

**Factors Contributing In Incidence And Diagnosis Of Metabolic
syndrome: Updated Mini review**

Abstract

It has been well-established that obesity is the major contributing factor for the development of metabolic syndrome (MetS), diabetes, cardiovascular disease and certain types of cancer. According to WHO, 44% increase of diabetes, 23% increase of ischaemic heart disease, and between 7% and 41% increase of certain cancer are due to obesity. The Middle East region is reported to have the highest prevalence of diabetes in adults in the world. In Saudi Arabia, over 35% of the population are obese, and it is estimated that 24% of adult has diabetes including undiagnosed diabetes cases. Obesity and chronic metabolic disease associated obesity impose the heavy financial burden on national healthcare in the Gulf countries as they do in most countries worldwide. Biochemical markers for MetS included changes in trace elements, vitamin D, hormonal (adipokines, leptin, adiponectin, ghrelin), inflammatory mediators (IL-6, TNF- α , IL-10), biochemical markers (Ox-LDL, uric acid) and prothrombic factors (PAI-1). Plasminogen Activator Inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) is the primary of four serine peptidase inhibitors that functions to modulate extracellular matrix remodeling and fibrinolysis. The link between PAI-1 and MetS has been established. This review screening major factors and the association between PAI-1, trace elements, vitamin D, obesity hormone and expression of obesity genes for early prediction of MetS for control and management to prevent late complications.

Keywords: Metabolic syndrome-insulin-plasminogen factor-trace elements

Background

In Gulf countries, it was reported that non-communicable diseases (NCDs) as obesity will cost \$68 billion in 2030. The medical healthcare expenditures that are increased ten times higher (\$3,686 vs. \$380) [1]. These reports underline the urgent needs for a strategy to reduce the occurrence of these diseases and health care burden derived from it not only in the Middle East but also globally [2]. The obesity rate has increased dramatically worldwide and emerged as a major global challenge. Obesity is a serious health concern because it is a risk factor for other diseases including diabetes, coronary heart disease, hypertension and certain types of cancer. In the Middle East, the prevalence of obesity has arisen as a substantial issue with 35% of obese rate in adult, and in accordance, the highest diabetes rate in the world [3]. A recent report has shown that 35.2% of Saudi Arabian population is obese, the second highest in the world. Current therapeutic approaches to treat obesity using drugs are unsatisfactory due to numerous side effects [4].

43 Diet-induced metabolic syndromes are widely spread nutritional disorders around the
44 world and have arisen as a growing global challenge. Among them, obesity is a
45 significant risk factor for other diseases including diabetes, coronary heart disease,
46 hypertension, atherosclerosis and certain forms of cancer. Obesity is defined by a body
47 mass index ≥ 30 according to the World Health Organization (WHO) [5]. Obesity arises
48 from energy imbalance due to excessive energy intake from food consumption and
49 insufficient energy expenditure which includes basal metabolism, physical activity and
50 adaptive thermogenesis. In the Middle East, the prevalence of obesity has increased
51 dramatically and become a serious health concern in the recent decades [6]. There is a
52 notable increase in the incidence of obesity in Arabic-speaking countries with a
53 prevalence of 2 to 55% in females and 1 to 30% in males. Increased consumption of fats,
54 sugars, and carbohydrates in these countries is associated with change of dietary habits by
55 Westernization, which can increase the risk for obesity. It is now known that obesity is
56 the major cause of metabolic diseases such as type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases
57 (CVDs), yet mechanistic understanding of this pathology and current therapeutics are
58 unsatisfactory [7].

59 The identification of genes that increase incidence for development of obesity
60 has become interesting. One of these genes is the GNB. Its name derived from the G-
61 protein (GNB3) gene, which formed from 12 exons, present on chromosome 12p13 and
62 produce $\beta 3$ unit of G proteins. The polymorphism of this gene leads to a truncated splice
63 variant. The *GNB3* 825T allele product has been associated with obesity, hypertension,
64 and atherosclerosis [8].

65 The burgeoning rate of obesity is not only indicated in adult population, but also in
66 children and adolescents [9]. This high prevalence of obesity has paralleled the rise of
67 diabetes and hypertension. Poor eating habits and physical inactivity due to their greasy
68 and high calorie diet and sedentary lifestyle, respectively, are known to be the major
69 contributors of obesity in the Middle Eastern population. The changes in diet of the Arab
70 World includes increased calorie intake and substitution of the traditional diet with
71 refined and processed foods and diets high in fat and salt. Recent studies have reported
72 that natural compounds found in cruciferous vegetables such as broccoli, cabbage and
73 radish have numerous beneficial effects on various diseases such as cancer,
74 cardiovascular disease, and inflammation [10]. Adipogenesis and lipogenesis through cell
75 cycle arrest and activation of AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) [11], but also
76 promoting lipolysis mediated by activation of hormone-sensitive lipase (HSL), a lipase in
77 adipocyte. Moreover, the exact mechanism of action of them in various organs which are
78 closely related to obesity and insulin resistance have not been clearly understood.
79 Therefore, it is important to prevent overweight or obesity to reduce the risk factor
80 threatening our healthy lives. Regardless of which criteria are used, the primary concern
81 is early detection of potential CVD complications and early intervention [12]. The
82 prevalence of MetS in Saudi subjects was reported by Al-Nozha et al. to be 39.3% [13].

83 The aim of current survey for monitoring major factors that contribute for metabolic
84 syndrome like plasma vitamin B₁₂, trace elements, prothrombotic factors (PAI-1), lipid
85 profile, hormonal changes (insulin, leptin and Ghrelin) as predictive biomarkers for
86 metabolic syndrome.

87 **Prevalence of MetS estimates by coagulation factors**

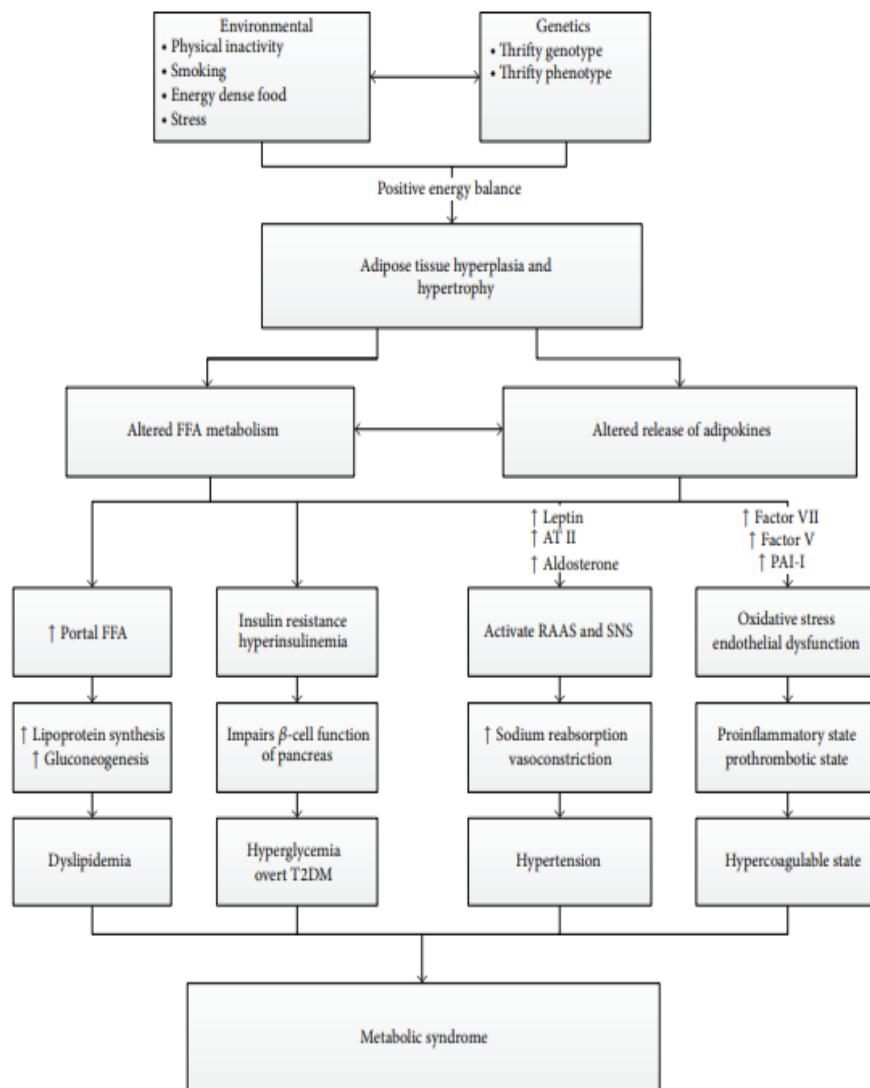
88 Plasminogen Activator Inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) is a serine protease inhibitor that play a role in
89 modulation of fibrinolysis. Its level is regarded as a index of an abnormal fibrinolysis
90 and thrombosis. The correlation between PAI-1 and MetS was reported to be elevated
91 and strongly association such MetS [14-17]. In efforts to treat obesity and its related
92 metabolic diseases, numerous synthetic drugs and therapeutic approaches have been
93 develop [18]. However, currently there are no effective drugs for obesity without side
94 effects [19]. For examples, several drugs such as sibutramine andreductil are withdrawn
95 from the pharmaceutical market due to their severe side effects [13]. Moreover, even
96 though many synthetic drugs undergo developmental process, they failed during clinical
97 phase trials due to their ineffectiveness or side effects.

98 **Prevalence of MetS estimates by age**

99 The risk of MetS is correlated to age, It was found that, less than 10% of subjects at
100 age 20s and 40 % at age 60s were affected. On the other hand, other reports revealed that
101 in school children other factors may contribute as fast foods and soft drinks. There was
102 correlation between childhood MetS and adult incidence of CHD [20]. It has been
103 suggested that SES influences nutrition and sedentary habits, which are highly related to
104 MetS components. Lower levels of education are associated with higher prevalence of
105 MetS [21].

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Figure (1): Factors associated with MetS. (FFA: free fatty acid, ATII: angiotensin II, PAI-1: plasminogen activator inhibitor-1, RAAS: renin angiotensin aldosterone system, SNS: sympathetic nervous system [21].

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Prevalence of MetS caused by oxidative stress

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Another factor contributing to the development of the MetS is excessive ROS formation

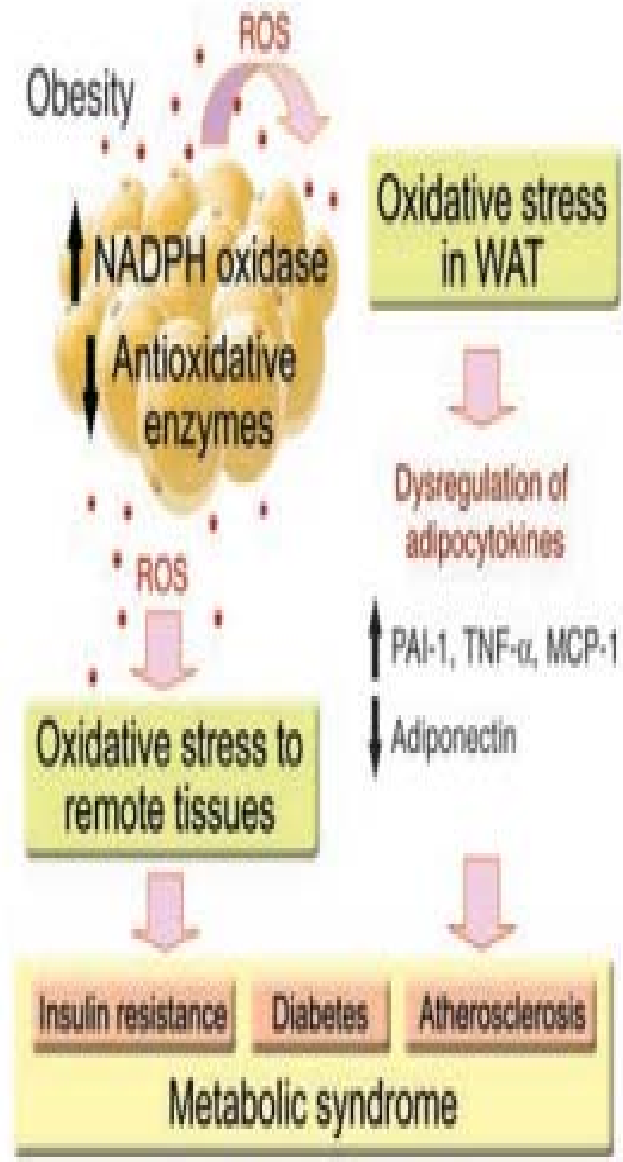
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which can alter the mitochondrial function and endoplasmic reticulum which again will

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lead to defective insulin secretion and DMT2. Increased oxidative stress in accumulated

117 fat, via increased nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH) oxidase and
118 decreased antioxidant enzymes [15].



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120 Figure (2): Impact of ROS production in accumulated fat contributes to
121 metabolic syndrome [15].

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126 **Prevalence of MetS affected by insulin action**

127 Insulin resistance with hyperinsulinemia seems to be a central factor in the pathogenesis
128 of the MetS. An insulin-resistant state interferes with the hormonal actions taking place in
129 the liver. Insulin produced in the β -cells of the pancreas travels quickly to the liver via the
130 portal vein, and in the presence of the MetS, insulin has a selective dysfunction so that it
131 does not diminish the hepatic glucose output, but rather increases it, and still, like in the
132 normal state, increases the de novo lipogenesis, thereby releasing triglycerides to the
133 circulation, causing dyslipidemia [22]. Further, insulin resistance causes increased renal
134 sodium reabsorption and stimulate the sympathetic nervous system which can result in
135 hypertension [23].

136 **Prevalence of MetS by biochemical markers**

137 **Metabolomics is a new research trend used to measure different metabolites for screening**
138 **diagnosis and prognosis of some diseases. Some vitamins as A, D were implicated in**
139 **MetS. The obesity is considered as a type of inflammation due to oxidative stress and**
140 **elevated free radicals. This is indicated by release of inflammatory mediators as(IL-6,**
141 **TNF- α , IL-10). Trace elements are important for activation of some enzymes, synthetic**
142 **pathway, and biomolecules. Their levels are changes and taken as markers for different**
143 **diseases. Some of it were implicated in MetS as Zn, Cu, Fe and Se. In addition, hormonal**
144 **changes as(adipokines, leptin, adiponectin, ghrelin) and biochemical markers (Ox-LDL,**
145 **PON-1, uric acid) are important biochemical markers for MetS.**

146 **Prevalence of MetS by trace elements**

147 Trace elements has an important role in metabolism, growth, immunological,
148 and neurological functions Copper (Cu), one of these elements, is mainly found in
149 shellfish, organ meats, nuts, seeds, vegetables, and grains [24]. Throughout the years it
150 has been shown that Cu abnormalities are linked to CVD [25] and cancer [20]. In fact, its
151 deficiency may lead to arterial diseases and myocardial disease, besides pigmentation
152 loss and neurological effects. Cu has an important role in the defense against free radical
153 damage as an antioxidant [26]. Previous study found that Cu levels were significantly
154 higher in subjects with MetS than in subjects without MetS, however, they did not
155 analyze these values according to weight, since they also found that serum Cu levels were
156 significantly higher in obese than in normal subjects and it is known that increasing
157 weight increases the risk for developing MetS. The causal relationship between obesity
158 and concentration of iron in the teenagers was already established [27].Further to that, a

159 causal association between low blood Fe concentrations and adiposity in people has been
160 noted [28].

161 **Conclusions**

162 Metabolic syndrome knowledge is essential for diagnosis and management for
163 development of protocol for fast management for MetS. This will help to prevent and
164 control risk diabetes, hypertension, Cardiovascular diseases and carcinogenic.
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