables	Controls (N=310)	Type 2 DN (N=310)	p-value
	CRP (mg/dL)	10.00 ± 6.70	47.51 ± 14.69	0.01†
Immune-inflammatory markers	ADA (nmoles/mL)	15.69 ± 5.55	36.02 ± 11.17	0.01†
	NO (µmoles/mL)	1.89 ± 0.79	3.51 ± 1.35	0.01†
Oxidative stress markers	MDA (nmoles/mL)	2.08 ± 1.37	7.86 ± 2.69	0.01†
	DNA Damage (µm)	10.55 ± 1.68	23.48 ± 6.40	0.01†
†Significant at $p < 0.01$				
All the variables are expressed as mean ±SD				

**Table 4:** Immune-inflammatory and oxidative stress markers in controls and type 2 DN patients.

Hyperglycemic markers (FBS, PLBS and HbA1c) were correlated with oxidative stress markers and found that FBS was significantly associated with MDA and NO ( $r = 0.004$ ,  $r = 0.023$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), PLBS was found to be significantly associated with MDA, NO and DNA damage ( $r = 0.052$ ,  $r = 0.046$ ,  $r = 0.016$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) and HbA1c was found to be significantly associated with MDA and DNA damage ( $r = 0.035$ ,  $r = 0.037$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) (Table 6).

Lipid profiles when correlated with oxidative stress markers have revealed that TC was significantly associated with MDA and DNA damage ( $r = 0.009$ ,  $r = 0.042$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), TG was found to be significantly associated with DNA damage ( $r = 0.035$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) and LDL-C was found to be significantly associated with MDA, NO and DNA damage ( $r = 0.014$ ,  $r = 0.004$ ,  $r = 0.023$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), while HDL-C was found to be negatively associated with MDA ( $r = -0.027$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) (Table 6).

Immune-inflammatory markers CRP, was found to be significantly associated with MDA, NO and DNA damage ( $r = 0.026$ ,  $r = 0.041$ ,  $r = 0.035$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) (Table 6), whereas ADA has shown no significant association with oxidative stress markers.

Blood glucose, lipid profile and inflammatory markers were correlated with oxidative stress markers and our results have shown that PLBS ( $r = 0.052$ ,  $r = 0.046$ ,  $r = 0.016$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ), LDL-C ( $r = 0.014$ ,  $r = 0.004$ ,  $r = 0.023$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) and CRP ( $r = 0.026$ ,  $r = 0.041$ ,  $r = 0.035$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) were strongly associated with all the oxidative stress markers (MDA, NO, DNA damage respectively) (Table 6).

## Discussion

Type 2 diabetic nephropathy is a multifactorial and most prevalent complication of diabetes mellitus worldwide accounting for nearly 44 percent of new cases [14]. Type 2 DM gradually affects the kidneys and kidney failure is the final stage of type 2 DN. The diabetic prevalence has extended epidemic magnitudes worldwide and is expected to rise to 350 million people by the year 2035 [15]. The risk factors for type 2 DN progression include genetic, environmental and metabolic factors like blood pressure, blood lipids, glycemic control, duration of diabetes, smoking, glomerular hypertension, inflammation, and oxidative stress worsen albuminuria.

Long-standing hyperglycemia may directly increase the mesangial cell glucose concentration and results in mesangial expansion and injury. Initially, the glomerular mesangium expands by cell proliferation and then by cell hypertrophy, this expansion is stimulated by an increase in mesangial stretch and pressure, as can high glucose levels. Hyperglycemia aggravates glomerular lesions and metabolic effects of long standing hyperglycemia causes AGE production that binds to collagen and causes renal complications. AGE containing protein increases PKC and TGFβ which plays an important role in cell proliferation, differentiation and mesangial cell apoptosis. Recent studies by researchers showed the increase of FBS and PLBS levels in type 2 DN patients [16-19]. In our study, we observed that patients in stage 5 with type 2 diabetes with more aged had significantly higher blood glucose levels compared to patients in stage 1, 2, 3 and 4.

In the blood and kidneys circulation glucose combines with proteins and forms advanced glycosylation end products (AGEs), such as glycosylated proteins of the basement membrane of the renal glomerulus contributing to increased diabetic complications [20]. Higher levels of HbA1c were associated with increased risk for development of type 2 DN. Our study was consistent with the reports by Timothy and Peter [21] where variations in HbA1c levels were strongly associated with DN in patients with type 2 diabetes. The mean HbA1c levels of patients with different stages of type 2 DN patients as depicted in Table 1, show increased levels of HbA1c from stage 1 to stage 5 indicating the severity of the disease and the results are consistent with the study observed by Chen et al., [22]. Previous studies have shown that patients with HbA1c >8% are at higher risk for renal diseases [23]. Studies by Williams & Garg [24] have revealed a significant association of HbA1c with clinical stages of diabetic

nephropathy, where higher HbA1c levels were associated with stage 3 and stage 4 and increased risk of mortality in diabetic nephropathy patients.

Previous studies by Daiji Kawanami et al., [25] and Chehade et al., [26] have shown that dyslipidemia facilitates glomerulosclerosis under diabetic conditions. Dyslipidemia complicated with diabetes has been shown to be involved in the development of type 2 DN. Dyslipidemia in type 2 diabetes is characterized by an increase in VLDL, LDL and TG and a decrease in HDL [27,28]. In the present study, we have observed high levels of triglycerides, VLDL, LDL and low levels of HDL in type 2 DN compared to controls. These findings agreed with Jyothi Dwivedi and Sarkar [29] reports where the levels of each of T-C, TAG and LDL in type 2 DN progression was significantly increased. However, in stage wise comparison there was no significant difference observed except for LDL which showed significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

Hyperglycemia is also associated with increased levels of ADA and CRP, playing an important role in modulation of insulin action on glucose and lipid [30,31] ADA may serve as an immune-enzyme marker in the etiopathology of type 2 DN. In a study, Prakash et al., [32] reported elevated serum ADA activity in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus. It has been observed, with higher ADA activity in

insulin-sensitive tissues, glucose uptake into cells is reduced; thus, if ADA activity is suppressed, insulin sensitivity may be improved. The high plasma ADA activity might be due to abnormal T-lymphocyte responses or proliferation. In the present study, significantly higher ADA levels were found in cases compared to controls suggesting that ADA plays a key role in the pathophysiology of type 2 DN due to altered insulin related T-lymphocyte function [33] similar association was reported in our earlier studies on Rheumatoid Arthritis patients and Unstable Angina [34].

Hyperglycemia, insulin resistance, oxidative stress and innate immune system activation results in chronic inflammation playing a crucial role in perpetuating renal damage and progression of type 2 DN [35-37]. Dalla Vestra et al., [38] reported that patients with type 2 diabetes and overt nephropathy exhibit the highest levels of acute phase markers of inflammation, including C-reactive protein (CRP). In our study, CRP levels were found to be higher in type 2 DN subjects compared to controls. Our results also showed a significant association of high CRP levels with low GFR values in the advanced stage of type 2 DN. The CRP levels found is more in stage 4 and 5 compared to stage 1, 2 and 3 indicating the highly active inflammatory response during the late stages of type 2 DN (Table 5).

Parameter	Biochemical variables	Stage- 1 (n= 33)	Stage- 2 (n= 49)	Stage- 3 (n= 112)	Stage- 4 (n= 78)	Stage- 5 (n= 38)	p-value
Immune-inflammatory markers	CRP (mg/dL)	44.16 ± 12.22	44.78 ± 12.26	46.37 ± 13.62	49.59 ± 16.07	53.06 ± 17.88	0.01†
	ADA (n moles/mL)	32.68 ± 9.93	35.77 ± 10.33	35.29 ± 11.64	37.14 ± 11.21	39.09 ± 11.24	0.78
Oxidative stress markers	NO (µmoles/mL)	3.22 ± 1.24	3.50 ± 1.21	3.51 ± 1.48	3.59 ± 1.41	3.89 ± 1.81	0.01†
	MDA (n moles/mL)	7.59 ± 2.47	7.71 ± 2.26	7.78 ± 3.03	8.05 ± 2.79	8.17 ± 2.15	0.01†
	Comet tail length (µm)	19.36 ± 4.5	22.10 ± 5.53	22.30 ± 5.19	26.28 ± 7.13	26.58 ± 7.07	0.01†
†Significant at $p < 0.01$							
All the variables are expressed as mean ±SD							

**Table 5:** Immune-inflammatory & oxidative stress markers in different stages of type 2 DN patients.

In type 2 DN a significant increase of these oxidative stress markers with hyperglycemia was also observed. The role of chronic hyperglycemia in type 2 DN is thought to alter metabolism which creates oxidative stress and induces apoptotic glucose responsive cells.

Hyperglycemia represents the main cause of complication of DM, growing evidence shows that AGEs and their signal-transducing receptor interaction increases oxidative stress and subsequently elicits vascular inflammation and thrombosis resulting from the increased generation of ROS, playing a major role in the development of type 2 DN [39]. The generation of ROS has long been recognized as a typical consequence of both chronic inflammatory state and immune cell stimulation [5,36,40]. In type 2 DN a significant increase of the oxidative stress markers MDA, NO, DNA damage with hyperglycemia was seen and our results were consistent with reports by Kedziora-Kornatowska et al., [41], where increased lipid peroxidation in erythrocytes of patients with type 2 DN was observed. Ha et al., (2001) [42] also observed increased lipid peroxidation product (MDA) in proximal tubular epithelial cells. The results of the present study also revealed that the mean values of MDA in type 2 DN patients were significantly higher than that of the controls as observed by earlier

studies and further we also found a significant difference between the patients with different stages of type 2 DN.

Over the last decade, a remarkable burst of evidence has accumulated, offering the new perspective that nitric oxide (NO) plays a pivotal role in DN. ROS and NO react in pathophysiological conditions, to generate dinitrogen trioxide and peroxynitrite the two toxic reactive nitrogen species that cause significant damage to cellular components (nucleic acid, proteins, membranes) leading to chromosomal alterations, subsequent cellular dysfunction, and cellular death [43]. Excess ROS modulate protein kinase C activation, mitogen-activated protein kinases, and various cytokines and transcription factors that increase the expression of ECM genes towards progression to ESRD. ROS induces the activation of renin-angiotensin system (RAS), further worsens the renal injury in diabetic nephropathy.

Renal disease in diabetes is found to be associated with abnormalities of vasodilatation and generates ROS mediated by endothelial derived NO, suggesting linkage between vascular and metabolic abnormalities. Sharma et al., [44] observed a positive correlation between serum NO levels, GFR, and albuminuria, suggesting a link between NO, glomerular hyperfiltration and

microalbuminuria. Similarly, we have also observed high levels of nitrite/nitrate in type 2 DN patients compared to healthy controls which are in accordance with earlier report, but no significant difference was observed among patients with different stages of type 2 DN (Table 5).

High glucose increases ROS production in vascular cells and in renal cells including mesangial cells and tubular epithelial cells [45]. Increased ROS formation contributes to endothelial dysfunction, vessel wall thickening and lesion formation thereby playing a crucial role in the progressive deterioration of vascular structure and function [46].

ROS and their byproducts can cause oxidative damage which may be cytotoxic and may have some deleterious effects on DNA causing oxidative DNA damage resulting in cell death, loss of heterozygosity, translocations, and chromosome loss [47]. AGE-induced TGFβ expression causes glomerular basement membrane thickening, obstruction of arteries, mesangial apoptosis and dysfunction may contribute in part to glomerular hyperfiltration. Simone et al., [48] reported the presence of leukocyte DNA damage by high performance liquid chromatography in type 2 DN patients. In the present study, we have assessed the DNA damage (Comet tail length) using the comet assay and found that there is a significant increase in DNA damage in type 2 DN patients compared to controls.

Our study reports that patients with type 2 DN had increased levels of oxidative stress markers (MDA, Nitric oxide and DNA damage). Therefore, it might be suggested that hyperglycemia increases the oxidative stress and causes more DNA damage as observed in the late stages of type 2 DN stage- 4, 5 compared to stage-1, 2 and 3 (Table 5).

Further blood glucose, lipid profile and inflammatory markers were correlated with oxidative stress markers and our results have shown that PLBS, LDL-C and CRP were strongly associated with all the oxidative stress markers (MDA, NO, DNA damages respectively) under study ( $p < 0.05$ ) (Table 6).

Oxidative stress markers				
		MDA	NO	Comet tail length (r)
Glucose profile	FBS	0.004†	0.023*	0.076
	PLBS	0.052*	0.046*	0.016*
	HbA1c	0.035*	0.112	0.037*
Lipid profile	TC	0.009†	0.095	0.042*
	TG	0.113	0.12	0.035*
	LDL-C	0.014*	0.004†	0.023*
	HDL-C	-0.027*	0.36	0.065
Immune-inflammatory	ADA	0.085	0.144	0.106
Markers	CRP	0.026*	0.041*	0.035*
*Correlation is significant at the level 0.05 level (2-tailed)				
†Correlation is significant at the level 0.01 level (2-tailed) ( $p < 0.01$ )				

**Table 6:** Pearson's correlation between blood glucose markers, lipid profile markers and Immune-inflammatory markers with oxidative stress markers (MDA, NO, DNA damage (Comet tail length)) in type 2 DN patients.

## Conclusion

Type 2 end-stage renal disease is a devastating condition, blood glucose control is critical in preventing or slowing the progression of renal damage. Thus, from the above study, we conclude that hyperglycemia mediated regulation of immune-inflammation and oxidative stress have a significant role on development and progression of type 2 DN. Understanding the development of diabetic nephropathy and its progression into ESRD is important for the interpretation of clinical studies which helps in early diagnosis, prognosis and therapeutics.

## Acknowledgements

This study was supported by contingency grant from the UGC-BSR-RFSMS and UGC-MJRP for providing consumables. The sponsors of the study had no role in study design, data collection and analysis or writing of the manuscript. The authors thank all the participants in this research and special thanks are extended to medical staff of the Nizams Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), for their assistance.

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Gene. 2018 Oct 5;673:22-31. doi: 10.1016/j.gene.2018.06.007. Epub 2018 Jun 5.

# Collagenase-1 (-1607 1G/2G), Gelatinase-A (-1306 C/T), Stromelysin-1 (-1171 5A/6A) functional promoter polymorphisms in risk prediction of type 2 diabetic nephropathy

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PMID: 29883760 DOI: [10.1016/j.gene.2018.06.007](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gene.2018.06.007)

## Abstract

Type 2 Diabetic Nephropathy (DN) is a common multifactorial disorder. Degradation of glomerular basement membrane (GBM) by matrix metalloproteases (MMPs) is a key event in the progression of renal disease. A functional polymorphism at position -1607 1G/2G, -1306 C/T and -1171 5A/6A has been shown to alter the transcriptional activity of MMP-1, MMP-2, and MMP-3 respectively, and also associated with several diseases contributing to inter-individual differences in susceptibility to type 2 DN. The study population consisted of 310 type 2 DN patients and 310 healthy controls. Genotypes of MMP-1, 2 and 3 were determined by PCR-RFLP assay. Gene interactions, Linkage disequilibrium, and haplotype analysis were carried out by MDR analysis and Haploview software respectively. The promoter binding sites of MMP genes were determined by using Alibaba 2.1 and the gene-gene interactions of MMPs were analyzed by GeneMania. The individuals carrying 2G allele of -1607, C allele of -1306 and 5A/6A genotype of -1171 were associated with type 2 DN susceptibility and progression from stage 1 to stage 5. 2G-5A haplotypes of MMP-1 (-1607 1G/2G) and MMP-3 (-1171 5A/6A) gene polymorphisms were found to be significantly predominant in the disease group. MDR analysis revealed a strong interaction between the genes under study. 2G allele of MMP-1, C allele of MMP-2 and 5A/6A genotype of MMP-3 were associated with susceptibility and disease progression of type 2 DN and might be used as potential markers for risk prediction and prognosis of type 2 DN.

**Keywords:** Diabetic nephropathy; Haplotype; LD; MDR; Matrix metalloprotease; Promoter binding sites.

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Vidyalakshmi. V

Abstract :

Finding the right talent is a key advantage in the recruitment and staffing sector. Internet is considered as a wealth of information and data flows abundant from all sources and directions. In the current situation, recruiters find identifying suitable candidates a challenging task. Presently, data flow is enormous and is in either structured or unstructured format. It is not the amount of data that is important but the challenge is to analyse, visualize, query and update the data. The traditional way of keying suitable words or using Boolean search might no longer be efficient and inclusive enough for the recruiters to uncover the right candidate for the job. Big data is helping all growing organizations to find their perfect engineers, developers and executives with advanced sourcing and screening methodologies. This research paper provides an understanding about how recruitment process and staffing in an organization occurs using a Big Data approach.

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