



Ministry of Higher Education and
Scientific research

University of Babylon

College of Science for Women

Estimation of Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Insertion/Deletion Gene polymorphism in Iraqi Patients with Asthma

A search Submitted by

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For the year 2022/20223

Subervised by

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وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي

جامعة بابل

كلية العلوم للنباتات/ قسم علوم الحياة

التغيرات الشكلية من نوع حذف/اضافة للجين المحول للانجيوتنسين في مرضى الربو العراقيين

بحث مقدم من قبل الطالبتين

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لنيل شهادة البكالوريوس في قسم علوم الحياة/ كلية العلوم للنباتات/ جامعة بابل

2022/2023 العام الدراسي

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الخلاصة:

اجريت الدراسة الحالية على 50 مريض عراقي مصاب بالربو وعدد مساوي من الاشخاص الاصحاء الذين كعينة سيطرة لتحديد دور التغايرات الوراثية من نوع الحذف والاضافة للجين المحول للانجيوتنسين في الاصابة بالربو لأول مرة في العراق واطهر استخدام تقنية تضخيم الدنا المتسلسل وجود ارتباط بين التغايرات الوراثية للجين مع الاصابة بالربو في العينة المدروسة.

كلمات مفتاحية: الربو ، التغاير الوراثي، الاستعداد الوراثي

Estimation of Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Insertion/Deletion Gene polymorphism in Iraqi Patients with Asthma

ABSTRACT:

The present study was conducted on 50 Iraqi patients with Asthma and similar number healthy subject to detect Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Insertion/Deletion gene polymorphism in Iraqi patients for the first time, the results of gene amplification using PCR technology reported that there is association between DD , ID and II of ACE gene polymorphism and Asthma in the studied patients.

Key words: asthma , genepolymorphism, genetic susceptibility

INTRODUCTION:

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory disease characterized by recurrent respiratory symptoms, reversible variable airway obstruction, airway inflammation, and airway hyperreactivity [1]. It is one of the most common chronic diseases in developed countries, and estimations suggest that 300 million individuals are affected worldwide [2]. The phenotypic heterogeneity of asthma is well documented, and a number of clinical properties such as atopic phenotype or asthma severity have been applied to describe subtypes of asthma and even to manage clinical symptoms [3]. Susceptibility to asthma is related to the interaction between multiple genes and environmental factors. Whereas environmental factors are known to trigger or modulate asthma responses [4], the genetic components that underlie asthma susceptibility are not completely understood. Analysis of single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) has been widely used for the study of complex genetic disorders. The identification of variations in specific genes involved in the expression of asthma phenotypes could lead to a better understanding of the underlying pathways or even facilitate management tailored to the patient's genotype. Several studies have reported an association between asthma or atopy and genes coding for molecules involved in various pathways [5]. The study of cytokine genes is particularly important owing to the significant role of cytokines in pathophysiology. In the last decade, many authors have studied cytokine gene SNPs in different populations [6-12].

However, associations vary widely between different ethnic populations. In this sense, characterization of phenotypes following appropriate clinical criteria is a key component of genetic association studies. Other aspects underlying the

discrepancies observed in these studies include quality control measures, specifically in laboratory procedures and statistical analysis[13].

Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inactivates bradykinin, substance P and neurokinin A, which are believed to play important roles in the pathogenesis of asthma, especially in neurogenic inflammation[14], ACE is a key component of the renin-angiotensin system, the most important humoral pressure regulator. The formation of angiotensin II - the main vasoconstrictor and degradation of bradykinin - an important vasodilator takes place under the influence of this enzyme, which also enhances the proliferation and contractility of the smooth muscle of the respiratory tract, thereby contributing to the excessive bronchus. The angiotensin-converting enzyme gene - ACE is localized on the long arm of the 17th chromosome at the 17q23 locus, it consists of 26 exons and 25 introns, and its size is 45,000 bp. [15].

The ACE gene contains a polymorphism based on the presence (or insertion [I]), or absence (or deletion [D]) of a 287-base pair element in intron 16 on chromosome 17q23, According to the presence of this element, three different genotypes may occur: DD and II homozygotes, and ID heterozygotes. [14].

Increased serum ACE levels may affect asthma severity, and studies have shown increased levels of angiotensin II in patients with severe asthma that's the reason behind conducting this study which is originally planned to determine the presence or absence of the angiotensin converting enzyme genepolymorphism in Iraqi asthma patients.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The study carried out on 50 blood samples of asthma patients and 50 samples of healthy subjects having no previous detection of any autoimmune disease, samples obtained from msc student in our college. The student collected the samples from both patients and the healthy subjects by vein puncture then 2.5 ml of blood were put in EDTA anticoagulant tubes and kept in -20 °C until the DNA was extracted. DNA from whole the blood was extracted using Favrogene Genomic DNA extracting Kit (Favrogene, Taiwan) according to manufacturer instruction and kept refrigerated until use, The DNA quality and integrity detected by using electrophoresis on a agarose gel containing red safe stain (Intron, Korea) with the concentration 0.7% by mixing 10 µl of DNA together with 2µl of loading dyejuice (Genedirex, Korea) in 0.2 ml PCR tube. Then the samples were loaded individually into the gel wells, and subjected to electrical power at 100 volt for 10 min using AgarPower™ device (Bioneer, Korea), later the DNA bands were visualized using UV transilluminator at 350 nm and documented by digital camera.

Detecting of ACE insertion deletion polymorphism was carried out using PCR using the forward primer 5' -CTG GAG ACCACT CCC ATC CTT TCT-3' and Reverse primer : 5' -GAT GTG GCC ATC ACA TTC GTC AGA T-3' used by Deepika *et al*[16].

Preparation of the primers were done by adding nuclease free distilled water (Promega, USA) according to the instruction of the manufacturing company (Promega, USA) to obtain primers solution with the concentration of 100 Pico mole/ µl as stock solution which used to prepare working solution with 10 Pico mole/ µl concentration and then soluble primers stored at -20 C until used. PCR reactions for the healthy subjects and patients was carried out using GO Taq Green mastermix (Promega, USA), with a final reaction volume 25 µl containing: 1 µl

forward primer, 1 µl reverse primer, 5 µl DNA, 2X GO Tag Green Mastermix 12.5 µl and Nuclease free distil water 4.5 µl. PCR amplification PCR was performed in a thermocycler Verti96 Thermo cyclers (Applied biosystem, USA) with the same condition of Deepika *et al.* (2013) [16]. Represented by an initial denaturation step for 5 min at 95 °C, then 30 cycles consisting of 30 s of denaturation at 94 °C, 45 s of annealing at 59 °C and a final extension for 5 min at 72 °C. The products were run on 2% agarose gel containing red safe dye with the use of 100bp DNA ladder H3 (Genedirex, Korea) as a size marker under electrical power (100 volt) for 10 minutes and then (50 volt) for 1 hour using AgaroPower™ device (Bioneer, Korea) and photographed using digital camera.

A product of 490 bp indicates a genotype homozygous for insertion (II), 190 bp homozygous for DD and the presence of 490 and 190 bp products indicate heterozygous genotype [16].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The DNA extracted from the blood samples quality and integrity were estimated through electrophoresis on agarose 0.7% for 10 min. The quality, estimated by noticing the DNA bands which appeared as single not diffused bands and without having any smear which may result from DNA degradation.

The PCR amplification results in different patterns of DD, ID, and II gene polymorphism in both patients and the healthy subject these patterns represented in table (1).

Table (1): Results of PCR amplification of ACE gene

DD genotype	ID genotype	II genotype
Healthy subject no. 22	Healthy subject no.21	Healthy subject no. 7
Patient no. 32	Patient no. 17	Patient no. 1

ACE gene polymorphism of the genetically analyzed 50 control healthy subjects and 50 patients are shown in Table 1. shows difference between the patient and control groups, these results refer that there is an association between ACE gene polymorphism in Iraqi patients, but this results require further investigation on larger number of both patients and healthy subject to confer this results.

Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Insertion/Deletion Gene polymorphism have been previously approved to be associated with differences in plasma ACE levels. The insertion appears to reduce ACE expression. Thus, the DD genotype is associated with the highest plasma levels of ACE, while the II genotype is associated with the lowest levels[17].

Iskandar et al. 2020 showed that ACE D/D genotype had significantly higher occurrence in atopic asthmatic patients, compared to healthy control subjects; patients with D/D genotype had 6.8-fold higher risk for atopic asthma development than those with non- D/D genotype [18]. Pasiyeshvili and Zheleznyakova showed that the relative risk of developing BA was 2.67 for patients with the ACE D/D genotype; 0.46 for the ACE D/I genotype; and 0.69 for the ACE I/I genotype, suggesting a possible protective role of the I allele [19]. The authors point out that individuals carrying ACE D/D genotype predominate (54.2%) among BA patients. This is also supported by a study indicating that children with the D/D genotype are in the group of high risk for BA development [20].

On the other hand, some studies failed to establish any associations of ACE gene polymorphisms with BA. For instance, ACE gene polymorphism is not significantly associated with BA or with its severity among Egyptian adults [21]. Similarly, the ACE genotype frequencies also do not significantly differ between the patients with BA and healthy controls in study conducted in Turkey [22], Iran [413], and Japan [24].

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