Study of association between serum uric acid and lipid profile in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

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INTRODUCTION

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is a progressive irreversible inflammatory disease that affects the lungs and reduces the airflow. It is a preventable and treatable disease in the worldwide population. By the year 2030, COPD will be in top 5th diseases affecting the worldwide population and in top 3, according to mortality rate.¹,²,³

Approximately, 30 million people are suffering from COPD in India. According to Global Initiative Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) guidelines, a general definition of COPD is “Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a preventable and treatable disease with some significant extra pulmonary effects that may be contributed the severity in individual patient.” The pulmonary component is characterized by airflow limitation that is not fully reversible. The airflow limitation is usually progressive and associated with an abnormal inflammatory response in lung to noxious particles and gases.⁴,⁵

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), COPD predominantly occurs in people over 40-50 years of age.⁶ Its risk increases due to tobacco chewing and cigarette smoking, environment pollution, exposure to combustion products of biomass fuels,⁷ industrial pollution⁸ and indoor air pollution from cooking.⁹ About 80-90 percent of people are chronic smokers.¹⁰¹¹

Symptoms of COPD can be different for each person, but the common symptoms are shortness of breath¹², chronic cough with excessive production of mucus, Feeling of tiredness, especially when exercising or doing routine activities are major symptoms of COPD.¹³,¹⁴

The severity of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is assessed by Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) criteria. The GOLD criteria recommend that Spirometry should be used for clinical diagnosis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.¹⁵

Spirometry is an easy test that can detect COPD before you have significant symptoms. Spirometry test is used in the assessment of patients with mild (stage I), moderate (stage II), severe (stage III) and very severe (stage IV) COPD using Forced Expiratory Volume (FEV₁)/Forced Vital Capacity (FVC) ratio in percentage (GOLD 2011).⁵

Spirometry is required to make the diagnosis in this clinical context.¹⁶,¹⁷ The presence of a post bronchodilator FEV₁/FVC < 0.70, confirms the presence of persistent airflow limitation.

It is a noninvasive and easily available test. Despite its good sensitivity, peak expiratory flow measurement alone cannot be reliably used as the only diagnostic test because of its weak specificity.¹⁸

The current GOLD criteria is used to diagnose the COPD is by Pulmonary Function Test (PFT) which measures the extent of COPD based on the lung volumes. The purpose of doing PFT is to detect COPD in early stages of the disease.⁵

Serum uric acid is an end product of metabolic breakdown of purines, and is a major extra cellular antioxidant present in the respiratory tract.⁷ Serum uric acid has been proposed as a marker for impaired oxidative metabolism and an independent predictor of impaired prognosis in several conditions such as congestive heart failure¹⁸,¹⁹ pulmonary thromboembolism.
Hyperuricaemia has been implicated in the pathogenesis of several human diseases with systemic inflammation like gout, vascular diseases such as atherosclerosis, hypertension, metabolic syndrome.

Hyperuricaemia is found in respiratory disease, especially in the presence of hypoxia and systemic inflammation such as COPD, pulmonary arterial hypertension and obstructive sleep apnea.\(^{[25]}\)

However, the elevation of serum uric acid level is a predictor of coronary risk. Epidemiological studies have shown that uric acid may be a risk factor for cardiovascular diseases, and a negative prognostic marker for mortality in patients with pre-existing heart failure.\(^{[1]}\)

COPD may also cause cardiac failure due to airflow obstruction and hyperinflation of lung. The occurrence of hyperuricaemia in COPD can also be a risk factor for Coronary Heart Diseases (CHD).

An epidemiological study also shows that COPD patients have various extra pulmonary co-morbidities such as Coronary Heart Disease (CHD), metabolic syndrome, and depression.\(^{[22]}\) Extra pulmonary co-morbidities increase the risk of hospitalization and mortality in COPD patients. An increasing number of COPD patients died of systemic co-morbidities rather than respiratory failure.\(^{[25]}\) CHD also known as atherosclerotic heart disease and coronary artery disease is common co-morbidities condition among patients with COPD. A strong association between CHD and COPD has been widely evaluated. COPD is an independent risk factor for CHD and, conversely CHD is associated with the diagnosis and severity of COPD.\(^{[26]}\)

Dyslipidemia, a major risk factor for CHD is characterized by a lipid profile abnormalities such as an elevated level of triglyceride (TG), a reduced level of High Density Lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL) and an increased level of Low Density Lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL).\(^{[27]}\)

Therefore higher serum level of TC, TG, VLDL, and LDL with lower level of HDL suggests that lipid profile is associated with dyslipidemia. Dyslipidemia is an independent risk factor for Cardio Vascular Diseases (CHD)\(^{28}\). So, it can be used as a biomarker to identify COPD at risk.\(^{[30]}\)

Studies have also proved that serum uric acid levels and lipid profile levels are independent biomarkers to identify the risk in COPD.\(^{28,29}\)

In the current study, an attempt has been made to find uric acid levels in COPD as compared to healthy controls and to investigate association of hyperuricaemia with lipid profile in COPD.

MATERIAL & METHODS

It is observational type of study, Patients of COPD taken from Department of General Medicine and Department Respiratory Medicine, NIMS Hospital, Jaipur. The biochemical investigations were done in the Department of Biochemistry, National Institute of Medical Sciences & Research, Jaipur (Rajasthan). Study period was 7 Month June 19 to December 19. The study was conducted upon 85 COPD patients and 85 normal healthy controls. The sample size was calculated from the formula \[ \text{Formula: } N = \frac{4 \times PQ}{E^2} \] Where \( N \) = sample size, \( Q = \) statistics for \( \alpha \) error, \( P = \) estimated prevalence, \( E = \) margin of error. According to ICMR the prevalence of COPD in Jaipur is 3.5 % to 7 %.

Selection Criteria of Patients:

Subject:

Clinically diagnosed patients with COPD. All patients were subdivided on the basis of severity of disease according to GOLD Criteria 2011.

Control:

Age and sex matched healthy normal subjects without any major illness and not under any medications.

Inclusion Criteria:
Clinically diagnosed patients with COPD.

**Exclusion Criteria:**

1. COPD patients with coexisting Tuberculosis.
2. Hepatic or renal disorders.
3. Cardiac patients.
4. Patients who are diagnosed with any malignancy.
5. Patients with other chronic infections.
6. Patients with excessive alcohol consumption.
7. Patients with any endocrine disorders.
8. Patients with Diabetes Mellitus and Hypertension.
9. Patients taking any drugs which decrease the uric acid levels.

**METHODOLOGY**

**The Following Data were recorded:**

1. Full general and medical history.
2. Anthropometric evaluation.
3. Clinical Examination: A detailed clinical examination was performed including Spirometry measurements in addition to Blood Pressure (BP) and BMI (height/weight) and chest x-ray.

**Spirometry:**

It was performed as per American Thoracic Society (ATS) criteria. Post bronchodilator FEV₁/FCV less than 70% and FEV₁ less than 80% conforms the presence of airflow limitation that is not fully reversible i.e. COPD (GOLD2010).

**Pulmonary Function Test:**

Pulmonary function was measured with a computer-assisted spirometry (RMS spirometry Helios). Forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV₁), forced vital capacity (FVC), and Inspiratory capacity (IVC) were calculated from the flow-volume curve and expressed as a percentage of reference values. The highest value of at least three measurements was recorded. The reversibility of airway obstruction assessed according to GOLD guidelines using 400 micrograms inhalation of salbutamol severity of disease was staged by mean FEV₁ levels and percentage of predicted FEV₁. 

**Anthropometric measurements:**

**BMI:**

The anthropometric parameters were measured for all participants of the study according to standard methods: Height (in meter) and Weight (in kg). The height and weight of each candidate were taken in an upright standing position without shoes. Height was recorded by using measuring tape.

A standardized portable weighing machine was used for recording weight of the subjects and weight was recorded. The Body Mass Index (BMI) was calculated, based on Quetelet’s index as weight in kilograms (kg) divided by the square of height in meters (m²), i.e. BMI = Weight (kg) / Height² (m²).

**Blood Pressure:** Systolic: 120±10 mmHg.

Diastolic: 80±10 mmHg.

**Sampling Method:**
Patients were given questionnaire printed on Proforma. After anthropometric measurement and sample for biochemical examination were obtained. 5 ml venous blood were drawn from subjects; both patients and controls under aseptic precautions with a clot activator. Serum was separated by centrifugation and used for following biochemical analysis.

**BIOCHEMISTRY INVESTIGATIONS:**

Blood samples of all the subjects were taken and tested for.

1. Serum uric acid.\(^{[31]}\)
2. Lipid Profile:
   a. Total Cholesterol (TC).\(^{[32]}\)
   b. Triglycerides (TG).\(^{[33]}\)
   c. HDL Cholesterol.\(^{[34]}\)
   d. VLDL & LDL Cholesterol : The Friedewald Equation.\(^{[35]}\)

**OBSERVATIONS AND RESULTS**

**Height, Weight and BMI:**

Table 1: Comparison of height, weight and BMI between controls and COPD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Deviation</th>
<th>P-VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Height (m)</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>160.92</td>
<td>8.76</td>
<td>0.388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>159.56</td>
<td>11.42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (kg)</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>65.73</td>
<td>6.54</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>59.28</td>
<td>9.36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI (kg/m(^2))</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>25.35</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>23.47</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**p-value <0.001 (highly significant)**
Figure 1: Comparison of height, weight and BMI between controls and COPD
COPD patients had significant lower weight and BMI compared to healthy controls. (Table: 1, Figure: 1) Comparison of the height between the COPD patients and healthy controls show that the difference is statistically non significant with a p-value of 0.388. Comparison of the weight and BMI between the COPD patients and healthy controls show that the difference is statistically significant with a p-value of <0.001.

Serum Uric Acid
Table 2: Comparison of Serum uric acid between Controls and COPD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Deviation</th>
<th>P-VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serum uric acid</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>5.95</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2, Figure 2 show comparison of the serum uric acid levels between the COPD patients and healthy controls groups; the difference is statistically significant with a p-value of <0.001. **p-value <0.001 (highly significant)
Comparison of Serum uric acid controls and COPD

Lipid Profile:
Table 3: Comparison of Lipid profile in control and COPD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Deviation</th>
<th>P - VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Cholesterol</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>174.859</td>
<td>14.589</td>
<td>0.033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>186.825</td>
<td>49.033</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triglyceride</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>103.824</td>
<td>24.318</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>154.047</td>
<td>46.220</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDL</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>52.259</td>
<td>6.213</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>38.524</td>
<td>7.765</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDL</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>101.835</td>
<td>16.254</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>117.492</td>
<td>42.984</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VLDL</td>
<td>Control</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>20.765</td>
<td>4.864</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPD</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>30.809</td>
<td>9.244</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**p-value <0.001 (highly significant)
*p-value 0.033, 0.002 (statistically significant)
Table: 3, Figure: 3 show comparison of the lipids between the two groups. Total Cholesterol level of the COPD patients is higher than healthy controls; the difference is statistically significant with a p-value of 0.033. Comparison of the TG, HDL & VLDL between the COPD patients and healthy controls show that the difference is statistically significant with a p-value of <0.001. Comparison of the LDL between the COPD patients and healthy controls show that the difference is statistically significant with a p-value of 0.002.

**Comparison of COPD Gold Stages with Serum Uric Acid and Lipid Profile.**

Table 4: Comparison of serum uric acid with COPD stage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Gold Stages</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Deviation</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serum uric acid</td>
<td>MILD</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>4.75</td>
<td>0.605</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MODERATE</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>6.51</td>
<td>0.802</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SEVERE</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8.34</td>
<td>0.457</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VERY SEVERE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>0.141</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>5.95</td>
<td>1.552</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**p-value <0.001 (highly significant)**

Table: 4 show the comparison of serum uric acid the mean value of very severe (9.3) is highest followed by severe (8.34), moderate (6.51) and least in mild (4.75). This difference is statistically significant with a p-value of <0.001.

![sUA](image)

**Figure 7:** Comparison of serum uric acid with COPD stage

Table 5: Comparison of lipid profile with COPD stage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGES</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>TC</th>
<th>TG</th>
<th>HDL</th>
<th>VLDL</th>
<th>LDL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MILD</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>153.8±36.3</td>
<td>131.4±43.7</td>
<td>37.1±5.4</td>
<td>90.4±32.6</td>
<td>29.2±8.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Table 5 shows comparison of T.C mean value of severe (237.53) is highest followed by very severe (222.5), moderate (214.46) and least in mild (153.88). Comparison of TG mean value of severe (189.77) is highest followed by moderate (175.35), very severe (142.5) and least in mild (131.43). Comparison of HDL the mean value of very severe (42) is highest followed by moderate (40.64), severe (38.47) and least in mild (37.12). Comparison of VLDL the mean value of severe (37.95) is highest followed by moderate (35.06), very severe (28.5) and least in mild (26.28). Comparison of LDL the mean value of severe (161.10) is highest followed by very severe (152), moderate (138.74) and least in mild (90.47). The difference in TC, TG, VLDL & LDL in different stages is statistically significant with a p-value of <0.001. The difference in HDL is statistically not significant with a p-value of 0.556.

Figure 8: Comparison of lipid profile with COPD stage.

Comparison of Serum Uric Acid and Lipid Profile with different GOLD Stages

Table 6: Comparison of serum uric acid with different stages of GOLD criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dependent Variable</th>
<th>COMPARISON GROUP</th>
<th>COMPARED WITH</th>
<th>MEAN DIFFERENCE</th>
<th>Std. Error</th>
<th>P VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUA</td>
<td>MILD</td>
<td>MODERATE</td>
<td>-1.759*</td>
<td>0.161</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SEVERE</td>
<td>-3.590*</td>
<td>0.205</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VERY SEVERE</td>
<td>-4.544*</td>
<td>0.470</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODERATE</td>
<td>SEVERE</td>
<td></td>
<td>-1.831*</td>
<td>0.221</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VERY SEVERE</td>
<td>-2.785*</td>
<td>0.477</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEVERE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-0.953</td>
<td>0.494</td>
<td>0.225</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6 show that the difference in serum uric acid between mild and moderate is statistically significant with a mean difference of -1.75* and p-value of <0.001. The difference between mild and severe is statistically significant with a mean difference of -3.59* and p-value of <0.001. The difference between mild and very severe is statistically significant with a mean difference of -4.54* and p-value of <0.001. The difference between moderate and severe is statistically significant with a mean difference of -1.83* and p-value of <0.001. The difference between moderate and very severe is statistically significant with a mean difference of...
-2.785* and p-value of <0.001. The difference between severe and very severe is not statistically significant with a mean difference of -0.953 and p-value of 0.225

Table 7: Correlation of Serum Uric Acid with Lipid Profile in COPD Patients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETERS</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Correlation(r)</th>
<th>P-VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sUA&amp; TC</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>0.629</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sUA&amp; TG</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>0.453</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sUA&amp; HDL</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>0.097</td>
<td>0.376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sUA&amp; LDL</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>0.603</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sUA&amp; VLDL</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>0.453</td>
<td>&lt;0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

r = Pearson’s correlation coefficient

**p-value <0.001 (highly significant)**

Figure 4: Correlation of Serum uric acid with TC in COPD patients.

Pearson’s correlation analysis (table: 7, Figure: 4) between serum uric acid and TC show a Very good positive correlation, which is significant with a p-value of <0.001
Figure 5: Correlation of Serum uric acid with TG in COPD patients.
Pearson’s correlation analysis (table: 7, Figure: 5) between serum uric acid TG show a good positive correlation, which is significant with a p-value of <0.001.

\[
y = 0.486x + 35.632 \\
R^2 = 0.0094
\]

Figure 6: Correlation of Serum uric acid with HDL in COPD patients.
Pearson’s correlation analysis (table: 7, Figure: 6) between serum uric acid HDL show a poor positive correlation, which is not significant with a p-value of 0.376.

Figure 7: Correlation of Serum uric acid with VLDL in COPD patients.
Pearson’s correlation analysis (table: 7, figure: 7) between serum uric acid and VLDL show a very good positive correlation, which is significant with a p-value of <0.001.
Figure 8: Correlation of Serum uric acid with LDL in COPD patients. Pearson’s correlation analysis (table: 7, Figure: 8) between serum uric acid VLDL show a Good positive correlation, which is significant with a p-value of <0.001.

Table 8: Cut Off Determination of Serum Uric Acid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Serum uric acid cut off determination</th>
<th>Sensitivity</th>
<th>Specificity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.95</td>
<td>95.3</td>
<td>77.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td>84.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td>87.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.25</strong></td>
<td><strong>91.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>89.4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.305</strong></td>
<td><strong>88.2</strong></td>
<td><strong>94.1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.34</td>
<td>87.1</td>
<td>94.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.425</td>
<td>83.5</td>
<td>96.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.525</td>
<td>76.5</td>
<td>97.6</td>
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<td>5.05</td>
<td>62.4</td>
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<td>6.1</td>
<td>38.8</td>
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<td>7.04</td>
<td>25.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4.3 is a good cutoff for excellent predictability of the serum uric acid for COPD detection.**
Table 8, Figure 9 show that on comparison of the COPD patients SUA CUTOFF 4.3 with the Gold standard of Group the COPD cases have a sensitivity of 88.2% and specificity of 94.1%. The COPD cases have a positive predictive value of 93.8% and Negative predictive value of 88.9%. The test and the gold standard agree on 155 out of 170 having a diagnostic accuracy of 91.176%. The Kappa value of 0.824 indicates Excellent agreement with a p-value of <0.001.

**Table 9: Detection of Serum Uric Acid in COPD patients.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area Under the Curve</th>
<th>Test Result Variable(s): serum uric acid</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Std. Error</th>
<th>Asymptotic Sig.</th>
<th>Asymptotic 95% Confidence Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>.969</td>
<td>.011</td>
<td>.000</td>
<td>.947</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The test result variable(s): SUA has at least one tie between the positive actual state group and the negative actual state group. Statistics may be biased.

a. Under the nonparametric assumption
b. Null hypothesis: true area = 0.5

Table: 9 show that Area under the curve of 0.969 show excellent predictability of the serum uric acid for COPD detection.

**DISSCUSSION:**

FIGURE 9: ROC Curve for serum uric acid

The ROC Curve for serum uric acid (SUA) shows excellent predictability for COPD detection. The area under the curve (AUC) is 0.969, indicating high diagnostic accuracy. The sensitivity is 88.2% and specificity is 94.1%. The positive predictive value is 93.8% and the negative predictive value is 88.9%. The Kappa value of 0.824 indicates excellent agreement with a p-value of <0.001. The test and the gold standard agree on 155 out of 170 cases, with a diagnostic accuracy of 91.176%.
The present study was conducted in the Department of Biochemistry, National Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Jaipur. The study population was divided into two groups. Control group consisted of 85 normal healthy individuals while the study group consisted of 85 COPD patients. Subjects were selected from Department of General Medicine, Department of Respiratory medicine, National Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Uric acid is the end product of purine degradation. Uric Acid plays an important role in protecting airways from oxidative stress by inhibiting lipid peroxidation and scavenging reactive oxygen and nitrogen species. So it acts as an antioxidant.\[36\]

In the present study, the pattern and correlation of serum uric acid and serum lipid profile parameters has been seen. We have also studied the comparison of height, weight, BMI, serum uric acid and lipid profile levels in the control and study groups depending on the GOLD stages severity.

Correspondingly, we detected that difference between COPD patients and control group in BMI was statistically significant.

In the present study, the serum uric acid value among the COPD patients and controls showed significant difference. The mean value of serum uric acid in patients suffering from COPD was found to be higher as compared to the serum uric acid value of controls. The mean value of serum uric acid in COPD patients and control group was 5.95 ± 1.55 mg/dl & 3.63 ± 0.48 mg/dl respectively with p value of < 0.001 (highly significant). This result was in accordance with two previous studies.\[37\]

Rajlaxmi S et al (2017)\[37\] reported significantly higher level of serum uric acid in COPD patients (4.85 ± 1.67) mg/dl as compared to controls (2.32 ± 0.93 mg/dl).

Nagihan Durmuş et al (2016)\[38\] also reported higher level of serum uric acid in COPD patients 5.9 ± 1.5 mg/dl as compared to control group (4.6 ± 1.2 mg/dl).

According to GOLD criteria, COPD is classified into 4 categories namely mild, moderate, severe and very severe. In our study the mean value of serum uric acid among COPD patients in mild, moderate, severe and very severe group was statistically highly significant as 4.75 ± 0.60 mg/dl, 6.51 ± 0.80 mg/dl, 8.3 ± 0.45 mg/dl and 9.3 ± 0.14 mg/dl respectively.

Sumathy S et al (2017)\[39\] reported the mean value of serum uric acid in mild, moderate and severe group was 4.41 ± 1.04 mg/dl, 5.73 ± 0.96 mg/dl and 6.35 ± 1.05 mg/dl was statistically highly significant there finding are concurrent with our result.

However, Nagihan Durmuş et al (2016)\[40\] reported the mean value of serum uric acid in mild, moderate, severe and very severe groups as 6.2 ± 2.1 mg/dl, 5.9 ± 1.3 mg/dl, 6.0 ± 1.7 mg/dl and 6.1 ± 1.6 mg/dl, also it was statistically not significant.

In this study, the difference between levels of serum triglycerides, serum cholesterol, serum HDL, serum LDL and serum VLDL of COPD patients was statistically significant when compared with levels of control group. The mean and SD values of TG, Total cholesterol, HDL, LDL and VLDL among COPD patients was 154.0 ± 46.2 mg/dl, 186.8 ± 49.0 mg/dl, 38.5 ± 7.7 mg/dl, 117.4 ± 42.9 mg/dl and 30.8 ± 9.2 mg/dl respectively. The mean and SD values of TG, TC, HDL, LDL and VLDL among control group was 103.8 ± 24.3 mg/dl, 174.8 ± 14.5 mg/dl, 52.2 ± 6.2 mg/dl, 101.8 ± 16.2 mg/dl and 20.7 ± 4.8 mg/dl respectively.

Ummuğulsum Can et al (2015)\[41,42\] performed a study on role of oxidative stress and serum lipid levels in stable COPD disease. Their observations were different from our study. They reported insignificant relation between the levels of serum TG, serum total cholesterol, serum HDL, serum LDL and serum VLDL among COPD patients when compared with levels of Control group. The mean and SD values of serum TG, serum Total Cholesterol, serum HDL and serum LDL was 124.62 ± 46.32 mg/dl, 192.64 ± 33.82 mg/dl, 44.19 ± 10.14 mg/dl and 121.34 ± 29.43 mg/dl respectively among control group. The mean and SD values of serum TG, serum Total Cholesterol, serum HDL and serum LDL was 133.39 ± 47.22 mg/dl, 181.50 ± 39.72 mg/dl, 36.49 ± 9.60 mg/dl and 115.16 ± 32.86 mg/dl respectively among COPD patients.
Lipid profile was associated in COPD patients with GOLD criteria stages. COPD is classified into 4 categories namely mild, moderate, severe and very severe. In the present study comparison between lipid profile values with stages are serum total cholesterol, serum TG, serum HDL, serum VLDL and serum LDL. In mild stage, the values are 153.8 ± 36.3mg/dl, 131.4 ±43.7mg/dl, 37.1 ±5.4mg/dl, 90.4 ± 32.6mg/dl and 29.2 ± 8.7mg/dl. In moderate stage, the values are214.4 ± 29.8mg/dl, 175.3 ±33.4mg/dl, 40.6±10.2mg/dl, 138.7 ± 28.6mg/dl and 35.06 ± 6.6mg/dl. In severe stage value are 237.5 ± 39.8mg/dl, 189.7± 38.7mg/dl, 38.4 ± 8.03mg/dl,161.1±37.8mg/dl and 37.9 ± 7.7mg/dl.In very severe stage, the values are222.5± 19.09mg/dl, 142.5 ±4.9mg/dl, 42 ± 11.3 mg/dl, 152 ± 31.3mg/dl and 28.5 ± 0.9mg/dl. The difference in serum total cholesterol, serum TG, serum VLDL and serum LDL was statically highly significant and serum HDL was found to be statically not significant.

In our study, when we compared the mean and SD levels of Uric acid and lipid profile among the COPD patients, the results were statistically significant. There was statistically positive correlation between the level of serum uric acid with serum triglyceride, serum total cholesterol, serum LDL and serum VLDL. Only the correlation of serum uric acid with serum HDL was found to be statistically not significant in our study.

Correspondingly, we detected that serum uric acid value of 4.3 mg/dl is good cut off value with excellent predictability of COPD. It has a sensitivity of 88.2 % and specificity of 94.1%.

Conclusions

This study provides the possible evidence that serum uric acid may be useful in assessing disease severity and progression in COPD patients. Serum uric acid levels and serum lipid levels were higher in stable COPD patients compared to healthy controls and Serum uric acid were correlated with serum lipids except HDL. The higher lipid levels may increase coronary risk in COPD

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