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Uric acid and hypertension

DR.roghayeh akbari

Associate professor of babol university of medical science



Uric acid and hypertension



story of uric acid



Hyperuricaemia and Evolution



Historical Association of Hyperuricaemia and Hypertension



Evidence from Epidemiological studies



is it Causal or representive Of two conditions



Biological Mechanisms for Hyperuricaemia Induced Hypertension



uric acid

1-uric acid is a waste product created during the normal breakdown of purines

, In humans the final compound of purines <u>catabolism</u> is <u>uric acid</u>. All other mammals possess the enzyme <u>uricase</u> that converts uric acid to <u>allantoin</u> that is easily eliminated through urine

2-naturally occurring substances

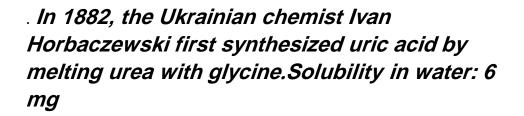




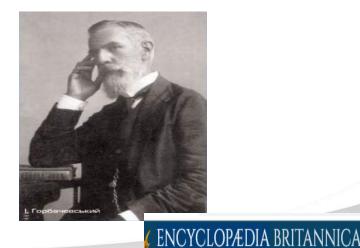


STORY OF URIC ACID

uric acid was first isolated from kidney stones in 1776 by the Swedish chemist Carl Wilhelm Scheele







al Society of Rephrology Iranian Society of Ne



Uric acid and hypertension



story of uric acid



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Biological Mechanisms for Hyperuricaemia Induced Hypertension



a time when you could not order a pizza from a local shop.!!

enabled us to use fructose to accumulate layers of fat which helped us to stay alive during the long cold winters

our simian ancestors underwent two forever loss-of function gene mutations, one mutation (30-40 million years ago) wiping out our ability to synthesize Vitamin C,

the other mutation (10-15 million years ago) undermining our ability to degrade uric acid.

Back then, these mutations together :



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The first link between hypertension (HT) an uric acid (UA) was hypothesized in the 1870s in gout patien

- a paper published in the
- Lancet in 1879 noted that many gout patients were hypertensive



and a subsequent BMJ review of "arterial tension" in 1889 recommended a low purine diet for the management of hypertension

On uric acid and arterial tension

British medical journal 1 (1467), 288, 1889



Uric acid and hypertension



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Scientific Newsletter Update on Hypertension Management

2018, 19, nr. 69

URIC ACID AND HYPERTENSION: AN UPDATE

In 1966, it appeared that 47% of hypertensive population was hyperuricemic



Clinical Chemistry

Research Article Endocrinology and Metabolism

Plasma Uric Acid and Hypertension in a Chinese Community: Prospective Study and Metaanalysis

weili ZANg et all :

conducted a community-based prospective cohort study comprising 7220 participants (mean age 37 years; 73.8% men) who were free from hypertension at study entry in 1999–2000.

During 4-year follow-up, 1370 men (19.0%) and 208 women (11.0%) had developed hypertension

> Article in Clinical Chemistry 55(11):2026-34 · September 2009





Evidence from Epidemiological studies



Sex





determining Relationship between uric acid and blood pressure in different age groups

Multivariate linear regression analysis between blood pressure and uric acid

Lee JJ et all,

A total of 45,098 Koreans who underwent health examinations at Korea Association of Health Promotion with no history of taking drugs related with UA and/or BP

Groups	Men						Women					
	SBP			DBP			SBP			DBP		
	в	R ²	<i>p</i> value	в	R ²	p value	в	R ²	<i>p</i> value	в	R ²	<i>p</i> value
Total	0.33	0.10	<0.001	0.39	0.10	<0.001	0.61	0.19	<0.001	0.60	0.14	<0.001
<40 years	0.25	0.09	0.002 年	0.40	0.09	<0.001	0.54	0.05	<0.001	0.65	0.04	<0.001
40–59 years	0.29	0.06	0.03	0.43	0.05	<0.001 슟	0.44	0.12	0.04	0.51	0.09	<0.001 📛
≥60 years	0.57	0.05	05	0.34	0.03	0.08	-0.67	0.07	0.12	-0.26	0.04	0.35

 Adjustment was done with age, diabetes, dyslipidemia, body mass index, and estimated glomerular filtration rate.

 SBP systolic blood pressure.
 Clin Hypertens. 2015 Jul 15;21:14. doi: 10.1186/s40885-015-0022-9. eCollection 2015.

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But !! There are conflicting data from different studies





FUTHIAL AUSTIALL *

J Hum Hypertens. 1994 Sep;8(9):677-81.

Serum uric acid and hypertension: the Olivetti heart study.

Jossa E¹, Farinaro E, Panico S, Krogh V, Celentano E, Galasso R, Mancini M, Trevisan M.

Author information

1 Institute of Internal Medicine and Metabolic Diseases, Medical School, University Federico II, Naples, Italy.

a 23% increase in risk for each 1.0-mg/dl

increment in UA mg/dl. (mean age 36 yr). in Josaa *et al*

J Hypertens. 2001 Jul: 19(7): 1209-15.

Serum uric acid and the risk for hypertension and Type 2 diabetes in Japanese men: The Osaka Health Survey.

Taniguchi Y1, Hayashi T, Tsumura K, Endo G, Fujji S, Okada K.

20% increase in risk for each 1.0-mg/dl increment in UA

. (mean age 41 yr)

Send to

Taniguchi et al

Format: Abstract -

Hypertension. 2005 Jan;45(1):28-33. Epub 2004 Nov 29.

Relations of serum uric acid to longitudinal blood pressure tracking and hypertension incidence.

Sundström J¹, Sullivan L, D'Agostino RB, Levy D, Kannel WB, Vasan RS.

a 13% increase in risk for each 1.0-mg/dl increment in UA

(mean age 48.7 yr),

Sandstorm et al.



Age and uric acid in conclusion :

The association between SUA levels and prehypertension also **decreased with increasing subject age**. *This association appeared to be no longer significant in elderly populations. In the age-stratified analyses*







Evidence from Epidemiological studies













Grayson PC¹, Kim SY, LaValley M, Choi HK.

a systematic review and meta-analysis.

A total of 18 prospective cohort studies representing data from 55,607 participants were included.

Hyperuricemia was associated with an increased risk for incident hypertension

(adjusted risk ratio [RR] 1.41, 95% confidence interval [95% CI] 1.23-1.58). For a 1 mg/dl

increase in uric acid level,

the pooled RR for incident hypertension after adjusting for potential confounding was 1.13 (95% CI 1.06-1.20). These effects were significantly larger in younger study populations (P = 0.02) and tended to be larger in women (P = 0.059).

Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken). 2011 Jan; 63(1): 102-110. doi: 10.1002/acr.20344





indicated that elevated SUA levels are an independent risk factor for prehypertension after controlling for the potential established risk factors both in men and women.

Subgroup analyses based on the region and gender

indicated that hyperuricemia appeared to increase the risk of prehypertension in American men but not the women





SUA levels and prehypertension risk based on gender



Int J Endocrinol. 2019; 2019: 7545137. Published online 2019 Feb 28. doi: <u>10.1155/2019/7545137</u> PMCID: PMC6421730 PMID: 30944567

Gender- and Age-Specific Differences in the Association of Hyperuricemia and Hypertension: A Cross-Sectional Study

Xiaoyun Lin, ¹ Xiqian Wang, ² Xin Li, ³ Lili Song, ³ Zhaowei Meng,^{® 1} Qing Yang, ⁴ Wenjuan Zhang, ⁴ Yuxia Gao, ⁴ Zhenwen Yang, ⁴ Heng Cai, ⁴ Bo Bian, ⁴ Yongle Li, ⁴ Xuefang Yu, ⁴ Xin Du, ⁴ Shaopeng Xu, ⁴ Jing Nie, ⁴ Ming Liu, ⁵ Jinhong Sun, ⁶ Qing Zhang, ⁶ Ying Gao, ⁶ Kun Song, ⁶ Xing Wang, ⁶ Li Zhao, ⁷ and Yaguang Fan^{® 6}

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A Cross-Sectional Study2019 Feb



A total of 78596 ostensibly healthy subjects (47781 men and 30815 women)

Men with hyperuricemia (particularly in middle age) had a significantly increased susceptibility of hypertension, while this significant association was not observed in women.



sex and uric acid in conclusion :



hormonal replacement use between Chinese and Western women



national Congress of Nephrology, Dialysis, and Transplantation Tabriz, Iran 19-22 November 2019



Is there dose dependent relationship between uric acid and incident of HTN ?





Is there dose dependent relation sheep between uric acid and incident of HTN ? 2

Sundström J, et al. Hypertension. 2005

Relations of Serum Uric Acid to Longitudinal Blood Pressure Tracking and Hypertension Incidence

Johan Sundström, Lisa Sullivan, Ralph B. D'Agostino, Daniel Levy, William B. Kannel, and Ramachandran S. Vasan

Originally published 29 Nov 2004 | https://doi.org/10.1161/01.HYP.0000150784.92944.9a | Hypertension. 2005;45:28-33

investigated 3329 Framingham Study participants (mean age 48.7 years; 55.6% women) free of hypertension, myocardial infarction, heart failure, renal failure, or gout.

At follow-up 4 years from baseline, 458 persons (13.8%) had developed hypertension, and 1201 persons (36.1%) had experienced progression to a higher BP stage.

a 1 SD higher serum UA was associated with an odds ratio (OR) of 1.17 (95%, *confidence interval [CI], 1.02 to 1.33) for developing hypertension,* . *and an OR of 1.11 (95% CI, 1.01 to 1.23) for BP progression*





Is there dose dependent relation sheep between uric acid and incident of HTN ?



Ji Wang et all

A systematic review and meta-analysis of 18 prospective cohort studies revealed that a 1 mg/dl increase in UA level was associated with an increased risk of incident HT by 13% (pooled RR = 1.13). These effects were significantly larger in women and in younger population



dose dependent relation sheep in conclusion

it seems that there is a dose relationsheep but it should be cleared with more studies





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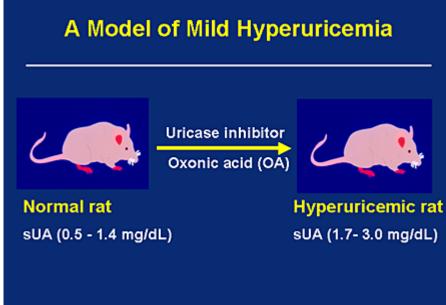


Biological Mechanisms for Hyperuricaemia Induced Hypertension



Biological Mechanisms for Hyperuricaemia Induced Hypertension

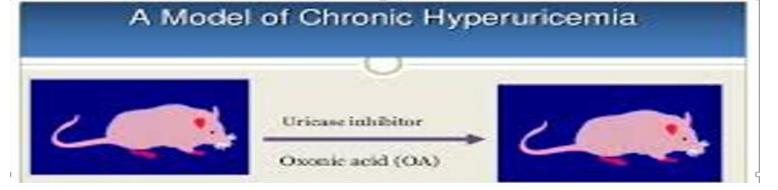
The first animal models of hyperuricaemia were developed in the 1990's by Johnson et all and used oxonic acid as an uricase inhibitor.



Mazzali et al. Hypertension. 2001;38:1101-1106.

after 2 weeks exposure to mild increases in urate levels there was activation of the renin angiotensisin system and decrease in plasma nitrates leading to vasoconstriction and hypertension

17th International Congress of Nephrology, Dialysis, and Transplantation DRAKBARI Tabriz, Iran 19-22 November 2019 Jennings et al., J Hypertens 2014, 3:4 DOI: 10.4172/2167-1095.1000164



This hypertension was reversible by

either stopping the oxonic acid (allowing the uricase enzyme to function normally) or

by lowering urate levels with either xanthine oxidase inhibitors or uricosuric agents.

> This early hypertension was also responsive to treatment with blockade of the renin-angiotensin system

> > Jennings et al., J Hypertens 2014, 3:4 DOI: 10.4172/2167-1095.1000164



Elevated uric acid increases blood pressure in the rat by a novel crystal-independent mechanism.

<u>Mazzali M</u>¹, <u>Hughes J</u>, <u>Kim YG</u>, <u>Jefferson</u> JA, <u>Kang DH</u>, <u>Gordon KL</u>, <u>Lan HY</u>, <u>Kivlighn</u> <u>S</u>, <u>Johnson RJ</u>.



Mild hyperuricemia was induced in rats by providing a uricase inhibitor (oxonic acid) in the diet. Hyperuricemic rats developed elevated blood pressure after 3 weeks

control rats remained normotensive

The development of hypertension was prevented by concurrent treatment with either a xanthine oxidase inhibitor(allopurinol) or a uricosuric agent (benziodarone),



dose dependent relation sheep between uric acid and incident of HTN



. A direct relationship was found between blood pressure and uric acid (r=0.75, n=69), with a 10-mm Hg blood pressure increase for each 0.03-mmol/L (0.5-mg/dL) incremental rise in serum uric acid

2002) Hyperuricemia nduces a primary renal arteriolopathy in rats by a blood pressureindependent mechanism. Am J Physiol Renal Physiol 282: F991-997.



Uric acid and hypertension



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Causal or representive are two conditions

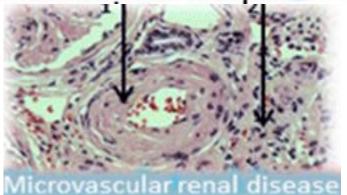


Biological Mechanisms for Hyperuricaemia Induced Hypertension





Angiotensin II Nitric Oxide availability



Angiotensin II Nitric Oxide availability

Endothelial dysfunction





Hypertension secondary to microvascular renal disease



events have led to the reappraisal of the role of uric acid in hypertension

- **uric acid might induce hypertension via reducing nitric oxide**
- **activation of renin-angiotensin system**
- **Causing smooth muscle cell proliferation**
- production of various inflammatory mediators PPT-5







Undoubtedly the effect of hyperuricaemia in the human body is complex

At present evidence is accumulating that hyperuricaemia could be a significant factor in the development of hypertension in some people and importantly, hyperuricaemia is also a potentially reversible risk factor



Review of Hyperuricaemia and Hypertension: A Target for Treatment

Uric acid and hypertension CONCLUSIONS

unanswered question

whether aggressive management of hyperuricaemia can reduce blood pressure and improve cardiovascular outcomes significantly enough to be cost effective and outweigh the potential side effects of the urate lowering therapies required. ?



. Large randomised controlled trials are needed to answer this question.

is possible that in the future management of hyperuricaemia will be as routine as management of cholesterol in the context of modifying cardiovascular risk







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ABBASABAD BEHSHAHR



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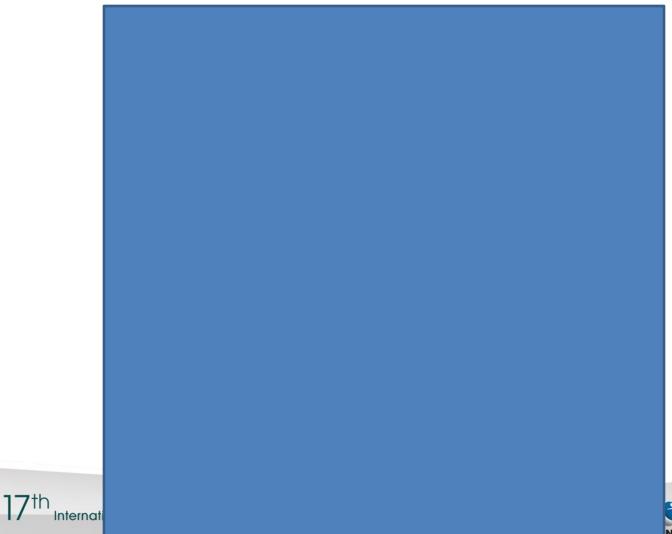
ABBASABAD BEHSHAHR

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اسلایدهایی را که کامل حذف کردم قبل عکس گذاشتم

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Normal Uric acid levels

Normal Uric acid levels are 2.4-6.0 mg/dL (female) and 3.4-7.0 mg/dL (male) *Normal values* will vary from laboratory to laboratory.

Higher SUA levels in men than those in women at all ages may be attributable to the role of genderrelated steroid hormones involved in uric acid regulation



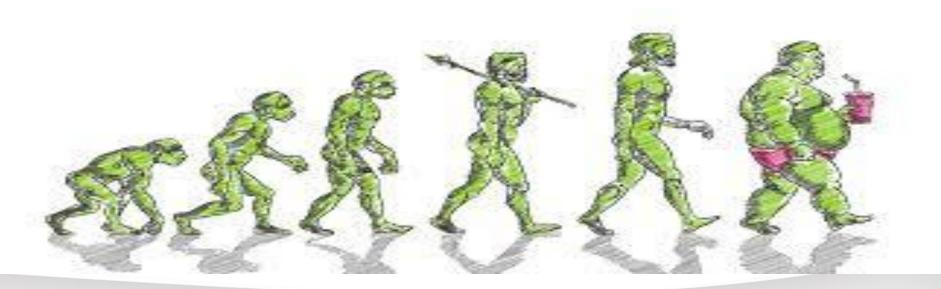


]. This is an observational study; interventional studies are needed to clarify whether UA-lowering drugs are useful in preventing development of hypertension, which will validate the findings of the current investigation.





Why a genetic adaptation 16M years ago may be leading to 21st century obesity



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Hyperuricemia as a predictor of hypertension in a screened coho in Okinawa, Japan.

Nagahama K, et al. Hypertens Res. 2004. Show full citation

Screened Cohort in Okinawa, Japan

of 4,489 individuals (2,927 men and 1,562 women

who did not have hypertension and were not currently using antihypertensive medication were examined at the Okinawa from 1997 to 2000 he results showed that

hyperuricemia to be a new predictor of hypertension development in both men and women.





CrossMa

Relationship between uric acid and blood pressure in different age groups

Jae Joong Lee¹, Jeonghoon Ahn², Jinseub Hwang², Seong Woo Han³, Kwang No Lee¹, Ji Bak Kim¹, Sunki Lee¹, Jin Oh Na¹, Hong Euy Lim¹, Jin Won Kim¹, Seung-Woon Rha¹, Chang Gyu Park¹, Hong Seog Seo¹, Dong Joo Oh¹ and Eung Ju Kim^{1*}

A total of 45,098 Koreans who underwent health examinations at Korea Association of Health Promotion with no history of taking drugs related with UA and/or BP were analyzed for determining the relationship between serum UA and BP.

According to the multivariate linear regression analysis between serum UA and BP, in men <40, serum UA was significantly associated with systolic ($\beta = 0.25$, p = 0.002 and diastolic BP ($\beta = 0.41$, p < 0.001) after adjustment for age, diabetes, dyslipidemia, BMI, and eGFR

However men between the age 40 and 59 showed similar result regarding only diastolic BP β = 0.43, p < 0.001).

The association between serum UA and BP was stronger in women <40 ($\beta = 0.54$, p < 0.001 for systolic BP; $\beta = 0.65$, p < 0.001 for diastolic BP)

and in between 40 and 59 regarding diastolic BP (β = 0.51, p < 0.001

The association was not significant in men and women 260

Clin Hypertens. 2015 Jul 15;21:14. doi: 10.1186/s40885-015-0022-9. eCollection 2015.





SUA levels and prehypertension risk based on gender

Metab Syndr Relat Disord, 2012 Jun; 10(3):202-8. doi: 10.1089/met.2011.0119. Epub 2012 Feb 7.



Hyperuricemia and microalbuminuria are separately and independently associated with prehypertension among Chinese Han women.

Peng H¹, Ding J, Peng Y, Zhang Q, Xu Y, Chao X, Tian H, Zhang Y.

reported risk of prehypertension based on gender, was comprised of females only.

Lotufo PA et all

Angiology, 2016 Feb;67(2):180-6. doi: 10.1177/0003319715585037. Epub 2015 May 13.

Serum Uric Acid and Prehypertension Among Adults Free of Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes: Baseline of the Brazilian Longitudinal Study of Adult Health (ELSA-Brasil).

Lotufo PA1, Baena CP2, Santos IS3, Bensenor IM3.

SUA levels were associated with prehypertension among men.





J Hum Hypertens. 2009 Feb;23(2):113-21. doi: 10.1038/jhh.2008.104. Epub 2008 Aug 21.

Serum uric acid level in primary hypertension among Chinese nonagenarians/centenarians.

Lu Z1, Dong B, Wu H, Chen T, Zhang Y, Wu J, Xiao H.

. the <u>Lu Z¹</u>, <u>Dong B</u> found that serum uric acid level is not directly correlated with hypertension among Chinese nonagenarians/centenarians.

thay included 832 unrelated Chinese (269 men and 563 women; ranged in

age from 90 to 108 years !! (mean, 94.6+/-4.0)). The mean serum uric acid level was 320 micromol



Uric and uncontrolled HTN K-MetS Study





Uric and uncontrolled htn K-MetS Study



treated hypertensive patients

On the 10,601 hypertensive patients who were recruited from 582 private clinics and 11 university hospitals at baseline,

dicine (Baltimore

.Hyperuricemia predicted uncontrolled hypertension even after 3 months of fimasartan treatment in hypertensive patients

Patients without metabolic syndrome had significantly higher odds of uncontrolled hypertension with hyperuricemia (odds ratio, 1.328; 95% confidence interval, 1.007-1.751







2002) Hyperuricemia nduces a primary renal arteriolopathy in rats by a blood pressure independent

The kidneys were devoid of urate crystals and were normal by light microscopy.

- immunohistochemical stains documented an
- □ ischemic type of injury with collagen deposition
- **D**macrophage infiltration
- **Dan increase in tubular expression of osteopontin**

Hyperuricemic rats also exhibited an increase in juxtaglomerular renin and a decrease in macula densa neuronal NO synthase.

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Effective uric acid-lowering treatment for hypertensive

<u>patients with hyperuricemia</u>

<u>Ohta Y</u>^{1,2}, <u>Ishizuka A</u>¹, <u>Arima H</u>³, <u>Hayashi S</u>¹, <u>Iwashima</u> Y₁, Kishida M¹, Yoshihara F¹, Nakamura S¹, Kawano Y

20 hypertensive patients with inadequate UA control were administered



after 3 months each in a randomized modified crossover manner

The UA-lowering effects of the low-dose combination of the UA synthesis inhibitor and uricosuric agent were greater than those of the standard dose of each agent alone.

uricosuric agent may be more effective at improving vascular function than the UA synthesis inhibitor..

Thus, the appropriate management of hyperuricemia with uricosuric drugs appears to be useful for patients with hyperuricemia



uric acid

1-uric acid is a waste product created during the normal breakdown of purines

, In humans the final compound of purines <u>catabolism</u> is <u>uric acid</u>. All other mammals possess the enzyme <u>uricase</u> that converts uric acid to <u>allantoin</u> that is easily eliminated through urine

2-naturally occurring substances



uric acid contaiing foods such as liver, mushrooms, anchovies, mackerel and dried beans

<u>Uric acid is normally cleaned out of the blood by the kidneys,</u> and passes out of the body along with urine







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Involvement of Arterial Stiffness and Inflammation in Hyperuricemia-Related Development of Hypertension



Hirofumi Tomiyama □, Kazuki Shiina, Charalambos Vlachopoulos, Yoichi Iwasaki, Chisa Matsumoto, Kazutaka Kimura, Masatsune Fujii, Taishiro Chikamori and Akira Yamashina

Originally published 9 Jul 2018 https://doi.org/10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.118.11390 Hypertension. 2018;72:739-745

□ In 3274 Japanese men without hypertension, the brachial-ankle pulse wave velocity, blood pressure, estimated glomerular filtration rate, and serum uric acid and CRP (C-reactive protein) levels were measured annually over an 8-year period

□ . Of these, 474 subjects developed hypertension by the end of the study period

□ Hyperuricemia at the study baseline was associated with a significant odds ratio for the development of hypertension by the end of the study period.





Uric and uncontrolled htn K-MetS Study

Of the 10,601 hypertensive patients who were recruited from 582 private clinics and 11 university hospitals at baseline,





95(28): e4177. PMC4956806 Published online 2016 Jul 18. PMID: doi: 10.1097/MD.0000000000041727428212

Hyperuricemia and uncontrolled hypertension in treated hypertensive patients

increased the risk of uncontrolled hypertension after 3 months of fimasartan Hyperuricemia medication (odds ratio, 1.247; 95% confidence interval, 1.063-1.462).

Medicine

(Baltimore

Males in the highest quartile of uric acid level were at a 1.322 (95% confidence interval, 1.053-1.660) times higher risk of uncontrolled hypertension in reference to the lowest quartile

the same analyses in females were not significant.

Patients without metabolic syndrome had significantly higher odds of uncontrolled hypertension with hyperuricemia (odds ratio, 1.328; 95% confidence interval, 1.007-1.751)

> *Hyperuricemia predicted uncontrolled hypertension even after 3* months of fimasartan treatment in hypertensive patients



weili ZANg et all :

conducted a community-based prospective cohort study comprising 7220 participants (mean age 37 years; 73.8% men)

, who were free from hypertension at study entry in 1999–2000. During 4-year follow-up, 1370 men (19.0%) and 208 women (11.0%) had developed hypertension

: Participants in the Taiwanese Survey on Prevalences of Hypertension, Hyperglycemia, and Hyperlipidemia (TwSHHH) who were free of hypertension at baseline recruitment in 2002 (n=3257)

During a mean follow-up of 5.41 years, 1119 persons (34.3%) had experienced progression to a higher blood pressure stage and 496 persons (15.2%) had developed hypertension.

Clinical Chemistry

Research Article Endocrinology and Metabolism

Plasma Uric Acid and Hypertension in a Chinese Community: Prospective Study and Metaanalysis

Uric acid concentration as a risk marker for blood pressure progression and incident hypertension: a Chinese cohort study.

Yang T, et al. Metabolism. 2012.



may be explained by the different genetic and cultural factors or hormonal replacement use between Chinese and Western women.

Women in Syamala et al.'s study were in the reproductive period (mean age 34.5–38.1 years) and the low prevalence of prehypertension may be attributed to the beneficial effects of estrogen. In Lotufo et al.'s study approximately 29.7% women received hormone replacement therapy. Hormone replacement therapy has been suggested to reduce SUA levels in postmenopausal women with hyperuricaemia which may subsequently lowered BP levels

Involvement of Arterial Stiffness and Inflammation in Hyperuricemia-Related Development of Hypertension



Hirofumi Tomiyama □, Kazuki Shiina, Charalambos Vlachopoulos, Yoichi Iwasaki, Chisa Matsumoto, Kazutaka Kimura, Masatsune Fujii, Taishiro Chikamori and Akira Yamashina

Originally published 9 Jul 2018 https://doi.org/10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.118.11390 Hypertension. 2018;72:739-745

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- □ . Of these, 474 subjects developed hypertension by the end of the study period
- Hyperuricemia at the study baseline was associated with a significant odds ratio for the development of hypertension by the end of the study period. ين اسلايد در بالا هست ولى پاراگراف
- After adjustments for covariates, the brachial-ankle pulse wave velocity (estimate=0.51×10⁻², P<0.01) and CRP (estimate=1.91, P=0.03), but not estimated glomerular filtration rate, were found to show independent longitudinal associations with the new onset of hypertension

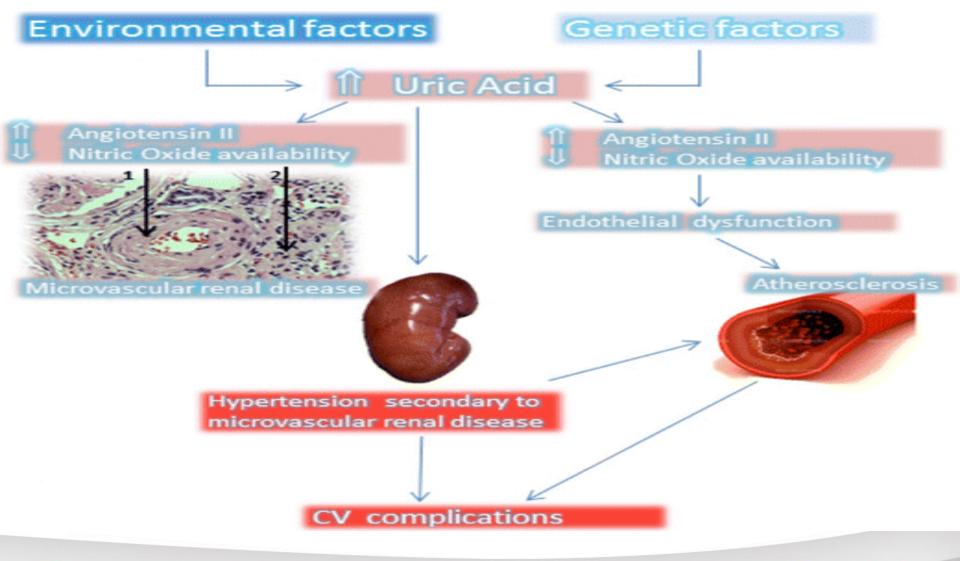
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.,. Hypertension is a significant global health problem and a key contributor to increased risk of cardiovascular events, therefore any intervention that could improve the management of hypertension requires careful examination.



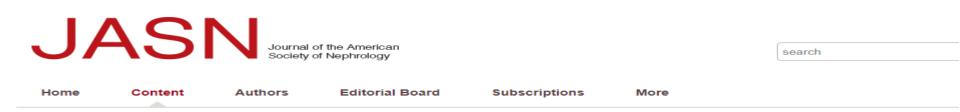
Biological Mechanisms for Hyperuricaemia Induced Hypertension



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Evidence from Epidemiological studies age



Epidemiology and Outcomes

Plasma Uric Acid Level and Risk for Incident Hypertension Among Men

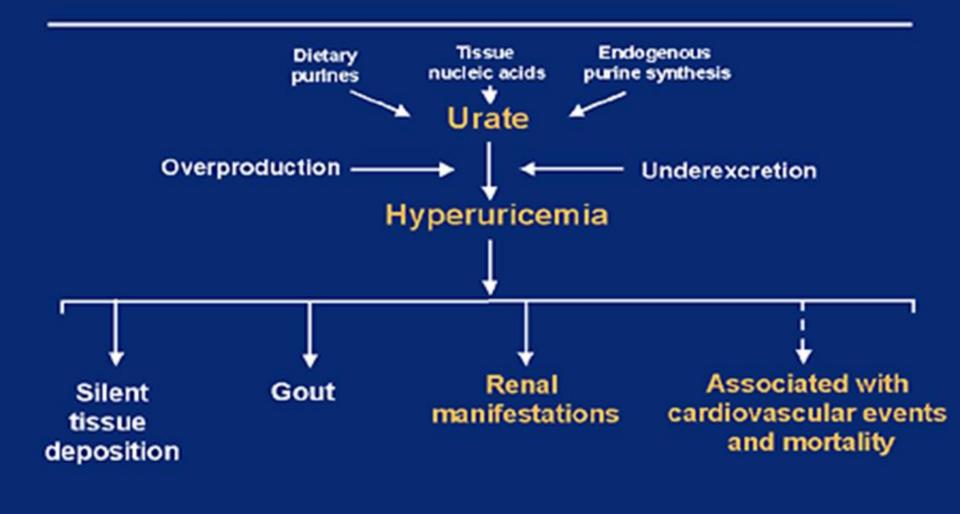
John P. Forman, Hyon Choi and Gary C. Curhan JASN January 2007, 18 (1) 287-292; DOI: https://doi.org/10.1681/ASN.2006080865

UA level and risk for incident

hypertension was examined prospectively among men who participated in the Health Professionals' Follow-up Study. From among men without hypertension at the time blood was collected, 750 participants who developed hypertension during the subsequent 8 yr and 750 age-matched controls were selected. In addition to adjustment for standard hypertension risk factors and renal function, adjustments controlled for fasting insulin, triglyceride, and cholesterol levels. The mean age of participants was 61 yr, and mean plasma UA level was 6.0 mg/dl (SD 1.25 mg/dl). The multivariable relative risk (RR) for a 1-SD increase in UA was 1.02 (95% confidence interval [CI]0.87 to 1.18); the RR comparing the highest with lowest quartile of UA was 1.08 (95% CI 0.71 to 1.63). The multivariable RR associated with a 1-SD increase in UA was 1.38 (95% CI 1.05 to 1.81) for men aged <60 yr and 0.90 (95% CI 0.74 to 1.10) for men >60 yr (*P* 0.04 for interaction). However, further adjustment for fasting insulin, triglyceride, and cholesterol levels attenuated the results (RR for men <60 yr 1.24; 95% CI 0.93 to 1.66). In conclusion, no independent association between UA level and risk for incident hypertension was found among older men



The Hyperuricemia Cascade



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Experimental studies in rats and cells further suggested that the pathophysiologic process of hyperuricemiainduced hypertension might include 2 phases¹: an initial phase that was driven by uric acid per se and mediated by oxidative stress, inflammation, endothelial dysfunction, and activation of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system, and a later phase that was driven by arterial wall hypertrophy and renal microvascular changes and interstitial inflammation but no longer dependent on serum uric acid level (Figure). These possible mechanisms may explain why the association between hyperuricemia and hypertension is more evident in the young, and the benefit of uric acid lowering in hypertension has only been seen in

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