# Apa-I Polymorphism in VDR Gene is Related to Metabolic Syndrome in Polycystic Ovary Syndrome



# Santos BR and Spritzer PM

Department of Physiology, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil; Gynecologic Endocrinology Unit, Division of Endocrinology, Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre, Brazil

# Introduction

# Women with PCOS frequently present insulin resistance and metabolic comorbidities, such as dyslipidemia, diabetes and hypertension. Variants on vitamin D receptor (VDR) gene have been associated with insulin resistance and diabetes in general population.

#### Aims

- To determine the genotype distribution of the Apa-I polymorphism (rs7975232) of the VDR gene in PCOS and control women.
- ✓ To investigate whether Apa-I polymorphism (rs7975232) in the VDR gene is associated with metabolic syndrome in PCOS and control women.

# Methods

**Design** → Cross-sectional study .

Subjects → 190 PCOS (Rotterdam criteria) and 100 non-hirsute and ovulatory controls. Endocrine and clinical measurements were assessed. Body mass index (BMI) was calculated. **Metabolic syndrome** → was defined by NCEP-ATP III.

Genotype analysis → Participants were genotyped for Apa-I polymorphism (rs7975232) by real-time PCR, with allelic discrimination assays.

# Results

Table 1. Endocrine and clinical features of PCOS and control women

|                          | PCOS (190) | Controls (100) | р       |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------|---------|
| Age, yr                  | 22.9±6.7   | 25.2±7.7       | 0.013   |
| BMI (Kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 29.7±6.4   | 27.03±6.1      | 0.001   |
| TT (ng/mL)               | 0.90±0.40  | 0.54±0.17      | <0.001  |
| MS % (n)                 | 26.5 (49)  | 4.8 (4)        | <0.001a |
| Apa-I SNP                |            |                |         |
| CC % (n)                 | 21.6 (41)  | 16.0 (16)      |         |
| CA % (n)                 | 46.3 (88)  | 48.0 (48)      | 0.503a  |
| AA % (n)                 | 32.1 (61)  | 36.0 (36)      |         |
|                          |            |                |         |

Values are expressed as mean±SD, median and interquartile range (25-75%) or percentages. p value by Two-tailed Student' st-test . a Pearson's Chi-square test. BMI: Body mass index TT: Total Testosterone, MS: Metabolic Syndrome.

Table 2. Odds ratio for Metabolic Syndrome according to genotypes of Apa-I

|                         | OR    | 95% CI         | P*    |
|-------------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| PCOS                    |       |                |       |
| CC vs. CA + AA genotype | 2.133 | 1.020 - 4.464  | 0.042 |
|                         |       |                |       |
| Controls                |       |                |       |
| CC vs. CA + AA genotype | 5.154 | 0.665 - 39.954 | 0.145 |
|                         |       |                |       |

Table 3. Components of Metabolic Syndrome in PCOS and controls according to Apa-I SNP grouped by the presence of polymorphic allele

|                 | PCOS                 |                      | Controls             |                     |                  |                   |                  |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                 | CC                   | CA + AA              | CC                   | CA + AA             | P <sub>Gen</sub> | P <sub>Diag</sub> | P <sub>INT</sub> |
| Waist (cm)      | 91.97±15.46          | 88.56±14.96          | 81.42±13.08          | 77.41±11.20         | 0.149            | <0.001            | 0.908            |
| SBP (mmHg)      | 127.02±19.79         | 119.49±13.69         | 113.83±11.35         | 108.60±13.10        | 0.009            | <0.001            | 0.637            |
| DBP (mmHg)      | 81.30±13.46          | 77.21±10.84          | 72.77±10.17          | 70.41±9.24          | 0.079            | <0.001            | 0.635            |
| Glucose (mg/dL) | 87.88±13.18          | 89.14±15.92          | 90.47±7.13           | 88.08±7.65          | 0.805            | 0.738             | 0.425            |
| HDL (mg/dL)     | 46.12±10.73          | 49.59±10.86          | 53.73±11.21          | 52.65±12.55         | 0.529            | 0.005             | 0.231            |
| Tgl (mg/dL)     | 91.00 (71.50-147.50) | 87.00 (61.00-129.00) | 69.00 (63.00-117.00) | 62.50 (47.75-91.50) | 0.149            | 0.003             | 0.676            |

Values are expressed as mean±SD or median and interquartile range (25-75%). p value by two-way ANOVA. BMI: Body mass index, SBP: Systolic Blood Pressure, DBP: Diastolic Blood Pressure, TC: Total Cholesterol, HDL: high-density cholesterol, LDL: low-density cholesterol, Tgl: Triglycerides

### Conclusions

✓ The results suggest that variant Apa-I in VDR gene may be associated with metabolic syndrome in PCOS women from Southern Brazil.









