Prevalence of Microalbuminuria in Recently Diagnosed Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and its Relationship to Non-Traditional Risk Factors: Observations from the ADOPT Study

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Background and Aims: This study assessed the prevalence of microalbuminuria (MA), a risk factor for cardiovascular (CV) disease and early mortality in type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM). **Materials and Methods:** The prevalence and associations of MA, defined as albumin:creatinine ratio (ACR) > 30 mg/g, were studied in 4,134 drug-naive T2DM patients (FPG \leq 9.99 mmol/l) diagnosed within 3 years upon entering a randomised double-blind comparative drug intervention trial (ADOPT). **Results:** The overall prevalence of MA was 15.2% and was independent of disease duration or age. Patients diagnosed with MA (MA+) were more frequently male, significantly more obese (*P* < 0.0001), and had a significantly higher white blood cell count (WBC) (*P* < 0.001). Additionally, MA+ patients had higher blood pressure (BP) and prevalence of hypertension (HTN), as well as worse metabolic control than patients with normoalbuminuria (MA-).

Risk Factor	MA+	MA-	<i>P</i> -value
ACR, mg/g	87.2, 43–138	4.0, 3.5–10.0	
Male, %	62.5	57.3	0.0148
Age, yr	56.5 ± 10.6	$\textbf{56.6} \pm \textbf{9.9}$	NS
Waist circ, cm	108.6 ± 14.8	104.8 ± 14.5	< 0.0001
HbA _{1c} , %	7.5 ± 0.99	$\textbf{7.3} \pm \textbf{0.92}$	< 0.0001
FPG, mmol/l	8.64 ± 1.59	$\textbf{8.39} \pm \textbf{1.45}$	< 0.0001
Systolic BP, mmHg	137.0 ± 16.4	132.1 ± 15.2	< 0.0001
Diastolic BP, mmHg	81.1 ± 9.3	$\textbf{79.4} \pm \textbf{8.7}$	< 0.0001
Dx HTN+*, %	83.3	76.3	< 0.0001
WBC x 10 ⁹ /I	7.1	6.5	< 0.001
Mean \pm SD, or Geometric Mean, IQR for ACR, *prior diagnosis of HTN or BP \geq 130/85			

Treatment with ACE inhibitors and/or AII receptor blockers was also more frequent in MA+ (21.5%) vs MA- (17.7%) patients (P < 0.024). LogACR significantly correlated with HbA_{1c} (r = 0.056, P = 0.0004), FPG (r = 0.054, P = 0.0006), SBP (r = 0.110, P < 0.0001), DBP (r = 0.085, P < 0.0001) and WBC (r = 0.086, P < 0.0001). **Conclusion:** This study shows that MA was significantly related to traditional and non-traditional CV risk factors. In this cohort, the prevalence of MA was high, and similar to the 12.3% reported by the UKPDS. This emphasises the need for more aggressive, comprehensive treatment of MA, hyperglycaemia, hypertension and other associated CV risks in T2DM.